

Indiana Daily Times

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WOULD IT NOT be possible for Greentown to extend its limits to take in the Kokomo Country Club?

IF THERE IS any organization in the world that has utter contempt for consistency, it is the Citizens' Gas Company!

IF CHIEF KINNEY can uncover \$312 by shaking up one station of the Police Department, might it not be a good time for a general shake-up?

UNFORTUNATELY, the public will not know what Gene Williams of Muncey, told the Federal grand jury, but it is a safe bet that it was interesting.

CURIOSITY over expense accounts in the fire marshal's office is in direct contradiction of the policy pursued in the oil inspection department of the State.

INCIDENTALLY, an institution that pays county taxes on a lower valuation than the amount of its dividends, can be expected to approve the administration of the State Board of Tax Commissioners.

Modesty and Gas!

On Aug. 30 Mr. J. D. Forrest, the manager of the Citizens Gas Company, addressed the public service commission as follows:

"I will not take your time to go further into our problem of construction and finances except to say that to meet these we will require revenue of at least \$500,000 a year more than we can now hope to secure."

On Dec. 15 the Citizens Gas Company petitioned the public service commission for an increase of 50 per cent, or 30 cents a thousand cubic feet of gas. In a statement issued with the filing of the petition the Citizens Gas Company reported its sales of gas for the year ending Dec. 1, 1920, as 3,041,327 thousand feet of gas.

An increase of 30 cents a thousand feet of gas would mean a theoretical increase in the revenue of the company of \$912,398.10.

The difference of more than \$400,000 between the sum Mr. Forrest suggested as needed in August and the sum the gas company asked in December is sufficient to pay 10 per cent dividends on \$2,000,000 and the significant thing is that \$2,000,000 is the amount of the capital stock on which the Citizens Gas Company has consistently paid 10 per cent dividends.

All of which goes to confirm the generally accepted opinion that the "emergency" which the gas company sets up is more closely related to its dividends than to anything else.

Indeed, it would appear that in addition to asking the gas consumers of Indianapolis to pay 10 per cent dividends immediately on the costs of improvements which it says cannot be completed for three years, the company is modestly asking the consumers to pay an additional 10 per cent on the capital stock on which the consumers have been paying 10 per cent dividends for so many years!

What Did They Initiate?

In his recent letter to the Times exploiting the law enforcement work he represents the Anti-Saloon League as accomplishing in Indiana, Mr. Shumaker says:

"I will say that the most important clean-ups which have been made by the Federal authorities in Indiana are the results of activities initiated by the Anti-Saloon League. I need only instance such places as Evansville, Vermillion County, South Bend and Richmond, where clean-ups have taken place or are now in process."

This is indeed a surprising statement to the people of Indianapolis and will no doubt be a surprise to the residents of Evansville, South Bend and Richmond.

If we are not badly mistaken the Federal clean-up of Evansville, which happened so long ago that its effect has been fully discounted, was initiated long before the Anti-Saloon League pretended to be a law enforcement agency.

As to Vermillion County, the Federal authorities have already admitted their inability to clean it up either with or without Mr. Shumaker's assistance.

Stories of wholesale Federal action at both South Bend and Richmond have been denied absolutely by Federal authorities and nothing has transpired recently to show that the Anti-Saloon League "initiated" anything in this territory, unless it was a drive for funds with which to maintain the league.

Misplaced Trust

New York is very much surprised that a little boy between 14 and 15 named Michner, who was employed as an office boy in Philadelphia, recently stole \$4,300 from the Baldwin Locomotive Works, and has been riding around and living at choice hotels and spending the money.

The surprising part of this matter and the part which is unexcusable may not be in the act of the small boy, but it is in the trusting of large sums of money to immature youths.

A boy is a boy until he becomes a man and to hand over large amounts of money to him and subject him to the temptation of spending it before his ideals are formed, before he is thought capable of voting, is a crime against the boy greater than the boy commits by taking it.

Examples of this are multiplied in banks and other places. We have on trial messenger boys from New York who have stolen millions. Cashiers at the age of 19 are found to be defaulters. In the scarcity of labor it is often overlooked that a boy must mature and that he is not as strong as a boy physically nor mentally as he is as a man. The sad part of this is that this should be overlooked by people who have large means to handle.

Behind the Times

A dispatch from Vienna tells how four men, posing as state officials, went to a town called Gyula in the Rumanian Province of Transylvania and stole a state railroad. They dismantled the track, took it up, took everything valuable, and departed.

The funny part of this is that these men after they stole the railroad, took it. In America when railroads have been stolen, the public still has the benefit of them and only the ownership seems to change hands, but over in Europe, either the iron was so valuable or the railroad so small, that it was necessary to get away with the entire physical property.

