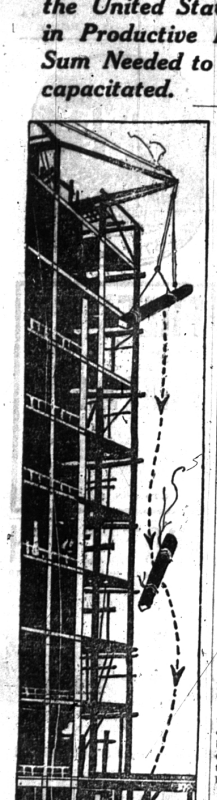
TOLL TAKEN OF HUMAN LIFE BY THE INDUSTRIES

GREATER THAN DEATHS ON BATTLEFIELD

Over Half a Million Men and Women Annually Are Killed or Injured in the United States While Engaged in Productive Labor---Enormous Sum Needed to Support Those Incapacitated.



A Familiar Peril in Building Operations.

New York.—More than 500,000 men and women are injured or killed in the industries annually in the United States, or one person every minute.

This industrial carnage costs the people of the country, directly and indirectly, over two and a half billions of dollars—a sum larger than the national debt.

Such are the death tolls of industrial progress, which shows such a smiling face to those whose occupations involve no danger, but turns a ghastly countenance on those who work in peril of their lives.

Whoever doubts these figures need only read the grim statistics to be convinced that modern industry is more fateful than war.

In the Japanese-Russian war a total of 323,786 men were killed and wounded on both sides, not counting the losses in naval battles.

In the same period in the United States alone the great army of American laborers engaged in manufacturing and building operations suffered a loss of 425,000 killed and injured; 92,000 more lives were sacrificed to industrial progress in one year than during the greatest conflict of recent times.

Statistics of the interstate commerce commission show that 84,115 people were injured and 10,046 killed on the railroads during the year ending June 30, 1904. Sufficient data has been accumulated by the United States government and other responsible authorities to show that at least 5,100 men are annually killed or injured in anthracite mining alone, and 425,000 in factory and building operations, making the grand total approximately 525,000.

Total Death Roll Greater.

These estimates are conservative. If the exact number of accidents was known this total would be greatly increased.

In converting facts into figures Mr. Clarence Marx, who, with other responsible investigators, has given several years of study to the relation of crippled and unemployed persons to industry, presents a startling array.

Of the 525,000 workers mentioned 15 per cent., or 445,000 to struggle per cent. only are killed, leaving 85 against their handicaps. Estimating that at least 50 per cent. or 222,000 of these are able to earn $225 each annually, which is 50 per cent. of the annual average earnings of able-bodied artisans, we have a total of $49,950,000. This is the loss in earning power.

Safely assuming that these persons would create twice as much wealth as they earn we would have a loss in production of approximately $100,000,000 annually.

But this is only half the truth. If these 222,000 wage earners are not reestablished they must sooner or later be supported by the state. It is also evident that the other 222,000 who are totally disabled will also become a burden on the taxpayers.

Poor relief statistics show that it costs $10,000 to support a pauper during his natural life time. To be conservative again, let us estimate this cost at $6,000, to make allowance for those who may be supported by relatives and friends, or who may become partially self-supporting. Since under our present system the partially disabled are not reestablished, the total number, minus a small percentage, must be supported at public expense. To do this costs approximately two and one-half billion dollars. In other words, we contract each year to meet a debt of two and a half billion dollars within the lifetime of the persons thus injured.

Figures That Stagger.

These are staggering figures, but they are only a forecast of what we may expect if this wasteful destruction of life and limb continues.

In New York state, according to the estimate of the state labor commissioner in 1906, 44 workers in every 1,000 are incapacitated in the course of the year's work. That means, for instance, that at least 40,000 purely industrial accidents occur in New York city alone every year. The ratio of injured and uninjured is not as high in some other parts of the country, or the total number of accidents in the United States would be over 800,000 annually.

In one section of New York city, the Borough of Manhattan, there were last year 2,160 deaths by violence; astonishing as it may seem nearly one-third of these deaths, or 684, were caused by falls, explosions, caving in of earth, premature blasts and falling rock. The river tunnels were constructed at the cost of 68 lives, 42 in the Pennsylvania terminal works, 20 in the Belmont tunnel, two in the subway borings and three in the Hudson companies' terminal.

