

Indiana Daily Times

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BETTER PUT markers on the onion sets.

"WHAT girls wear matters not," says Pavlova. Very little, anyhow.

THE ALLIES, it seems, thought the watch on the Rhine was an ingersoll.

IT SOON will be time for the fellow with the oversize Adam's Apple to don his sport shirt.

AN INDIANAPOLIS undertaker is a candidate for coroner. Sort of a grim political joke.

BANKERS complain the new peace dollars won't stack. Wasn't that the chief objection to the old ones?

Mayor Shank's 'Blacklist'

Mayor Shank's impulsive proposal to keep a "black-list" of property owners who fail to recognize the feasibility of his street paving program so that the city in turn can retaliate when the citizens themselves ask for improvements, is a rather unusual and even startling application of punitive methods of government.

It is to be hoped, in the interests of a bigger and better Indianapolis, that the plan of paying all of the streets and alleys can be brought to a successful conclusion, and the mayor's desire for improvement is laudable both from a civic standpoint and from the fact that such an undertaking will afford work for the unemployed.

But when the mayor publicly announces that he wants the board of public works "to keep a list of everybody who remonstrates and whenever any of these people petition for any improvement, gas, lights, water, sewers, anything, I want the board to deny it," he is sponsoring a most unusual procedure.

When the candidate becomes the official his vision oftentimes undergoes decided changes. When Mr. Shank was campaigning and appealing to popular support one of his reiterated pledges was that he was not going to "cram improvements down anybody's throat," but now after having surveyed the city's most urgent needs he has come to the conclusion that above all things Indianapolis needs decent streets. He, perhaps, is not unmindful that a former mayor bore the sobriquet of "Chuck-hole Charlie" because of the multitudes of pits and holes in the streets that laid in wait for the unwary autoist, and undoubtedly he has no desire for a similar title.

The improvement program will appeal to many citizens who are interested in civic progress and there is every reason to believe that where ever it is practical no opposition will be encountered. The trouble will come, however, if the administration attempts to override the opinions of property owners who may have good reasons for not approving of the plan at this time.

Then it will be interesting to watch the developments if the mayor adheres to his newly promulgated governmental doctrine.

April Fool Jokes

Practical jokers gleefully watch the approach of April Fool's day. When and why did man first set aside April 1 as a festival of pranks and laughs? No one knows. Its origin is lost in the mists of antiquity. Romans of two thousand years ago had a similar yearly celebration.

April Fool's day is a monument to man's sense of humor—which has carried individuals, nations and whole civilizations through many a crisis. Man endures nerve strain and conquers economic problems that would kill the strongest beast. When the burden is heaviest it is his ability to relax and laugh that freshens him for the next round of the battle. Humor is a stimulant, an intoxicant. Humorists make life interesting, keep us from taking the daily grind too seriously. Wherefore, the men who draw the funny pictures and figure out new twists to old jokes are as important as the ones who furnish food, clothing and fuel.

Humor is philosophy, presented as a farce. One of the greatest humorists that ever lived was the slave, Aesop. He also was one of the greatest philosophers. Halfway between wholesome fun and cynicism there is a stage of humor known as ridicule. It has wrecked political parties and their candidates. It is the one thing that office seekers dread above all else. For truth, mighty in all forms, is a dead shot when presented by a philosopher-humorist.

You watch April Fool pranks. They seem very funny at the time. Try to analyze them and you realize that humor is a baffling mystery. Nothing harder to explain than a joke.

Charles M. Newcomb, industrial psychologist, says: "Laughter is caused by lapses from the established order, and it is an escape from social rigors and inhibitions, back to the freedom of primeval instincts."

Laughter is man's gleeful way of greeting anything that temporarily defies the natural laws and social regulations which make civilized life a mechanical existence. Our subconscious minds resent the fact that we have to be in a perpendicular position, with more or less dignity, when we walk. We laugh when a fat man slips on the ice because of the satisfaction it gives us that we are able to keep our feet. If the fat man hurts himself laughs stop, all rush to his assistance. This gives the lie to the cynic's contention that humor is closely allied to cruelty.

Take the April Fool jokes good naturedly. They are merely reminders that man hasn't lost his valuable asset, sense of humor.

Public Fed Up on Strikes

A few years ago the prospect of "the biggest strike in history," as the coming strike of union coal miners has been termed, would have brought the public to the highest pitch of excitement. That time is past. Today such a prospect causes only the slightest ripple. Concerns burning a large amount of coal and concerns which depend on shipments of merchandise for their existence are calmly laying in supplies. The public generally is refusing to become excited.

