

The Indianapolis Times

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Go not forth hastily to strive, lest thou know not what to do in the end thereof, when thy neighbor has put thee to shame.
Proverbs 25:8.

Punishing the Mothers

WHEN seven 17-year-old boys, who had appropriated other people's automobiles for joyriding purposes, heard their punishment pronounced in Criminal Court last Saturday, the heavier punishment for their misdeeds was falling upon others than the guilty miscreants—their mothers.

The publicity attached to the arrest, confessions, indictments, trials and sentencing of these youthful joyriders was more hurtful to these mothers than the sentences imposed on the boys.

The newspapers, in giving publicity to the cases of the seven youths, were party to the administering of this punishment. The Times regrets the pain it caused the mothers by the recital of their boys' pranks and the consequences of their wrongful possession of motor cars. But we are hopeful as a direct result of these cases not only that these same boys will not repeat their offenses, but that other boys will be guiltless of taking autos for joyriding parties, and that other mothers will be spared the punishment that falls on the one who deserves a better reward for the sacrifices she makes in the grave adventure of bringing a son into the world.

Searching at Sea

THE war of 1812 was fought because the British insisted on searching American ships at sea to find runaway sailors of the royal navy. After a lapse of 110 years, America has requested permission to search British ships at sea to find contraband rum.

Thus does time prove the perennial inconsistency of life. Great Britain upheld the right to search in 1812 and America went to war to prevent it. Now that America wishes to do the searching Great Britain is likely to refuse.

On the whole, it is better to keep the high seas neutral. Searching at sea is open to more abuses than the good results can justify. The places to stop smuggling are at the source and the terminals. Too many innocent victims would be caught in the net midway.

American Dollars Abroad

A QUARTER of a million Americans, from all parts of the United States, are visiting Europe this summer. The Americans, in interviews and letters, say the Europeans don't want them. The Europeans accuse the sightseers of eating Europe's scanty food supplies and taking back to America Europe's diminishing stocks of goods.

The argument is foolish. The American pay for what they get in Europe with American dollars. Europe needs American dollars more than anything else, and they are hard getting. An American traveler is Europe's best asset. When the American purchases an umbrella in Germany, to carry back home, he is presenting the Germans with enough dollars to buy the raw material for a dozen new umbrellas.

The German complaint that there are only a limited number of umbrellas in the fatherland would not be valid if Germany had enough money to buy more. American dollars give Germany this added purchasing ability. The Europeans ought to understand that fact. Few of them appear to do so. But, that only means the war's effect is still making clear thinking difficult.

ANSWERS

One can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times, Washington Drive, 1325 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, Ind. Enclosed in a cent stamp. Medical legal and love and marriage advice will not be given. Unsolicited letters will not be answered, but all letters are confidential and receive personal replies.—Editor.

Q.—How many Jewish Senators have there been in the United States and who were they?

A.—1. Benjamin Judah, Louisiana; 2. Simon Guggenheim, Colorado; 3. Benjamin Franklin Jones, Louisiana; 4. Joseph Simon, Oregon; 5. Isidor Raynor, Maryland; 6. David Levy Yulee, Florida.

Q.—How may one make "vinegar bees" and what is their value?

A.—The Department of Agriculture has issued a warning to persons advising against the use of the so-called "vinegar bees," "beer bees," "African bees," "California bees," "Australian bees," etc., these names being applied to a kind of wild yeast or ferment which, as far as can be learned, was originated by the mountaineers of Tennessee and Kentucky. The primitive process for making "bees" was to expose to the air a mixture of corn meal and molasses until it had become impregnated with wild yeast or other bacteria. The ferment so produced was employed locally in making a sort of vinegar by adding it to a mixture of water and either brown sugar or molasses, which then was allowed to work or ferment. Many advertisers of these products are at present making extravagant claims. Some go as far as to say the fermented mixture is beneficial in the treatment of rheumatism and kidney trouble, claims which have no foundation in fact. In the opinion of the department's specialists, a product made by catching yeast and bacteria indiscriminately from the air may well be harmful. They cannot recommend this substance at all for making vinegar.

Q.—On what day of the week did September 24, 1908, come?

A.—On Thursday.

Q.—When will Easter come in May?

A.—April 25 is the latest possible date on which Easter may come.

Q.—What States in the United States are paying old age pensions?

A.—According to the latest available information, none.

Q.—Is the expression "light complexioned" good English?

A.—No. This is a coined expression and incorrect. The proper word is "complexioned."

Q.—Is it necessary for Masons to go abroad in order to receive the thirty-third degree?

A.—No, this degree is conferred in the United States.

Q.—What is the history of the Confederate flag?

A.—During the Civil War the seceding States had a number of distinct flags. Early in 1861, however, their Congress decided upon what was pop-

ularly known as the "Stars and Bars," which was composed of three broad horizontal bars, the two outer ones red and the middle one white, with a blue "union" containing seven white stars in a circle. The number of stars was subsequently increased to thirteen. The Confederate battle flag used throughout the war consisted of a field of red on which was a blue St. Andrew's cross bordered with white and bearing thirteen white stars. In 1863 the Confederate Congress adopted a flag having a white field with a union or canton of the battle flag. This was sometimes mistaken for a flag of truce, so in 1865 a red bar was imposed across the end of the field.

Q.—Why are the Normans and Saxons depicted as hating the Jews in "Ivanhoe"?

A.—Because hatred and persecution of the Jews was widespread at that time. Most of this hatred arose from religious bigotry, as the Jews were considered "Christ killers."

Q.—How should clay soil be prepared for cultivation?

A.—No tan bark, air slaked lime or ground limestone should be used. Marine or green crops turned under are absolutely necessary.

Q.—Who is Ellen Glasgow?

A.—A novelist born at Richmond, Va., and educated privately. She is especially interesting in her scenes of Southern life and people and has written a great deal on the changes taking place in the South from the old order to the new.

Q.—What are the meanings of the following names?

A.—Godiva, Victorious in God; Lisette, pretty Lizzie; Daphne, laurel; Franklin, open-hearted; Lelage, a flower; Valerie, strong; Berenice, bringer of victory; Cameron, bravery.

Q.—Who was called "The Lady With the Lamp"?

A.—This was a term applied to Florence Nightingale because of her custom of midnight inspection at Sevastopol.

Q.—What is the Adjutant bird?

A.—It is a voracious carrion-eating East Indian stork, sometimes six feet in height and fourteen feet in expanse of wings, with a large bill, the skin of the head naked and a pouch-like appendage on the inferior surface of the neck. The plumage is black or ash-colored and furnishes the marabou feathers of India. The adjutant feeds on frogs, fish, reptiles, etc., and is the scavenger of Indian towns. It derives its name from the comical gait with which it stalks along.

Q.—What is a daguerreotype?

A.—A daguerreotype is an early photographic method. A plate of thin copper or other metal was covered with a silver preparation. This was placed directly in the camera and there was no method of transposing the image. The taking of a daguerreotype required long exposure, which was decidedly objectionable.

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