

Indiana Daily Times

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

Daily Except Sunday, 25-29 South Meridian Street.

Telephones—Main 3500, New 28-351.

MEMBER OF AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS.

Advertising Offices (Chicago, Detroit, St. Louis, G. Logan Payne & Co. New York, Boston, Payne, Burns & Smith, Inc.)

"THIS IS THE YEAR"

IT ALSO seems to have been Independence day at the Marion county jail.

THAT SLEEP-WALKER who fell from a train and then kept right on walking until he reached town surely deserves commendation for his pertinacity.

ONE BY ONE the frivolities pertaining to life in girls' schools are being curtailed or abolished, but one of the hardest blows of all has fallen at Wellesley college. No longer may a girl student there go up in an airplane without the written consent of her parents.

IT HAS BEEN revealed that in old Babylonia a priest at a wedding took a thread from the bride's costume and one from the bridegroom's and tied them together in a knot, thus creating the expression "tying the knot"—but no reliable information seems to be forthcoming as to whether the knots were tied real tight or real loose.

More 'Good Government'

Twenty-four prisoners escaped from the Marion county jail this morning.

They saved a bar from a window, hit the night jailer over the head with it, bound and gagged him, took his keys away from him, unlocked the doors and walked out in a body.

All of this happened not a hundred yards from police headquarters and yet the escape of the prisoners was not discovered until a policeman picked up two of them on the street.

The jail had evidently been left in the care of one man, as there was no one else present to give the alarm.

The man may or may not have been a deputy sheriff, under oath to enforce the law, as it was revealed in court last week that a "night watchman" with the duties of a jailer was not sworn in as a deputy.

In that case the criminal court acquitted the "night watchman" of the charge of permitting a prisoner to escape because the "watchman" did not have the responsibilities of a jailer, although the evidence showed he was in charge at the time the prisoner was given his freedom.

Comment on conditions which make possible occurrences of this kind would be superfluous.

This simply adds to the long indictment of mismanagement of county affairs under the direction of the present "good government" administration.

As for the police, watching the county jail may be said to be outside their duties, yet they have been aware of the looseness with which the jail has been run and it is difficult to see how the departure of two dozen prisoners by way of the main entrance of the jail passed unnoticed or failed to arouse suspicion at police headquarters across the street.

William C. Gorgas

In the death of Maj. Gen. William C. Gorgas, former surgeon general of the United States army, the world loses one of its foremost authorities on military medicine and surgery—a man who has been the cause of the saving of countless thousands of lives, and is credited with having made possible the building of the Panama canal.

It was through his work in connection with the construction of the canal as general sanitary officer of the canal commission that he probably was best known throughout the United States.

Congress, in recognition of his service, gave him the rank of major general.

After going to Cuba, during the Spanish war, he began the work of combating yellow fever there, and when the war ended he remained as sanitary officer of the island until 1902, and did his work so thoroughly the island had been cleaned up and Havana has since been practically free from the disease.

He had been decorated in foreign countries for the work he did in the preservation of life and prevention of disease.

He had been honored by the United States congress.

But greater than all these tokens, is the honor in which his memory will be held by the peoples of the countries where the chosen work of his life has been carried on—the stamping out of disease and the saving of lives.

Forgotten Criminal Cases

The recent discovery, through testimony in the federal court, that the case of a negro doctor who violated the Indiana prohibition law had been "under advisement" in Judge Collins' court for six months, was no surprise to those citizens of Indianapolis who are familiar with the manner in which the affairs of the criminal court have been conducted for years.

Investigation would doubtless disclose other cases which have passed from public recollection in much the same manner as the Burris case.

In fact, it is well known that the public has not for years obtained an adequate knowledge of what went on in the criminal court and it is also a fact that the public has never evinced a sufficient interest in the affairs of this court to insure the best administration of justice in the country.

Such indifference to the final disposition of criminal action may be very desirable to the politicians of Marion county, but it certainly is not conducive to proper administration of the laws of Indiana.