In the huge, smoky workshop called Pittsburg, one human life is sacrificed for every 50,000 tons of coal that are shipped out of the city. For each 7,500 tons of steel products one of the manipulators, somewhere in the process of manufacture, lays down his life; and for each 70,000 tons of steel rails another laborer makes the last sacrifice.

Of the 2,660 deaths reported in Pittsburg in 1906, 919 were due to accidents in mills, mines and on railroads. The number of accidents was not computed, but it was undoubtedly in the thousands.

Causes of Fatalities.

How does it all happen, you ask? If a huge ladle of white hot steel is upset, the molten stream burns alive its writhing victim. It may be that a man or woman is whirled to a horrible death in mill machinery; or a miner is blown to eternity in an explosion of damp in a mine.

Publicity is given to accidents on railroads, but little is heard of the thousands annually killed and maimed in manufacturing and building and in some of the more obscure trades. It has been shown that 425,000 are annually disabled in factories and construction work. But we have no means of knowing how many are industrially displaced by inhaling the poisonous fumes in working over batteries, or the large numbers that are afflicted with mercurial poisoning and other ailments in the hat industry and allied trades. Neither do we know how many succumb to painters' colic, or blood poison by working with brass and copper.

The victims of tuberculosis among sweatshop workers, grain trimmers, longshoremen, coal hands and others are shown to be numerous by the board of health reports, but the exact numbers have never been gathered into statistical form.

Tributary Evils.

This loss of life and limb in times of peace would be sufficiently appalling in itself were there no tributary evils. But the situation is rendered even more serious by the fact that only about 15 per cent. of the industrial accidents result in the death of the victims, while 85 per cent., or 445,000, are doomed to a one-sided battle for existence.

When a man loses a limb or the use of it, is rendered partially blind by an accident, or in countless ways is incapacitated for his regular work, the first great question confronting him is to fit himself for some other form of labor. What are his chances to regain a foothold?

Some few corporations retain on the payroll those employes who may have been injured in their service, but the number of such is small. A few provide pensions, and even fewer have instituted some form of benefit that will be a real help in case of disablement.

But the great mass of injured persons must readjust themselves as best they can.

Prejudiced Employers.

The chief reason why they fail to do this and start on the long tortuous road to semi-pauperism and finally the almshouse is the open prejudice of employers against hiring a cripple, or a failure on their part to recognize the fact that he still possesses an economic value, as he usually does. This remorseless prejudice against which many an honest and capable man has been forced to contend has driven valuable material to the waste heap of humanity, if not to a self-made grave.

There are many positions filled by boys and girls who should be in school which could be better filled by older men and women unable to command higher wages because of physical disability. To supplant the incumbents of such positions would be to raise the standards of education and of living, for if the children were not available their disabled seniors would take their places at a higher rate of wages though at less than current standards.

This would do much to remove the stigma of a present national disgrace by which 1,267,324 boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 16 years are allowed to dwarf their young lives in our shops, factories and mills. The handicapped man would supplant children only where a distinct economic and educational advantage is to be gained. He is fully competent to compete with the able bodied for many positions. It is not favoritism that he needs or asks; only an opportunity to demonstrate his fitness. The trouble is, he is rarely given that opportunity.

Great Need of the Day.

A crying need of the day is an awakening of the national conscience regarding the needless loss of human life and the resulting economic waste. In our reckless haste to make money we forget that in so doing, the unnatural wear and tear of industry, and the fierce struggle for existence are producing an increasing host of dependent citizens, who have been worn out as a part of a machine and are then thrown on the industrial scrap heap.

The hours of labor are being slightly reduced and wages slightly increased, but the wear and tear on man and machine has been nearly doubled.

Many men, each one a unit of labor, valuable to the employer and to society, drop out crippled by accident or with their health undermined. Unless the employes are speedily able to readjust themselves in gainful occupations, they become public charges. Each man added to the list of the state's dependents makes an added burden of taxes on the wealth producing citizens.

