

RAILROAD WORKERS, WORK WITH CARE, PUT THIS BAD ACTOR OFF THE AIR!



AH, FLOWERS!

AH, FLOWERS!

HOW I'D LIKE

HOW I'D LIKE

HOW AND MY

ARMS FULL

OF 'EM!



APRIL-MAY

1949

# TRACKLAYIN' JOE

Tracklayin' Joe set the old stone ties On the B and O right o' way. He spiked strap iron on tough wood rail,

Made his hammer ring the livelong day.

He put the iron through Cumberland Gap,

Laid the rail across the prairie's lap. He ran the UP across the plains, While settlers drove their wagon trains. He built most all the right of way From Bangor down to Santa Fe! Now, at one hundred and thirty-two Joe has announced that at last he's

Says Joe, "Young men, this job is tough,

"And even a guy with brawn enough,

"Has gotta have brains and skill and more

"If he wants to lay track from shore to shore.

"Old John Henry, and lots of guys

"Would be old as me if they'd been as wise.

"You've got to work hard but keep alert

"For you'll lay no track after you get hurt."



Vol. 2, No. 2

Les Dutton, Engineer

#### SPRING FEVER

TTHAT with these blamed robins hopping around the yard, and that southwind blowing, and the shanty windows open, and the geese hitting their aerial high iron toward Duluth, a guy gets that old familiar spring feeling.

It's a mixture of wanderlust, a heightened appreciation of the pretty gals, and plain, ordinary spring fever-Ho, Hum, it's getting me too.

But even if a guy gets lazy and absentminded, a little will power will keep him alert to the hazards . . . of . . . yaawnnn.

All right, so I haven't got any will power. I guess I'll figure on just being a little slower on the pickup, and I'll give myself a little bigger margin of safety on and off the job.

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through.

### WHAT'S YOURS?

E VERYBODY'S got a pet peeve. We'd like to know yours—in the field of safety, that is.

My own top choice is the guy who thinks it's funny to stick a leg out and trip a fellow worker as he passes.

And a close second would be Lummox Louie, who can be tracked through the whole day by a trail of pop bottles, fruit peelings, burning cigarette butts, scrap metal and equipment which he leaves behind him.

And there's the suburban trainman who gives a highball before the last passengers get off—he's responsible for a good few grey hairs on the head end crew.

The list is long, but we want you to make it out. Send us one or a dozen, and let us get your ideas on the human hazards you know. Address your pet peeve to Bill Andrews, Conductor, SAFE RAIL-ROADER, National Safety Council, 20 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago 6, Ill.

"Have you ever wondered what you would do if you had Jack Benny's income?"

"No, but I've often wondered what he'd do if he had mine."

"Henry, you're not as gallant as when I was a gal."

"Well, Maggie, you're not as buoyant as when I was a boy."



#### LINEUP

WE SAW an accident report recently that said:

"Leading signalman and helper killed when their motor car was struck by a passenger train. Train on time and on right track."

Take a good look at those words: TRAIN ON TIME AND ON RIGHT TRACK.

We can't help wondering: Where was the lineup? Where was the copy of the current timetable? Who was keeping a lookout?

## HOW'S YOUR DRIVING?

OLD Noah Webster says an automobile is a self-propelled vehicle. Did you ever stop to think that there are a lot of automobiles running around our shops, roundhouses, and freighthouses these days?

You won't see a big V-8 sedan running along the erecting floor, but you will see dolly trucks, fork lifts and crane trucks in those places.

More than half of the accidents involving industrial power trucks are traffic accidents!

Here are four pointers for avoiding traffic accidents around the railroad property:

Look where you're going! Lots of accidents are caused by failure to observe this simple precaution—particularly when backing.

No speeding! An industrial truck won't go very fast by highway standards, but it can go faster than is safe under most circumstances in the shop.

Look out for pedestrians! Give them fair warning when approaching, but don't use the horn too much. Give them the right of way. Stop at blind corners and before going through doors.