When law violations of particularly flagrant or defiant nature are brought to public attention there is always a wholesome sentiment that even those officials who desire to condone and excuse can not entirely ignore.

This sentiment, however, does not last unless some agency such as a fearless newspaper keeps its alive by repetition of the facts. The best any newspaper can do is to give special attention to a few of these cases. Apparently the Burris case escaped special attention and as a result was lost from public remembrance.

It is unfortunate that extraordinary effort is required of unofficial Marion county in order to keep public business before the officials of Marion county, but such seems to be the case.

Perhaps the need of an organization for the purpose of obtaining final judgments in criminal cases is indicated. Such an organization would find much to occupy its attention and the existence of it would probably result in the establishment of much greater respect for the law in the minds of such law breakers as the negro, Burris, who has reason to feel highly honored and to say with pride that although he "was up in criminal court six months ago" he "never heard any more about it."

King Gasoline

Will "King Gasoline" get an awful beating some day from the "Sawdust King," the latter, by the way, being manager of one of the big lumber companies in California?

Is the day coming on winged feet when a motorist who runs out of "gas" on a road far removed from other folk, can simply get out into the woods, or even a rail fence, and abstract therefrom enough fuel to carry him to the next base of supply?

Is the day coming when the police will be called upon to arrest not only joy riders and auto thieves, but also guard the shade trees of the cities from the attacks of fuel-exhausted motorists?

For word has come from California that the "Sawdust King" has invented a process for the manufacture of fuel which will jolt the gasoline situation—that by means of a still, of the old moonshine variety, he can force turpentine and a high-power distillate from sawdust; and that he has already cornered 7,000 tons of sawdust and will begin operations at once.

But of course there is a "fly in the ointment."

The most elysian spots for picnics usually are the lounging places for "skeeters" and chiggers.

The most beautiful sunsets, with their gorgeous array of colors, can not be utilized for food or drink.

And as for making one's own distillate and carrying about in one's car the necessary still, one may readily visualize the theory and actions of a policeman one might encounter.

So, taking it all in all it seems safe to assume that gasoline will continue to be the established feed or food for automobiles for quite some period.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How many women will have the right to vote this fall if the suffrage amendment should not be ratified by that time? This department of The Times tells you. If you have a question to ask, send it with a 2-cent stamp to Indiana Daily Times, Director, Washington, D. C., and the answer will be mailed direct to you.

This offer applies to information—to facts rather than to advice.

Questions and answers of general interest are published in The Times, with names of questioners omitted.

WOMEN VOTERS.

Q.—How many women will have the right to vote this fall if the suffrage amendment does not pass by that time? E. L. O.

A.—In event of the failure of one more state to ratify the suffrage amendment in time to enfranchise women generally 17,500,000 women may vote for president, nevertheless. There are about 27,000,000 women in the United States of voting age, which would leave 9,500,000 of them voteless.

SHADOW ON MOON.

Q.—Why isn't the moon always round? K. L.

A.—The moon is always round, but its changes in appearance are due to the earth's shadow being thrown upon it as the earth passes between the sun and the moon. The size of the shadow varies each night that the moon is visible.

VICTOR HERBERT.

Q.—What is the nationality of Victor Herbert, the music composer? S. V. B.

A.—Victor Herbert is an American. He was born in Dublin, Ireland.

PLAGUE AND RATS.

Q.—What steps are being taken to stop the spread of bubonic plague, which has reached our shores? D. G. H.

A.—The public health service is conducting an extensive campaign for the extermination of rats. Bubonic plague is primarily a disease of rats, especially when the disease can be controlled effectively by measures directed against the rat. These pests also cause a tremendous economic damage. There are about as many rats as people in the United States, and it costs us at least \$18,000,000 to support the rat population.

"GRASS WIDOW."

Q.—What is the origin of the expression "grass widow"? M. C. F.

A.—This has been twisted about from the words "grace widow"—widow by the grace of circumstances.

JOHN THE BAPTIST.

Q.—Who is the Elijah of the New Testament? C. W.