The employer, who is the exponent of the industrial system is accountable for this waste of productive power, though not the originator of it, is himself one of the first victims to feel the extra burden of taxation. Doubtless he is also appealed to, and subscribes liberally for private charitable schemes, which are themselves largely necessary evils. Hence the wasteful system of industry, in which the waste of labor is lost sight of in the mad attempt to save cost of production, reacts on itself; and the hard-pressed employer becomes a victim to the very system that is slowly but certainly adding to the cost of maintenance and production by increasing the value of labor, which he has tried to maintain, if not to cheapen.

Centuries Paralleled.

In former times vassals, serfs and slaves gave up their lives blindly to their feudal chiefs; fighting their battles, tilling their soil, selling their own birth rights for a pot of miserable porridge.

As the fourteenth century vassal sold his service and life for food and shelter so the twentieth century artisan sells his labor and life for money with which to buy the necessaries of life. If his wages are greater than his living expenses and he is fortunate enough to escape bodily harm, he may, under extremely favorable conditions, be able to provide for an independent old age. But if shifting economic conditions condemn him to only a precarious living and if he is disabled by the machinery of industry, only one fate can be his—the acceptance of alms sooner or later from friends or the state. He has not shed his blood as the vassals of old in the service of a master. He has sacrificed himself on the altar of industrial progress, whose masters are practically unconcerned for his future.—From the N. Y. Journal and American.

One Violent Death or Injury For Every Tick of Your Watch.

If you raise your head above the crowd, prepare to have it hit.

WONDERS OF OLDEN TIMES.

Works of 17th Century Inventor Too New to be Considered Practical.

The Marquis of Worcester, who wrote concerning many things about 1650 to 1660, had a knowledge and grasp of mechanical problems that would give him a high position in the ranks of workers even at the present day.

In aerial navigation, he tells us of perfected inventions: "How to make an artificial bird to fly which way and as long as one pleaseth, by or against the wind." Again, "How to make a man fly, which," he says, "I have tried with a little boy of ten years old in a barn from one end to the other on a haymow." In these days of wireless telegraphy we take little note of visual signalling, but in those days it was a great departure to have devised methods of signalling at a distance, such methods being available both by day and night.

Of instruments of destruction he had plenty. How like an infernal machine such a description reads, as, "An engine, portable in one's pocket, which may be carried and fastened on the inside of the greatest ship, tanquam aliud agens, and at any appointed minute, though a week after, either of day or night, it shall irrevocably sink that ship."

But while he tried to perfect methods of destruction, he also knew "how to prevent and safeguard any ship from such an attempt by day or night." Steam navigation, after all, is only of the last century, but the marquis had "a way to make a boat work itself against wind and tide," evidently using steam as in others of his schemes, such as raising water.

In fact, he was a man who lived in an age wherein his inventiveness was misunderstood. Had he lived later no doubt many of his devices would have been practically and commercially developed. It is comparatively easy to get the merits of an improvement understood, but it is very difficult to get anyone to consider something which is said to be an entirely new departure.—Contract Journal.

LOVE LETTER'S SUCCESSOR.

The Telephone Operator Thinks That the 'Phone Calls the Thing.

"It just fairly surprises me lately, the number of men that call up their sweethearts and wives on the long distance 'phone,' said the telephone operator at one of the local hotels. "The girl that gets a love letter from a fellow these days has to live so far away from him that it'll take too much out of his week's pay to call her up. Honest, it seems to me all I do here some evenings is to call up girls for fellows. Then there are a good many men that call their wives. One man told me that he hasn't written to his wife more than a dozen times in the last year and he's been away from home most of the time. I guess he calls her up every night when he ain't too far from home, or three or four times a week anyhow. He seemed like such a nice gentleman.

"I don't believe men write many love letters to girls any more. It'd seem foolish to write a letter to a girl just after you'd been talking to her and I know lots of young men that call their girls every night. They call after six o'clock, because the night rate is only about half as much as the day rate. What I started to say was that these fellows that call every night, surely don't write to girls too. It would be just like writing to her just after he had gone home from callin' on her.

"How long do they talk? Oh, anywhere from three minutes to 14 minutes. Of course some talk longer than that, but 14 minutes is above the average for the longer conversations.

