

Indiana Daily Times

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INCIDENTALLY, does any one remember why the curves in Brookside avenue were eliminated?

IF MATERIAL MEN are to frame specifications for the building of roads, why shouldn't bondsmen be permitted to frame specifications for the bonding of contractors?

THE QUESTION appears to be whether Sam Ashby knows more about electrical power questions than Robert L. Todd and the public service commission is to be the referee!

IT APPEARS that the local street car company has committed the unpardonable sin of losing a little money on freight terminals in order to make considerable money on passenger terminals.

Parasites of the Court

The best possible justification for the order of Judge Walter Pritchard eliminating four professional bondsmen from his court lies in the "grand squash" that has followed it.

Political pressure of every kind has been marshalled for the reinstatement of Bull Moose Walker and Kinney Hiatt, the two administration pets who were accorded bonding privileges in return for the unsavory political work they did in the last primary and election.

These two professional bondsmen are plainly showing that they regard the right to sign bonds in the city court as a valuable privilege.

That attitude alone is sufficient grounds on which to bar them from the practice and the judge is to be congratulated on his order.

Furnishing bonds for persons arrested in city court never should be permitted to become a profession. Bonds furnished for a consideration such as is charged by these bondsmen are generally of no value and are always extortionate. More recently they have become a part of a combination by which defendants are duped into thinking they are buying influence with the court through the payment of large fees to be taken out of jail.

The next step is a vicious combination with officials by which prisoners are refused opportunity to communicate with friends and forced in desperation to dispose of these tricksters and shysters.

Thus the whole system becomes as corrupt as it is vicious.

Not long ago it was discovered that professional bondsmen were sleeping in the courtroom waiting opportunity to seize their victims. It has also been found that bondsmen were circumventing the order against soliciting by ascertaining the names of incarcerated prisoners from the officers before the prisoners were locked up and then seeking audience with them through the turnkey. A patrol wagon bringing in prisoners was besieged by these parasites almost before it reached the station.

If we must have such unnecessary disgraces to our administration as are typified by wari heelers of the Walker-Hiatt type it is far better that they be maintained on the city pay roll than afforded opportunities to gather dollars from the weak and unfortunate whom they may be able to frighten into buying their services as bondsmen.

Where to Save

All of this talk about the "necessity" of curtailing local public improvements because of the high burden of taxation and public debt is a sufficient ground for the sole purpose of diverting public attention from the opportunities of real savings to the taxpayers.

Neither Indiana nor Marion County needs to forego a single necessary improvement in order to reduce the present high tax levies.

All that is necessary to relieve the taxpayers is to stop the tremendous waste in the administration, cast off the political pap-suckers who are bleeding the treasury and demand that there be less special privilege and more common sense in contracts for improvements.

For example, the waste of the county administration in the janitor service that disgraces the courthouse is sufficient to pay the bond interest on at least one much needed improved road.

The waste of the city administration in its senseless effort to cover up the garbage plant swindle is sufficient to build a good school building each year.

The stabilizing effect of public improvements necessary and eventually unavoidable in the present era of depression should not be overlooked in any consideration of whether now is the time to build.

Honesty and economy of administration will save sufficient money to care for all the improvements that are contemplated in this community for years.

Those who are benefited by the lack of honesty and economy in public affairs will, of course, urge that improvements be stopped.

That Fire Equipment

It is difficult for the layman to understand just why there should be a dispute between the board of safety and the national fire underwriters such as has come to light recently in reference to the number of fire wagons needed by the local department.

The underwriters' interests all lie in the maintenance of the best possible fire protection for property in Indianapolis. Inasmuch as the underwriters are the judges as to the risks and are able by classification of risks to establish the rate of insurance it would appear that the more nearly the underwriters' desires are followed, the more likely the city is to benefit in the way of reduced insurance premiums.

When the purchase of a large amount of additional fire equipment was proposed it was stated in justification of the expenditures that through these purchases the city would receive a better classification from the underwriters and the cost of the new equipment would be recovered through the reduction of insurance premiums.