No hitch-hikers. Unauthorized riders are a menace to themselves and to you.

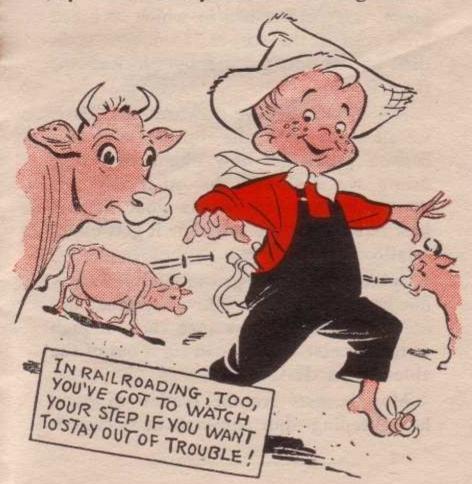
# L. L. L.

THOSE initials are a good luck charm for motorists and pedestrians who have to cross railroad tracks at grade.

"LOOK," shouts the first 'L', "Your eyes are the best defense against a crossing accident."

"Listen," chimes in the next 'L', "Your ears can spot a train around the bend, the clang of the warning bell, the whistle."

"Live," sings the last 'L', "Living is good and dyin's bad, and if you'll heed my sister 'L's', you'll live a long time."



DIRT CAN BREAK YOUR NECK!

DIRT'S a killer. So is disorder.

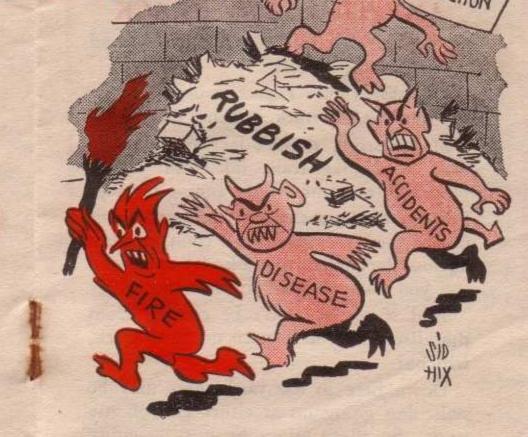
Most of us have been convinced that dirt carries disease germs. We do our level best to keep filth away from our food. We, or our wives, spend a lot of time scrubbing our floors, washing our clothing, sterilizing baby's bottles and so on.

But a mess is a killer, even if it doesn't contain bacteria. Rubbish in a corner, whether it be in the shop, the caboose, or home, is a perfect bed in which to breed fire. And if the corner is under a stair, then we not only get fire, but block escape from it.

Messes are effective neckbreakers. Sure, we all know about the slip potential of a banana peel—but how about that pipe fitting we discarded the other day? If that is kicking around the floor, it may kick like a mule the first time it gets under a railroad man's foot.

Spilled any oil or grease lately? It may not be big enough to allow any fancy figure skating—but it is sure slick enough to toss an able-bodied man right out of the able-bodied class.

Mop buckets are the symbol of good housekeeping—but any kind of bucket or



obstruction on a stairway may provide a high-speed route to the bottom.

This being April, the chances are that your boss or your kid or your wife will be on a clean-up campaign.

When you shake off the spring fever and lend a hand, remember that cleanliness and good order is more than just making the place look better, more than just a way of preventing disease.

It's a way of keeping your own neck from being broken.

# ANY TIME, ANY TRACK

THIS is the way a standard railroad safety rule reads:

"Employes must expect trains to run at any time, on any track, in either direction."

Makes sense, doesn't it? Maybe there isn't a regular train due, but maybe there's an extra or a light engine coming.

Sure, that's the eastbound track, but maybe there's a westbound train running against the current of traffic for some reason you don't happen to know about.

And if so, he won't be coming from the direction you expect on that track, will he?

Down here in the yard, there may be switching going on at either end of any track. So there might be a cut coming at you at any time, on any track, in either direction. Just like the rule says.

