

The Indianapolis Times

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The works of the Lord are great, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein. Psalms 111:2.

How to Get Fair Rents

ENGLAND during the war passed what they called a Rent Restriction Act to keep owners of houses from profiteering at the expense of tenants.

So did some American cities.

The acts have been kept in force after the war. In England, as in America, there is a great scarcity of houses. A leading builder in England, after saying that he had built more than 12,000 houses in his time, said: "In 1914 I closed down, and have not since put one brick on another, and never mean to unless the rent restrictions are removed."

Nobody can blame him. People build houses for profit. They will not build unless it pays; and legislative bodies can not tell what rents will pay the builders and what rents will not.

Rent is calculated on two things—the cost of the land and the cost of the house. Tenants must pay rents which will return interest, taxes, depreciation, and a profit, or builders will not build. This is mere common sense.

Legislative bodies can however, affect these factors in the interests of both builders and tenants. Many cities are experimenting with the matter. They exempt houses from taxation for a few years after building, but this is only a temporary adjustment. Laws can be so made as to make lands permanently lower in price, so that the tenant will not be forced to pay so much interest on ground rents, and builders can be given permanent immunity from taxation on their improvements. This by exempting all improvements from taxation. This should apply to all improvements, old and new. By this means activities would be given a permanent impulse against holding lands out of use and unimproved. The profit in vacant land would be a thing of the past, since it would pay exactly the same taxes as if improved. On the other hand, the profit in land ownership would lie exclusively in the direction of improving the land.

Result: As many houses as could be profitably built; profits for builders at lower rents to tenants; a larger supply of houses. And the only thing which will make lower rents is more houses. That is the law of supply and demand.

"Censored"

WILL HAYS, official dry cleaner for the motion picture industry, says the producers are going to attack censorship by eliminating the necessity for it.

This sounds sensible. Seeing will be believing.

Observe that he admits the "necessity."

The theatrical profession has been fighting censorship so long that the earliest records are lost.

Modern boards of censors date from 1642 when the Long Parliament in England suppressed the theater entirely. Chief reason for this, according to the elder Disraeli, was that the members of Parliament had smarted so much under the satirical whips of the dramatists.

This censorship was political, as all forms of censorship tend to become unless they are curbed by the will of the people.

Theatricals eventually had to be permitted again in England because the politicians could not stand up under the brilliant sarcasm of songs and petitions circulated by stage writers. Most famous of these was the "Rump Song." Here's part of it:

Now while you reign, our low petition craves
That we, the king's true subjects and your slaves,
May in our comic mirth and tragic rage
Set up the theater and show the stage—
This shop of truth and fancy, where we vow
Not to act anything you disallow.
We will not dare at your strange votes to jeer
Or personate King Pyne with his state-fleet.
Your tragedes more real are express'd;
You murder men in earnest, we in jest.

Actors at that time had the legal status of vagabonds. But the battle between the stage and politicians kept up until the stage won.

Censorship in 1922. Censorship in 1642. The critics are stewing about it now, as they were nearly three centuries ago. People seem to have the same basic troubles and problems, in varying degrees, in one generation as in the next.

"Holier than thou" attitude in human nature is asbestos in the fires of time.

Lese Majeste

THE downfall of the Hohenzollerns has not destroyed the theory of divine right. In Japan, the faith still persists. Dr. Tetsuji Aoki, formerly a member of the faculty of Keio University, Tokio, has begun serving a sentence of four months' imprisonment for writing an article protesting against the theory of the divinity of the Japanese royal family.

Many Japanese lawyers petitioned the government to quash the sentence. Japanese newspapers say public sympathy is with Dr. Aoki. Nevertheless, the bureaucrats in Tokio give no heed to the voice of the people.

Dr. Aoki has been made a martyr for free speech. There must be other martyrs before Japan is saved for democracy.

ANSWERS

You can get an answer to any question or a reply to any letter by writing to The Indianapolis Times Washington Bureau, 1322 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. Letters on certain subjects, medical, legal and love and marriage, advice will not be given. Unsigned letters are confidential and remain personal replies.—Editor.