It develops now, however, that the amount of equipment purchased was far in excess of that recommended by the underwriters and other recommendations necessary to reclassification were ignored.

Perhaps the members of the board of safety can explain why they purchased more fire equipment on a high market than was recommended by the underwriters.

These purchases are hardly to be justified on the grounds that they were bargains and the board will have some difficulty in making the public believe that it knows more about fire prevention than the national underwriters.

Equality of Manhood

The burial of the body of an unknown British soldier in Westminster abbey in London and the interment of that of an unknown French soldier beneath the great arch of the Arc de Triomphe in Paris constitute a beautiful service but after all it is simply a tardy recognition. This occurred on Armistice day.

In America in our smaller cities may be found monuments to the unknown dead of different wars, while our national cemeteries, where care of all dead soldiers is alike, are models for the whole world. Love for every soldier is always manifest.

One of the disappointments in visiting any battle field in Europe heretofore, has been the failure to mark the grave of the common soldier. Apparently a soldier dead meant nothing to the ruling classes there. Indeed throughout all the literature of the whole civilization in Europe, nothing comparable with the letter of Abraham Lincoln to the widow who had lost her five sons may be found. The tender sentiment for the common soldier has never heretofore appeared; he was no hero in Europe.

So the placing of a body of some unknown boy to rest among England's greatest heroes or to find place on ground sacred to every Frenchman means a great deal in those countries. It is an awakening.

Slowly ideas travel and slowly do great truths become recognized. Here in America where every one is born with equal opportunities and every American is esteemed the peer of every other one, such a ceremony as was witnessed in Europe is unnecessary. The love of the American people for the lowest drummer boy who gives up his life in the service is equal to the love of the highest general. This is civilization.

Slow indeed has the recognition of manhood permeated the European mind. It was the task of America to teach this and happy indeed is America if she has brought home the truth of equality of manhood in every individual to the old European civilization.

WHEN A GIRL MARRIES
A New Serial of Young Married Life

By Ann Liao

CHAPTER CV.
With the malicious smile still twisting her mouth corners, and the key-ring jangling as she swung it from her finger, Evy tossed the checker-board to Phoebe and turned to me.

"You seem to be so fond of 'chaperoning' that you apply your talents even to the unmentionable things. Donna Anna," she said, her voice shrill and excited, "was fondly on the name her cousin Tom applied to me. 'Here we have a homeless blue robe—and a gentleman's keys. Really, I can see that I'd better win the game from Phoebe and secure your speciality for you to-wit, the chance to chaperon two indiscreet girls to dinner.'

Phoebe's eyes began to sparkle with mirth and delight. The silliness went out of her.

"Indiscreet girls those bars—every one of them. And every little arrow found its mark."

On several occasions I had thought of the keys Tom Mason had flung into the secret compartment of the carved chest on that terrible night when I came home from the Canteen and found him in possession of my apartment. But I didn't know how to open the secret compartment and I found refuge in hoping that those keys might repose undisturbed until the happy day when we left the Mason apartment forever.

"Oh, not indiscreet!" I said snarly, forcing my eyes to meet and hold Evy's. "Just young—you two. Why not play

(To be continued)

PUSS IN BOOTS JR.

By David Corr.

As Little Puss Junior traveled day by day through the Country of the Gods, he met with many strange sights, but one day as he climbed a high mountain he met a giant with a huge hammer, which had the magic power of coming back to his hand after it was hurled at the enemy. And around the giant's waist was a belt that gave him great strength, but not long after he was up there he was tired and lay down to sleep.

"For safe-keeping," she murmured in a low voice, watching through narrowed eyes to see if I would flinch.

But I only looked at the keys indifferently and said:

"You found these in the chest."—Copyright, 1920.