Can't hit you, though, just so you stay in the clear, and take a good look both ways before you even start to cross "any" track.

Traffic Cop: "Hey, yu dope, didn't youse hear me say, 'Puil over'?"

Driver: "Oh, I'm sorry, officer. I thought you said, 'Good morning, Your Honor'."

Officer: "Yes, sir, it is a nice morning, sir!"

Life is like a game of cards, says a philosopher. And the queen takes the jack, says Joe.



## HATS OFF

FOR rescuing a 21 months old child from the path of a train, Edward Ray Irish, a Chesapeake and Ohio trackman, has been awarded a medal of honor bestowed upon him by President Truman.

A passenger train was approaching near Blackmar, Michigan, on October 13, 1947. Mr. Irish, who was working on the track, saw the train and noticed the child trying to climb over one of the rails.

He dropped his tools and ran to the rescue, grasped the child, thrust him clear of the track and fell backward into a ditch, just escaping being struck.

Hats off to a bero!



DID you know that you're a wonderful guy? Did you suspect that you were a knight in shining overalls, that your bandana was a hero's banner, that your cap was a crested helmet?

If you think we're kidding, just read the eyes of the kids who watch you work.

Those wide eyes, brother, are worshipful. They say, very plainly, "I want to be like that railroadman."

Admiration is a pleasant thing, but it carries some heavy responsibilities. Some of those kids, just because they look up to you, just because they think that your work is romantic, will be edging close to the tracks, climbing up on the right of way, maybe even flipping rides.

Company and city police try to stop the kids. But you, the one they admire, are in a strategic position to explain why they ought to stay away.

Explain to them how a yard works, so that they can understand the hazards of playing around standing cars.

Tell them how helpless an engineer is to stop a train in a hurry, so that they'll know enough to look carefully before crossing tracks.

Tell them, please, about that secondtrack hazard at grade crossings.

You are, remember, a wise and wonderful knight. You, because of your superior wisdom, can move safely on railroad property. But the kids will understand that they aren't so wise and strong.

They'll admire you all the more for your advice—and you may save a life.

And the life you save may be that of your own kid, or your neighbor's kid.



Mr. Robin blinked his eyes as he looked in the nest, then he said accusingly, "How about THAT egg? It doesn't look like the others!"

Mrs. Robin fluttered and chirped innocently, "I only did it for a lark."

"Know anything about cars?"

"Yeah. Been mixed up with 'em a lot."

"Mechanic?"

"Nope, Pedestrian."

The parrot was sound asleep in its cage, so Junior got a big colored Easter egg and put it inside. Then he woke the parrot up. Polly took one look, did a double take, then ruffled her feathers and squawked, "It's a lie!"

When success turns a fellow's head, it should also wring his neck.

"Where did I come from, Mother?" inquired a six-year-old, just home from his first day at school.

"This is it," thought his mother. She had been reading and rehearsing herself for this very moment. So she told him at length, with natural manner and tactful language the story of birth and life. Then, drawing a relieved breath, she smiled and said, "Does that answer your question, dear?"

The little boy, looking a little perplexed, replied, "I guess so, Mom. I was just wondering. The boy who sits in front of me at school came from New Jersey."



# USING TRACK WRENCHES

- 1. The wrench jaw should have sharp square edges.
- If jaws are badly worn, or sprung, discard the wrench.
- Stand with body parallel with the rail, on same side as the work, and facing the nut.
- 4. Avoid straddling the rail.
- Before starting pressure, be sure that the wrench has a full bearing on the nut, and that you have a solid footing.
- It is unsafe to exert your whole strength on a wrench; if the wrench slips, a fall usually results.
- Pull the wrench handle upward; do not pull or push downward, unless your feet are spread and body braced to resist a fall.
- Never put a pipe extension on a wrench; this is most unsafe.
- When tightening is started, the first turn should be to the left, to loosen the set: then turn to the right.
- 10. Make sure other men working near are not in danger.





SAFETY INSTRUCTION CARD NO