

Indiana Daily Times

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AND THERE'S nothing dry about Villa's front porch campaign.

AL JOLSON is to help Harding. But Ty Cobb will campaign for Cox.

"I GOT IN TOUCH with men," says Ponzl. With accent on the "touch."

HOW TIMES DO CHANGE! There was a day when R. L. Todd sent Ferd Winter into federal court to oppose free rides on street cars. Now he is offering them to the G. A. R.

Uncertain Taxes

The proceedings of the Marion county board of review in the course of which that body first reduced and then increased the assessments of several Marion county townships are typical of the present administration.

Aroused by the clamor of dissatisfaction that followed the action of the state tax board in ordering horizontal increases in several townships, the board of review attempted to exercise what appeared to be a right under the amended tax law to wipe out the onerous assessments.

Immediately it heard from the state board, in which is centralized all the taxing power of the state in the face of the republican party's "home rule" declarations.

The state board announced that if the reductions made by the county board of review were allowed to stand, the state board would slap a horizontal increase on the whole county.

This would have entailed an endless amount of work for Auditor Fesler in changing the tax duplicates of the entire county, and naturally he opposed such a proceeding.

Subsequently, it was learned by the board of review that Mr. Fesler had conveniently failed to certify the board's reductions to the state board.

Therefore, it was not only possible, but convenient, for the board of review to review its own action and permit the assessments to stand as they were made by the state board of tax commissioners under an arbitrary order which the supreme court once held illegal.

All's well that ends well—for Mr. Fesler. He will not have to change the tax duplicates again, the state board's original order will stand and every one will be wholly satisfied except the taxpayer who was honest enough to list his property at its full value when it was originally assessed. He also will be satisfied—that it does not pay to be honest in the matter of taxes.

But the most peculiar thing about this proceeding is the absolute disregard of the true cash value of the property assessed.

Originally the assessor, sworn to place a true cash value on the property, and the owner, sworn to give in a true cash value, appraised the property for taxation.

Then the state tax board declared they were all liars and set a higher figure as the true cash value.

Thereafter the county board of review met and decided that the true cash value of the property was less than had been established by the state tax board. Accordingly, it voted the increases off and set out a total of true cash values.

Mr. Fesler accommodatingly changed his mind overnight, called in the board of review and induced it to establish another true cash value, in accordance with the state board's desires.

Now Mr. Fesler proposes to "go before the people" and justify this last true cash value.

He may be able to do it, but when he does, what explanation can the board of review give for having agreed on another cash value and where does that leave the assessors and the property owners?

To Oust the Rats

Various methods have been used for killing rats, ranging all the way from traps to poisons and including dogs, cats and guns.

The practice of putting a bell on a rat and then turning it loose in the home where the other rats abide has been followed by some, but there seems not to be any reliable information as to how successful this method has been—as to whether the belled rat committed suicide after all his fellows had fled, or whether his fellows stayed, being possessed of the same peculiar type of ear that used to impel some people to pay money to hear a family of Swiss bell ringers.

Some enraged householders have even attempted to kill them with brooms, but this is a slow process of elimination and considered undignified among the better families.

The Peruvian government, however, has hit upon a most efficient and direct method of ridding the town of Paiza of its rats, roughly estimated to number about 10,000, though just how this estimate was reached is not disclosed—possibly by allocating, theoretically, so many rats to each family.

Yellow fever, according to the report, is raging in some districts of Peru, and the town of Paiza, with 5,000 inhabitants, has been especially hard hit.

The rats, it seems, stand charged with the instigation, or, at least, the perpetration of this disease, and the Peruvian government has hit upon the simple expedient of ordering the town of Paiza destroyed and rebuilt in a rat-proof manner.

Why Worry Sol?

"Sol Caldwell, colored, proprietor of a shoe shining establishment at 817 Indiana avenue, was charged with keeping a gambling house and nine other colored men were arrested on charges of gaming and visiting a gambling house when the police raided an alleged craps game at the place."

Sol Caldwell ought to be entitled to immunity from arrest by this time. He has been so successful in conducting his gambling house on Indiana avenue that it ought to be apparent to every member of the police department that he has earned the privilege of gambling unmolested, at least for the remainder of the Jewett administration.

Caldwell and Rufe Page and a few other negroes who do not hesitate to voice their allegiance to Mayor Jewett and his county ring, have taken up altogether too much of the time of the police and the courts of Marion county.

They can not be convicted of violating the gambling laws. They do not fear arrest.

Mayor Jewett will not stay home long enough to revoke their pool-room licenses and Prosecutor Adams either doesn't know how or is too busy collecting fees to proceed against them for the abatement of the nuisance they maintain.

Why shouldn't the law enforcement agencies of this city issue special licenses to these negroes, exempt them from arrest and publicly admit that they are too necessary to the success of the republican party to permit of their punishment for law violations?