"I've heard a many they like to be called up better than to get a letter, only it's fun to have the letters to show to other girls. They like to have the letters to read over again to themselves, too. I think it's swell though to have a man call you up from away off in some other state. Then I think a married man that'll spend his money that way just to talk to his wife is a peach."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

On the stage many a character is without character.

THEY GOT WARMED UP.

Showing the Effect of Imagination on the Human Mind.

Mark Twain is responsible for many a practical joke, and he also is known to hold decided views in regard to mental suggestion. One of the latest stories told of him in the newspapers of the day has direct bearing upon the matter of relationship of body and mind.

Mr. Clemens, in company with two friends, went on a hunting expedition, and intending to remain for some days in the woods, they carried with them provisions and a small, round, sheet iron wood stove; for it was in November, and the nights were chilly.

The first day Mark remained about the camp, putting things in order, while his two friends went in search of game.

Toward evening, having put things in apple-pie order, Mark sat down on a box, chose a book from several which he had brought along, and was soon lost between the covers. It had grown rather dark meanwhile, so he lighted a candle and placed it beside him on the box. Suddenly he heard a sound as of some one coming through the underbrush. This reminded him that he should have had a fire built in the little stove, because the night was frosty, and his companions would feel the need of a warm fire on their arrival. Hastily grasping the candle, he stood it on its end inside the stove and closed the door, which was fitted with small windows of mica.

Just then his two friends rushed in, shivering, and, remarking that it was beastly cold, they each in turn held their hands over the little stove, from which the light as of a brisk fire brightly streamed. "How kind of Mark to build a fire for us!" said one.

"Well, he knew we would be cold," said the second.

After a few moments Mark ventured to inquire if they were getting warm, and upon being assured that they were now quite comfortable, he opened the door of the stove and brought forth the diminutive candle, placed it upon the soap box at his side, and resumed his reading.—Youth's Companion.

Why Blue Monday.

"Monday is the busiest day of the week for me," said the physician to the man who had been waiting half an hour to see him. "I won't try to put up a bluff and tell you that my office is so crowded every day in the week, for it isn't; but I get a grist of office patients nearly every Monday. Every physician of any reputation has the same experience. Why? All on account of Sunday. People do all sorts of foolish things on that day, because they have time to, and they pay for it. In the first place, people eat indigestible, rich food on Sunday that they would not think of eating on any other day. They eat too much also; in fact, some people nibble away all day, and in consequence they have indigestion—for no one has indigestion so quickly or so acutely as the person who is used to regular, wholesome living, and once in a long while tries the unwholesome food—and a trip to the doctor's always in order Monday. Then, again, Sunday gives a person more time to think of his ills. A man who will stoically bear a pain on working days and drive it away by his very snubbing of it will get frightened at the slightest ache on Sunday. He gets to thinking about it and comes to the conclusion that it is a serious symptom. So he goes on to see a physician Monday.—N. Y. Press.

Character by Hat.

It is a strange fact, but a true one, that the kind of hat a man wears and the way he wears it form a very good criterion of his natural character.

The man whose hat seems to have been made for him, and which he has set squarely and straight upon his head, is a methodical and comfortable man, with a rare endowment of common sense. He is not given to flights of fancy.

Men whose hats are always too large for them are of reflective habits. They are careless of external appearances, and are likely to fall into fits of fancy and preoccupation.

Men whose hats are always too small are vain and finicking. The man who wears his hat drawn over his eyes may and he may not be a "wrong 'un," but he is undoubtedly a "schemer." He excels in strategy, and is rarely cheerful.

Much more does the man who habitually wears his hat pushed off his forehead enjoy the confidence of his fellow men. He is admired by those who do not agree with any of his views, for his straightforwardness. The man who places his hat on one side is jolly, independent and self-assertive.

Quail That Were Quail.