Both sides in every labor controversy bend most of their efforts toward creating public sentiment. They issue innumerable statements, all at great length and all for the consumption of the public generally. The forthcoming unpleasantness is no exception. Hardly a day passes without a statement or two or a half dozen, all made in an effort to mold public opinion.

The public is bored with strikes and rumors of strikes and with all other similar disturbances. The fact of the matter is that the populace generally has been scared so many times by threats of difficulties and suffering that never materialized that it is going about its business and letting the other fellow fight it out. The man in the street has come to such a state that he doesn't believe anything is going to happen until it actually happens.

And nine times out of ten the man in the street is correct in his attitude.

Dwindling Gasoline Supply

With the automobile constantly increasing in popularity a rather cheerless note is struck by Harrison E. Howe, who predicts in a bulletin of the American Chemical Society that by 1925 gasoline will be selling at from 40 to 50 cents a gallon. Mr. Howe sees the only remedy in what promises to become a serious situation the development of alcohol to such a quality and quantity that it can be substituted for the dwindling supply of gasoline.

He shows that the alcohol industry has been allowed to drop to such a low point commercially, after having been built up during the war, that the annual output is now only 1 per cent of the amount of gasoline refined in this country. He believes that corn can be utilized to produce alcohol and declares that once it comes into general demand for engine fuel the stimulus given it as an article of commerce would be great enough to insure a production capable of meeting the demands of the motoring public.

Mr. Howe quotes from a recognized authority on motor fuels the conclusion that the blending of alcohol with such hydrocarbons as benzol, gasoline or kerosene so as to enable its application direct to existing motors without material changes either in carburetor or engine design, offers the most practical solution of the problem.

EATING PEACHES MAY NOT BE ACTING

But Movie Players Enjoy the Fruit Between Scenes



This picture shows Alice Terry, leading woman; Rex Ingram, director of "Turn to the Right," George Cooper and Harry Myers, the two comedy crooks in the peach jam comedy, sampling a few of the peaches used in the production. "Turn to the Right" is on view all week at the Ohio.

STAGE AND SCREEN.

On Friday night at the Masonic Temple and on Saturday afternoon, the Little Theater Society will present as a special Lenten attraction an old morality play, "Everyman."

The following attraction are on view today: Ben Welch, blind comedian, at the R. F. Keith's; "Roger Bean," at the Rialto; "Straight," a crook sketch, at the Lyric; "Big Wonder Show," at the Park; "Turn to the Right," at the Ohio; "The Cradle," at the Alhambra; "School Days," at the Circle; "Bought and Paid For," at Loew's State; "Iron to Gold," at the Isis, and

"The Love Charm," at Mister Smith's.

BIBLE CLASS

TO REPEAT MINSTRELS.

A return engagement of the "Honey Boy Minstrels" will take place Thursday and Friday nights at the Knights of Pythias Hall at 223 North Bellevue Place under the auspices of the Young Men's Bible Class of the Eighth Christian Church.

J. C. Shortwell is in charge of the show and Floyd Starkey is interlocutor. Mrs. Starkey and Paul Candel are members of the orchestra.

Highways and By-Ways of Lil' Ol' New York

BY RAYMOND CARROLL

(Copyright, 1922, by Public Ledger Company.)

NEW YORK, March 29.—Grand opera in New York City is without question a rich man's game. That is the opinion, anyhow, of Tony, the barber, who stood upon a marble floor shaving the males of

Ye TOWNE GOSSIP

Copyright, 1922, by K. C. B.

By K. C. B.

I READ in the paper.

A LOT of excitement.

BECAUSE OUR Congress.

SLIPPED UP on a bill.

AND MAYBE the Navy.

WOULD RUN out of coal.

FOR TWO or three months.

WHICH, of course, it won't.

BUT IF it did.

I'D BE very glad.

FOR I never could see.

JUST WHY it is.

THAT IN the summer.

WHEN IT'S nice and warm.

THAT A battleship.

COULDN'T TIE itself up.

NEAR A summer resort.

SO THAT officers.

AND THE sailor boys.

MIGHT ENJOY themselves.

AND STAY right there.

WITH THE fire out.

AND SAVING coal.

TILL the cold weather came.

AND OF course I know.

THAT THIS suggestion.

IS VERY silly.

BUT I isn't any sillier.

THAN SAYING to ourselves.

HERE'S A battleship.

AND IT cost a lot of money.

AND NOW we have it.

WE OUGHT to use it.

AND IT isn't any sillier.

THAN SOME newspapers.

THAT ARE crying out.

FOR REAPPORTIONMENT.

OF THE House of Congress.

AND MAKING demand.