It is plainly evident that they are, whether it is admitted or not.

Sure, He Can!

Mayor Jewett having been in his office in the city hall for three consecutive days, has doubtless picked up the loose ends of his administration sufficiently to tell the public:

1. Why it is necessary to continue the use of mules under a contract identical with one he denounced as a "graft" before he went into office.

2. Whether or not the operation of the garbage plant bought from J. P. Goodrich et al. for \$175,000 after it had been valued by one of its owners at less than \$10,000 is as much of a financial success as the mayor predicted when he declared it would pay for itself in three years.

3. Why it is now impossible to wash the city market as was customary before the Jewett administration began.

4. When the administration is going to do something toward bringing about better street car service for Indianapolis.

Why the city administration refuses to make any effort to obtain surplus army goods for sale in Indianapolis, as has been done in Cleveland.

What has become of the coliseum project that afforded his honor publicity several months ago.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How does rubber get its name? Do pygmies still exist? What are "paper profits"? This department of The Times will answer your question. If you have a question to ask, send it with a 2-cent stamp to The Indiana Daily Times Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C. The answer will be sent direct to you.

HOTEL NAME ON ENVELOPE.

Q. Does the name of a hotel on an envelope act as a return address in case the letter can not be delivered? G. C. A. The postoffice department says that unclaimed letters bearing the card of a hotel, club, school, college or other public institution which has evidently been printed upon the envelope to serve as an advertisement, will not be returned unless the sender adds such request.

"PAPER PROFITS."

Q. What are "paper profits"? F. S. A. Profits on a given transaction which can be figured out, but have not yet been realized on, are referred to as "paper profits."

PYGMIES.

Q. Do pygmies still exist? M. W. L. A. There are races of pygmies in Africa, in Asia and in some of the islands of the Pacific ocean.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.

Q. What is spontaneous combustion? L. A. A. The ignition of substances without any direct cause is called spontaneous combustion. When quantities of linen, paper, soil, cotton, or woolen stuffs become soaked with relatively small amounts of oils, particularly drying oils, and are exposed to a limited access of air, they may take fire. The presence of moisture aids this process.

MEANING OF COLD WAVE.

Q. Does a "cold wave" mean any particular temperature? M. K. L. A. This expression is commonly used in the United States to designate a fall of at least 20 degrees within twenty-four hours, bringing the temperature below zero.

PUSS IN BOOTS JR.

By DAVID CORY.

One bright morning as Puss Junior was traveling through a deep forest, he came to a wide river, and as he stood on the bank wondering how he was to cross a blue-breasted pigeon flew up and said: "Master Puss Junior, beyond this river is Fairy Land. Would you visit this land of dreamy fancies?" "I would indeed," he replied. "I have traveled long in Mother Goose Country. Let me see Fairy Land before I return to my father's castle."



"Puss Mounted the Granite Steps and Knocked at the Gate."

boat drew up to the bank in which were four snow white ducks with gold ears. "Jump in and they will row you over to the other side," said the blue-breasted pigeon, and then she flew away. So Puss did as he was told, and after the little boat was well out in the middle of that stream of Phoebe by turning me down," replied Neal, with a good deal more energy than his plea of tiredness had led me to suppose he possessed. "How do you know Jim didn't want you to take her home? Maybe he looked at you so sternly because he thought you were too lazy to exert yourself?" "Like fun he did! A lot you know about your Jim—or any man for that matter. He—he wanted to be with Phoebe. Probably had something to say to her. And I know better than to nag at that husband of yours once he gets his mind made up. Now you stop nagging at me. Are you sore because I

WHEN A GIRL MARRIES

A New Serial of Young Married Life

By ANN LITTLE.

CHAPTER LVIII. "If you don't mind, Babba, I'll tumble right into bed. I hate to confess it, but city hours are kind of getting your old for Neal and making him think he isn't so foxy after all," said my brother ruefully the very second the door closed after Jim and Phoebe.

"But I do mind. I want to talk to you first, Neal. I don't understand you at all. Why didn't you offer to take Phoebe home? Couldn't you see that Jim was tired?"

"Yes, I could see that all right—but couldn't you see that he didn't intend letting me go with her? I wasn't going to have him make a boob of me right in front of Phoebe by turning me down," replied Neal, with a good deal more energy than his plea of tiredness had led me to suppose he possessed.

"How do you know Jim didn't want you to take her home? Maybe he looked at you so sternly because he thought you were too lazy to exert yourself?" "Like fun he did! A lot you know about your Jim—or any man for that matter. He—he wanted to be with Phoebe. Probably had something to say to her. And I know better than to nag at that husband of yours once he gets his mind made up. Now you stop nagging at me. Are you sore because I



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