(To be continued)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Any reader can get the answer to any question by writing the Indiana Daily Times, Information Bureau, 25-29 South Meridian Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Director, Washington, D. C. This offer applies strictly to information. The Bureau cannot give advice on legal, medical and financial matters, and cannot attempt to settle domestic troubles, nor to undertake exhaustive research on any subject. Write your question plainly and briefly. Give full name and address, enclosing 2 cents in stamps for return postage. All replies are sent direct to the inquirer.)

(To Be Continued.)

TOP OF GENEVA.

Q. Who was known as "The Pope of Geneva"? A. This was a name sometimes given to John Calvin.

PIN MONEY.

Q. What is the origin of the term pin money? A. In English law, a sum of money paid periodically by a husband to his wife for clothes and other personal expenses is designated as pin money.

MONTENEGRO NOW ATTACHED.

Q. Is Montenegro now a separate country? A. Montenegro is now a part of Yugoslavia.

IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT.

Q. Have the Irish members of Parliament the right to vote in the House of Commons? A. Since the act of union of 1801 Ireland has been represented in the British Parliament by twenty-eight members.

THEY THIRST NOT.

Q. Is it true that a snake does not drink water? A. H. W. K.

AUTHOR OF OLD STORY.

Q. Who wrote "Ten Nights in a Bar Room"? A. Timothy S. Arthur is the author of the story mentioned.

MARKETING SQUADS.

Q. At what aged should squads be marketed? A. M. R. E.

LETTER "J" NOT USED.

Q. Why isn't the letter "J" used by the Government when designating companies? A. O. M.

THE WAR DEPARTMENT SAYS THAT THE

FINISHING A BATTLESHIP.

Q. How long does it take to finish a battleship after it is launched? E. R. F.

A. The Navy Department says that the time differs somewhat, but the "California," which was launched Nov. 10, 1919, is scheduled to be put in commission in January, 1921, and the "Maryland," launched March 20, 1920, will probably be ready in July, 1921.

HIGHEST AUTO SPEED.

Q. What is the highest speed ever made by an automobile and who was the driver? B. R.

A. According to Hoyle, the winning partners progress at the various tables, and any preferred style of progression may be used. At present, it seems usual for the winners to progress from the head to the foot table and change part-

ers, just as they do at the other tables, thereby avoiding confusion.

METHOD OF WEIGHING AIR.

Q. How can air be weighed? G. T.

A. The Bureau of Standards says that the weight of air can be determined by taking a glass bulb fitted with a stopcock, exhausting the air from the bulb, weighing the bulb and then admitting air and weighing again. The difference in weight equals the weight of air contained in the bulb.

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HOROSCOPE.

"The stars incline, but do not compel."

FRIDAY, DEC. 3.

Venus and Mercury rule strongly for good this day, according to astrology.

Mars and Saturn are adverse.

It is a sway most fortunate to women, especially to those who earn their living by writing or in clerical work.

Merchants should benefit from this rule, which makes for appreciation and enthusiasm.

Merchants should profit from the sway of stars that incline women to buy generously and even extravagantly.

Persons whose birthday it may have a year of ups and downs that will lead to good results. Speculation should be avoided. The young will fall in love.

Children born on this day will be generally successful in whatever they un-

dertake. Those born in the morning will be luckier than those born later.—Copyright, 1920.

LEGISLATIVE BAND MAKES ROUNDS OF STATE

SPECIAL TO THE TIMES.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., Dec. 2.—Headed by

State Senator Estates Duncan of Cloverdale, a legislative committee visited the Indiana State Soldiers' Home and Pur-

due University here Tuesday.

The morning was spent at the home and the afternoon at the university. The needs of both institutions were brought before the committee and President St. John at a conference in the afternoon, emphasized the need of new buildings and increased income for Purdue.

The legislative committee was in Logansport today to visit Longfellow Hos-

pital.

The legislative committee was in Logansport today to visit Longfellow Hos-

pital.

WHAT A HOWL THERE'LL BE.

TA-TA! JUST HANG AROUND UNTIL I GIT BACK—I WON'T BE GONE LONG!

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