FOR ANOTHER member.

AND MORE than likely.

THE VERY same papers.

ARE PANNING the members.

THEY ALREADY have.

WHICH, of course, I know.

HASN'T ANYTHING to do.

WITH A shortage of coal.

FOR BATTLESIPS.

BUT ALL last night.

A CROWING rooster.

KEPT ME awake.

AND I'VE got to pan something.

I THANK you.

the elite and others in the Metropolis from 3 a. m. until 7 p. m. With an hour left for lunch, and a decade back the Metropolitan Opera house and paid \$2.20 for the privilege of standing up at the back of the stalls for another three and a half hours. To raise the \$2.20 Tony went without cigarettes and tobacco for three weeks.

To stand in the same place or the same carpet to hear the same opera four years ago, Tony paid \$2.20 and a decade back the admission charge was only \$1. Still Tony has a sense of humor.

"I remember when I first heard grand opera in New York," Tony said. "I was we who loved opera for the music had to put up with Chas. Eames, Patti, Hempel, Schumann Heink and such like, while now we have to pay the advanced prices to hear great artists like Gullerud, Ponselle, Crimi, De Luca and Kingston."

The other day Tony had a letter from his cousin in Italy who told of hearing "Butterfly" for one lire, or about 6 cents in American money. During pre-war days one could hear grand opera at a minimum price in most any large city of Germany for what was then the equivalent in American money of 12½ cents. In London, at the Albert Memorial Hall, where the best concerts are given, a reservation is made in the top gallery for the free admission of about four hundred persons, which happens to be the exact "standing capacity" back of the stalls in the Metropolitan Opera House, of this city.

True enough, Tony is only a barber. But at this very moment there is in New York another barber, Louis Gluffida, who also is a wonderful tenor singer. Gluffida—remember the name. It may be in everybody's mouth some day—once shaved Caruso, and Caruso, after hearing Gluffida sing, thought enough of his voice to obtain a teacher for him. He, too, must pay \$2.20 to stand up at the back. There are hundreds of struggling music students and music lovers—artists in embryo—who are never able to hear the great singers. And yet we have wonder expressed at Americans going abroad for their musical education.

That there be no mistake about the "high cost of grand opera" from the standpoint of those who count their pennies, I inquired at the Metropolitan how much it would cost to stand up at an evening's performance.

"It will cost \$2.50 to come in at the rear of the orchestra," was the reply at the box office. "If to stand up at the back, he or she can go to the top gallery and stand up there at the back for \$1.10. The seats in the top gallery range from \$1.65 to \$2.20."

At a recent performance I observed that a large percentage of the boxes in the "Golden Horseshoe" were empty; yes, empty.

Employers hands constitute the direct outcome of an unsatisfied popular desire for good music, and each year the number of such organizations have increased in the big town. For the entertainment of the 80,000 employees of the city of New York there are three excellent bands. One is made up of members of the police department, another of members of the fire department, and the third with members of the street cleaning department.

Some of the railroads have gone in for this thing. One band of the Erie general offices and of the Lackawanna Railway Hoboken Band. The employees of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company have a band of their own, likewise the employees of Colgate & Co., R. H. Co. and the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company. Then the postmen have a coking band composed of letter carriers and mail sorters and in E. F. Albee we have the founder and backer of the Keith's Boys' Band.

DESERTER HONORED AS DEAD. CIPPENHAM, England, March 29.—Black pat on the war memories in Cippenham and Burnham now cover the name of Walter J. Lewington. After being mourned for six years as killed at sea in the war he returned here, and it developed that he was a deserter. He is awaiting trial.

BOARD NEEDS HIGHER TAXES FOR BUILDINGS

School Congestion Can Be Relieved Only in This Manner.

EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN

Increase in the school tax levy, in order to meet the demands for new buildings, to relieve congested conditions now existing, undoubtedly will be asked by the board of school commissioners, when the budget for the coming year is prepared, this summer.

This was indicated by remarks of members of the board at their regular meeting last night, after they had found themselves face to face with a large and determined delegation from the neighborhood of school No. 28, Winter and Blvd avenues; a delegation which declined to be put off with the customary platitudes about a building as "soon as our financial condition permits." They must first make a careful study of the matter, "the board will go into the matter carefully," and the stock phrases, with which delegations from other schools have been soothed and sent away during the three months the present board has been in office.

TO PREPARE PUBLIC THROUGH EDUCATION.

W. D. Allison, a board member, said that at a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce educational committee yesterday, a campaign of education had been decided upon, to bring the public to a realization of the necessity of a higher tax levy. Other board members admitted that to properly house the school children of Indianapolis, to do away with the porables, which have proved so unpopular and abolish half-day classes, it will be necessary to raise more money for building purposes, than is available under the present levy.