On the big plantations no gun was ever fired at a quail. There was no setting until the master said the word. He knew exactly when "bob-white" was ripe for dinner, and woe to the poacher! A load of shot (buckshot at that) was none too good for him. Five coveys of a dozen birds each were regarded as enough for one drive, making a capture of 60 fat, plump, sound morsels the like of which we of this day and generation may never know. The maids would look through the coops and release a dozen of the finest cocks and hens for breeding. The remainder were smothered for dinner in the old-fashioned southern style before the animal heat was out of them. Or they went into a great Brunswick stew, with squirrels, squab-chickens, rabbits, slices of salt pork, rice and the usual vegetables used in the making of this, the foremost of all southern dishes.—N. Y. Sun.

Kept Her Vow of Silence.

A Brussels couple, named Dupont, quarrelled so bitterly on their wedding day that the wife vowed that her husband should never hear her voice again. His entreaties went for nothing, and to her dying day she kept to the letter of her oath.

Right Turned to Wrong.

Spanish proverb: Right overstrained turns to wrong.

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Scientifically distilled; Naturally aged; Best and safest for all uses.
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New milch cows and springers for sale at a reasonable price. Call early and get a bargain. ARTHUR GROVES, Troy, Mich. 19july tf

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To check early colds or Grippe with "Preventics", means sure defeat for Pneumonia. To stop a cold with Preventics is safer than to let it run and be obliged to cure it afterwards. To be sure, Preventics will cure even a deeply seated cold, but take it early—at the sneeze stage—they break, or head off these early colds. That's surely better. That's why they are called Preventics.
Preventics are little Candy Cold Cures. No Quinine, no physic, nothing sickening. Nice for the children—and thoroughly safe too. If you feel chilly, if you sneeze, if you ache all over, think of Preventics. Promptness may also save half your usual sickness. And don't forget your child, if there is feverishness, night or day. Heroin probably lies Preventics' greatest efficiency. Sold in 25c boxes for the pocket, also in 25c boxes of 48 Preventics. Insist on your druggists giving you

Preventics
CHARLES J. SHAIN.

Careful Housewives
WHEN PUTTING AWAY STOVES
6-5-4
STOVE LUSTA
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Always give them a coat of 6-5-4 to make them rust proof.
It shines itself, is applied like paint, is better than any enamel for stoves, pipes or wire screens.
It makes old stoves look like new.
If your dealer hasn't it J. R. BLAKESLEE has.

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A PROMPT, EFFECTIVE REMEDY FOR ALL FORMS OF
RHEUMATISM
Lumbago, Sciatica, Neuralgia, Kidney Trouble and Kindred Diseases
GIVES QUICK RELIEF
Applied externally it affords almost instant relief from pain, while permanent results are being effected by taking it internally, purifying the blood, dissolving the poisonous substance and removing it from the system.
DR. S. D. BLAND
Of Bryerton, Ga., writes:
"I had been a sufferer for a number of years with Lumbago and Rheumatism in my back and legs, and tried all the remedies that I could gather from medical works, and also consulted with a number of the best physicians, but found nothing that gave the relief obtained from "S-DROPS." I shall prescribe it in my practice for rheumatism and kindred diseases."
DR. C. L. GATES
Hancock, Minn., writes:
"A little girl here had such a weak back caused by Rheumatism and Kidney Trouble that she could not stand on her feet. Two doses of your pill put her down on the floor she would scream with pain. I treated her with "S-DROPS" and she was cured in a few days. And happy as she is, I prescribe "S-DROPS" for my patients and they all in my practice."
FREE
If you are suffering with Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica, Neuralgia, Kidney Trouble or any kindred disease, write to us for a trial bottle of "S-DROPS."
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G. G. FENWICK.

HEARING CLAIMS BEFORE COURT.

State of Michigan, County of Oakland, ss. Notice is hereby given, that by an order of the Probate Court for the County of Oakland, made on the 8th day of July, A. D. 1907, four months from that date were allowed to creditors to present their claims against the

Estate of David Todd,

Late of said county, deceased, and that all creditors of said deceased are required to present their claims to said Probate Court, at the Probate office in the City of Pontiac, for examination and allowance, on or before the 8th day of November next, and that such claims will be heard before said Court, on Friday, the 8th day of November next, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon of that day.—Dated July 8, A. D. 1907.

JOSEPH S. STOCKWELL, Judge of Probate.
(A true copy.)
ROSS STOCKWELL, Probate Clerk. 12jul-4aug

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