A.—John the Baptist has been referred to in this manner, owing to the fact that the events of his life were very similar to those recorded of Elijah.

BELL-THE-CAT.

Q.—Who was known as "Bell-the Cat"? T. E. T.

A.—This was a name given to one of the Scotch Douglases. It was Archibald, son of George, fourth earl of Angus, who bore the name.

ZOOM.

Q.—What is the expression "zoom" used to indicate in regard to airplanes? H. G.

A.—This is a word coined to express the action of climbing a short distance at an extreme angle.

NAVY UNIFORMS.

Q.—Why do men in the navy have to buy their uniforms while enlisted men in the army do not? I. M. C.

A.—The army and the navy are separate and distinct departments. The war department does not furnish all enlisted men with uniforms, equipment, food and quarters during their term of enlistment. Commissioned officers have to

BEETHOVEN DIED DEAF.

Q.—Was Beethoven deaf at the time of his death? L. H.

A.—Beethoven was hard of hearing as early as his thirtieth year, and was totally deaf for years before his death.

When dying his last words were, "I shall hear now."

COLONIAL SHIPBUILDING.

Q.—Were many of England's ships built in America in colonial times? N. K.

A.—At the time of the signing of the Declaration of Independence it is estimated that one-third of the merchant ships flying the British flag were constructed in America.

QUICKSILVER OF U. S.

Q.—How much quicksilver is produced in the United States? D. R.

A.—During the first three months of this year 4,800 sacks of quicksilver, each of seventy-five pounds net, were produced.

POPULAR LIBRARY.

Q.—In what city are the libraries most patronized? R. E. A.

A.—More people draw books from the public libraries of Cincinnati, O., in proportion to population, than any other city in the United States, while Birmingham, Ala., foots the list.

THE WHEN STORE

The WHEN Will be Closed All Day

times: Great Britain's, eleven times; that of France, seven times; United States, twenty times; while that of Germany has increased forty-four times.

CREAM PUFS.

Q.—Will you give a recipe for cream puffs? T. E. D.

A.—The ingredients for the pastry are one cup hot water, one cup flour, one-half cup butter, four eggs. Melt butter in hot water, add flour all at once and stir until smooth. Turn the sides of the pan in a smooth mass. Remove from fire and when perfectly cold and eggs unbeaten, one at a time, beat mixture until shiny. Pile in spoonfuls on buttered pan and bake about thirty minutes in a moderate oven. When cold, cut open and fill with sweetened whipped cream, or with custard.

WASHINGON, D. C.

Q.—How far above sea level is Washington, D. C.? Q. E. D.

A.—The city is practically at sea level. There is a tidal basin in Potomac park. Historic Pennsylvania avenue is about twenty feet above, while some of the suburbs reach the height of 420 feet.

PLACE AIRPLANE.

Q.—What is a biplane airplane? C. B.

A.—A machine built to carry two passengers is known as a biplane or two-seater.

DENSITY OF POPULATION.

Q.—How did the population per square mile in England compare with the two most thickly populated states in America in 1910? B. H. E.

A.—England's density of population exceeded that of any state in the union in 1910. Rhode Island, which ranged first in 1910, had 608.5 persons to the square mile, and Massachusetts second with 418.8, while England had 600 persons to the square mile.

NATIONAL DEBTS.

Q.—How do the national debts of the world today compare with the debts before the world war? E. L. C.

A.—The national debts of the world now approximate \$250,000,000,000, while in 1914, \$200,000,000,000. Italy's per capita indebtedness has increased four

TRIM AND THURN.

Q.—What is the meaning of urim and thummim as used in the Bible? C. A. W.

A.—Urim and thummim were signs or inscriptions used as part of the breastplate of the high priest. The words are translated as symbolizing revelation and truth.

MINERS' SEASONS.

Q.—What is the reason for the irregularity of employment of miners? S. H. L.

A.—According to a report of the bituminous coal commission the principal causes for the intermincy in working days for miners are the seasonal character of the market and the inadequacy and irregularity of the car supply.

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