This was taken by many persons as an admission on the part of the new members of the board of the correctness of the position taken by the old board that new buildings must be erected promptly. The majority members of the present board made their campaign last fall, largely on the platform that the old board was "running wild" in the erection of new buildings and that the new board could operate the school city on the present revenues.

After three months in office, during which time little progress has been made toward erecting a building program, and to decide upon a plan to rectify the crowded condition of the schools, the present board seems about ready to fall back, substantially, on the program of the old board, which will require more money than is available under present taxation rates.

NOT SLOW IN MAKING THEIR DEMANDS KNOWN.

Not less than one hundred men and women wearing No. 38 badges filed the room when the meeting opened and were not slow to make their demands known. Albert Ginsberg, 1931 Catherine street; Charles G. Ginsberg, 3921 Copper street; Leslie Boyd, 2941 Hazel street, and the Rev. Harry O. Kiser, pastor of the Fountain M. E. Church spoke for the delegation.

They said they were tired of promises and had come to "demand" a new building and "not to request one." They pointed out that the present plant consists of a four-room building, almost thirty years old, two old houses and two cottages. They said there had been no improvements made in twenty-seven years, although as long ago as twenty-four years a school board had ordered plans prepared for a new building. These plans were rejected by boards from time to time, but all the school children got was the promise. The building was termed a fire trap, in which no factory owner would employ his employees to work, under the conditions surrounding the school children.

They frankly questioned the sincerity of any promises the board might make, and speaker said: "The trouble with the people of 38 has been that they have believed what school boards have told them. They have not taken the trouble to get relief in the form of a new building."

A petition signed by 731 property owners and parents of children attending the school was presented. The delegation received unexpected support from Harry E. Yockey, formerly assistant city attorney, who had come to make an appeal for a new building at school No. 28.

After listening to a recital of conditions at No. 28, Mr. Yockey broke into the discussion. "I came here just a year ago to ask for a building for No. 70," he said, "and you talked just as you are talking tonight. I am here for No. 70, but from all I have heard here conditions at No. 28 are infinitely worse. There is no excuse in a civilized community for conditions such as exist at 28."

Charles L. Barry, president of the board, attempted to smooth the trouble by saying that ten or twelve other schools were in the same condition. "If the same condition exists at ten other schools that is no excuse whatever. It only makes matters worse," Mr. Yockey answered.

The Taxpayers League of Indianapolis, which blocked a bond issue for the erection of a new building at No. 38 last year by a protest to the State board of tax commissioners, assisted later at the hearing by Mr. Barry, was dragged into the discussion by a member of the delegation. After efforts to tie the board to some definite date, when something would be done, Charles Ginsberg said: "If you can not help us, tell us where we must go. If we have to go to the Taxpayers' League we want to know it."

Finally the statement was made by President Barry that when the time came for doing any building "you had the list." The delegation was the most insistent that has yet appeared before the board and it refused to be appeased with vague

Dead Man Puts Ohio Town of Lithopolis on the Map



Miss Mabel Wagnalls, O. Henry and Map Showing Location of Lithopolis.

By ALEXANDER HERMAN.

NEW YORK, March 29.—A dead man has put a dead town on the map.

This feat has been accomplished through publication of a series of letters written by the late O. Henry, short story writer, to Miss Mabel Wagnalls, daughter of the publisher. The collection is called "Letters to Lithopolis."

Miss Wagnalls lives in the old New York made famous by O. Henry, in Gramercy Park not far from Madison Square. But she takes her summer vacations in Lithopolis, Ohio.

"It's a real place," she said, "but don't look for it from any railroad train window. It isn't there."

"Lithopolis stands alone, a little distance from Columbus, maintaining an absolute, an exclusive isolation that is unmatched by any other cluster of frame houses radiating around a one-block trading area of one-story shops."

"There are 350 inhabitants in Lithopolis. Their 285 houses are kept in repair, but a new house is never added. People never move to Lithopolis, but they can't help being born there."

"There are more graves than houses and people."

In 1903, when O. Henry was still an unknown quantity, Miss Wagnalls wrote him a letter to find out whether he was related to a branch of her family. She asked if he were man, woman or wraith. He answered, and the reply was forwarded to Miss Wagnalls at Lithopolis. This is the autobiography he sent:

"Texas cowboy, Lazy Thought writing stories might be easier than 'busting' bronchos. Came to New York one year ago to earn bread, butter, jam, and possibly asparagus that way."