Of course, we cannot expect Europe to be as far along as America where we have State Public Utility Commissioners and Interstate Commerce Commissions and all kinds of committees to run a railroad. If Europe had been blessed as we have been blessed, there probably would have been no theft of that railroad because one of the commissioners or one of the various committees would have discovered the theft in time to have made a loud noise over it.

Again, in this country, where the railroads are being practically subsidized by the Government, it is a big question whether any one would even want to steal one. The tendency of the time seems to be to get away from them. However, the results of war some times are very strange.

Whisky and Ships

A matter which has been overlooked heretofore seems to have reached the revenue officers in Washington and soon there will be an order prohibiting the sale of liquor on all American ships wherever they may be. To people inland, it would seem a little strange that such an order be issued, but after all it is right and there is no reason why liquor should be sold on American ships when all the rest of America is under prohibition law.

An American ship is to all intents and purposes and must necessarily be, the same as American land. A child born on an American ship is an American, no matter where the ship is situated, and American laws govern the American ship every place. It could not be otherwise. Therefore, it is not difficult to see why American ships should be as dry as anything else in America.

This presents a little peculiarity, for if an American ship goes to England, where whisky is freely used, or to the tropics, where it is hot, it still must be dry, and if it goes down to the tropics, the thermometer never gets below boiling point, dryness must remain. There is no reason under heaven why it should be so.

PUSS IN BOOTS JR.

By David Corv.

CHAPTER 21.
Now, in the last story we left Little Puss Junior and his handsome prince driving away in a coach with four prancing horses. Well, by and by, after a while, or maybe three, one of the horses lost a shoe, so the driver stopped and got down from his seat and ran back to pick it up.

But just as he stooped over, a big giant jumped out of the bushes and swung his great club in the air, and that poor driver was so frightened that he dropped the horses on his toes, and then he ran back to the coach, with the giant after him. And when the handsome prince looked out of the window he grew as pale as a lily.

"Well, here's another giant," said Little Puss Junior. "I never met so many giants in my life as I have lately," and he jumped out of the coach and said: "Stop, you great big two-legged nut-sack."

"What's that?" cried the giant, and he swiped his club at Puss, and if it had hit him I guess this would have been the last of the Puss Junior stories. But Puss jumped to one side and turned the little magic ring which the Fairy Queen had given him so many stories ago that I've forgotten which one, and

a little pink piece of paper on which was written:

I have waited long for you,
Handsome prince with eyes of blue;
I am made a captive here,
In a dungeon cold and drear.
If this little snow-white dove
Reaches you whom I so love,
Hasten, rescue me I pray—

"Faster, faster!" cried the prince, and the driver cracked his whip and the horse who had lost a shoe didn't care even if he wore a hole in his stocking, but galloped along on four feet, and in less than 500 short seconds they came to the castle door and the prince jumped out and drew his sword, and next time I'll tell you what happened after that.

(To Be Continued.)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

(Any reader can get the answer to any question by writing the Indiana Daily Times, Indianapolis, Indiana. Frederic J. Huskin, Director, Washington, D. C. This offer applies strictly to information. The bureau does not give legal advice or medical and financial matters. It does not attempt to settle domestic troubles, nor to undertake exhaustive research on any subject. Write your question plainly and briefly. Give full name and address and enclose 2 cents in postage for return postage. All replies are sent direct to the inquirer.)

BURIAL PLACE OF JEFF DAVIS.

Q. Where is Jefferson Davis buried?

R. K. A. Jefferson Davis died on Dec. 6, 1889, and was buried in New Orleans. In 1893 the body was moved to Richmond, Va.

WOMEN LEGISLATORS.

Q. Which State elected the most women to its Legislature?

E. C. D. A. The National American Woman Suffrage Association says that Connecticut stood first in this respect, electing five women to its general assembly. Kansas

HOROSCOPE

"The stars incline, but do not compel."

SATURDAY, DEC. 18.

This is not a lucky day, according to astrology. The sun and Saturn are both in malefic aspect.

Under this sway it is well to delay decisions and all efforts toward any sort of initiative.

The stars foreshadow disappointments to persons ambitious for high place in the government. All the signs seem to indicate surprise owing to the setting of new standards of choice for important offices.

Persons who seek employment even though it be in the humblest vocation, should be patient.

Persons whose birthday it is should watch the health as well as business during the coming year. Those who are employed should be very diligent.

Children born on this day may have many vicissitudes in their lives. They should be taught to save money as well as to earn it.

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Illustration of a bunny.

Illustration of a bunny.