The name Lithopolis appealed to O. Henry. It stimulated his imagination. He began to write about its people.

statements or generalities. As it left the room one man remarked to another. "For years we have been decent in this matter and have received nothing but promises. Now we are going to do a little stronger arm stuff, although we don't like to do it."

REQUEST TO COLLECT FUNDS FOR RUSSIA.

The request of Mrs. Louise Billman, assistant State director of the American Friends Service Committee, for permission to solicit funds for Russian relief in the public schools, was refused. The action was taken in accordance with a resolution of the board, readopted last year, after a multitude of complaints had been received regarding the collection of money in the schools for the James Whitcomb Riley Hospital fund, and which is to forbid solicitations of money among school children.

E. U. Graft, superintendent of schools, announced the following appointments: Elementary—Pauline Morton Finney, Agnes Evans Lucas, Helen Balz Moore, Mrs. Forest Wachtler, Zenia Pritchard, Irma Pitt, Winifred Pellett.

History—Eunice Manual Training High School—Erna Oehlbeck, stenographer in superintendent's office, Vera Maple.

PUSS IN BOOTS, JR.

By DAVID CORY.

By and by the robbers went to bed, but first they tied Puss with a stout cord to a ring in the wall. Of course, he couldn't get away, neither could he sleep. Toward midnight the twink-twinkle star looked through the window-pane. It seemed to say to him, in a strange sort of twink-twinkle tone:

"Though you think I'm but a star Up above the world so far, With my little golden eye, Looking down from out the sky,

New Witticisms of O. Henry

Excerpts from "Letters to Lithopolis" written by O. Henry, short story writer, to Miss Mabel Wagnalls:

I have more respect for a man who brands cattle than for one who writes pieces for the printer.

In Texas the folks freeze to you; in New York they freeze you.

There ought to be a law reserving literature for one-legged veterans and widows with nine children to write. Men ought to have the hard work to do—they ought to read the stuff.

I do not know a concerto or a legato from a perfect tomato but I can recognize success.

Before the piano was invented the piano was a real joy and convenience in homes where nobody could play it—they're so handy to pile old magazines on.

"The best character in town," Miss Wagnalls says, "was the tombstone lady. When other girls were embroidering monograms on fancy work to be sent to the county fair, she was tracing letters on enduring stone, destined for display upon the hill top. She knew the tombstone business from the ground up and from the surface down."

"She is gone from Lithopolis now—moved somewhere. But the place goes on just the same—except that they all the streets occasionally."

I can see so many things, Fleet of foot and swift of wings, Some one come to bring you aid, Listen, and be not afraid!"

Just then the pretty girl stole into the room. She whispered to Puss to keep quiet. Then untwisting the rope she opened the door, oh, so softly. "Make haste, for my moment my brothers may awake," she said.

"Thank you, thank you," said Puss, and softly tiptoed away. When he glanced back, he saw her still standing in the doorway with the light of the little star upon her face.

By and by the stars disappeared from the sky, and the moon went to sleep in a cloud and the yellow sun came in the eastern hills. Old Dame Trot came along with a basket of eggs for market and the Man in the Moon came hurrying back from Norway. If it hadn't been for a stray moonbeam he never would have got back to the Moon.

Puss Junior heard Little Boy Blue blowing his horn, and the song of the cook in the early morn, and the soft sweet twitter of Jenny Wren and the cheery calls of the workmen.

"Hel-lo!" cried Puss Junior. "I am ready for breakfast, but where shall I find it?"

"Oh, give you some of mine," cried Little Jack Horner, and he broke off a piece of his Christmas pie and handed it to Puss. "We were all up so early this morning that mother didn't have time to get our regular breakfast."

"How I wish I had a glass of milk!" sighed Puss.

"Oh, that's easy," said Little Jack Horner. "Come to the dairy with me, and next time you shall hear what happened after that.—Copyright, 1922, David Cory.

(To be Continued.)

ARCHDEACON IN REHEARING PLEA

Wakeford Delivers Petition Containing 60,000 Names.

LONDON, March 29.—Former Archdeacon Wakeford, who was relieved of his charge, following a hearing at which he was convicted of spending a night at an inn with a young lady he met in a cathedral, today returned to the home office a petition signed by 60,000 names, requesting a new hearing.

The petition will be forwarded to the king, who alone has the power to grant a reprieve of the case. A young woman recently declared she was the mysterious woman involved in the case, and largely cleared the ex-archdeacon's name. She had kept silent from fear of her fiancé, she said.

Washington Briefs

Special to Indiana Daily Times and Philadelphia Public Ledger.

WASHINGTON, March