Q.—How soon do orange trees bear? A.—Usually within three or four years from the time of planting.

Q.—Is it not customary for the Government to give a bounty for triplets? A.—No.

Q.—Is there a unit of measurement called the Canadian ton? What acceptance is made of a 2,000-pound ton, as compared to a ton of 2,240 pounds, and what are they called to distinguish them apart?

A.—The "Canadian ton" is a ton of 2,000 pounds, avoirdupois. The ton of 2,240 pounds is sometimes called the "long ton" or "gross ton," while the ton of 2,000 pounds is frequently designated as the "short ton" or "net ton." The former is mentioned in the laws of only a few States, among which may be noted New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, this.

BRITAIN STIRRED BY NEAR EAST'S JUMBLED STATE

Lloyd George and Poincare May Extend Monday's Parley to Present Issue.

GREEKS LAND TROOPS

Despite Promise to Allies Have Brought 25,000 to Robosto—England Alert.

By RALPH H. TURNER
United News Staff Correspondent.

LONDON, Aug. 2.—Confusion throughout Europe has served to upset efforts of the one stable government, Great Britain, to avert a crash.

Attention of Premier Lloyd George is being focussed on Central Europe and the Near East. A troublesome situation has arisen in the Near East to the result of the threat of Greece to occupy Constantinople. In Italy there is a serious cabinet upheaval. The French are becoming increasingly restive at the attitude of Germany on reparations.

The foreign office has prepared a reply to the note of Premier Poincare on reparations, announcing that Lloyd George will meet Poincare in London Monday, and expressing a desire that discussions be confined to reparations. The Near Eastern question, the note suggests, be held temporarily in abeyance.

Italy and Belgium have both been invited to send representatives to the meeting, giving the conference an aspect of greater importance. A note was to be sent to Paris Monday night.

Britain Warns Greeks

Lloyd George announced that the British representatives in Athens, complying with instructions from the home government, had warned Greeks that attempts to occupy Constantinople would not be tolerated.

The serious consequences that would follow have served momentarily to ease the situation, and the Greek government has given definite assurances that Greek troops will not enter the neutral zones without the consent of the allies.

However, Greek troops continue to land at Robosto, 25,000 having arrived. A British light cruiser squadron is proceeding from Malta to Constantinople as a precautionary measure, and the Mediterranean fleet is being brought up to full strength.

UNUSUAL FOLK

By NEA Service

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Aug. 2.—George F. Maddock is general manager of the \$20,000,000 Sutter Basin reclamation project, one of the prizes of the engineering profession.

Not so long ago his job was that of a mechanic skilled in installing type-setting machines. It was a good job, too, but he had about exhausted its possibilities. Deficiency of education kept Maddock from getting higher. He had a wife and several children and was getting on toward middle age.

If these were handicaps, they didn't prevent him from starting on a course of study under the principal of the Sacramento High School. Presently he was able to enter Stanford University. At night he worked as a printer, in the classroom by day. Presently Maddock won the assistant professorship of electrical engineering at Stanford. Then he was hired as engineering adviser to an organization of California hemp growers. Finally the reclamation project claimed him.

Maddock doesn't speak of his achievement as extraordinary, but it's unusual nevertheless.

THE REFEREE

By ALBERT APPLE
GOLD

There must be a lot of cursing around the Green Tree saloon in Dawson. More gold is being mined this year in British Columbia than the Yukon yielded in the banner year of its gold rush.

APPLE—No fuss is made about it, however, probably because B. C. is not far enough away. If it were as hard to get to as the Yukon was in 1898, when the Soapy Smith gang was levying tribute north of Skagway, amateur prospectors would be stampeding into British Columbia from all corners of the globe.

Most of us think that fortune exists only at great distances, far off on the other side of the hills.

RED HEADS

Red-heads are more efficient than blondes or brunettes, says an official of a big insurance company.

Historians sometimes wonder why there are so few red-headed geniuses. The answer is, because there are so few red-headed people to draw from.

Red hair is usually a sure sign of keen wit, rapid thought, ingenuity and deep thinking. You never knew a red-head that was a dumb-dumb. The sale of henna proves that outsiders are envious.

ABILITY

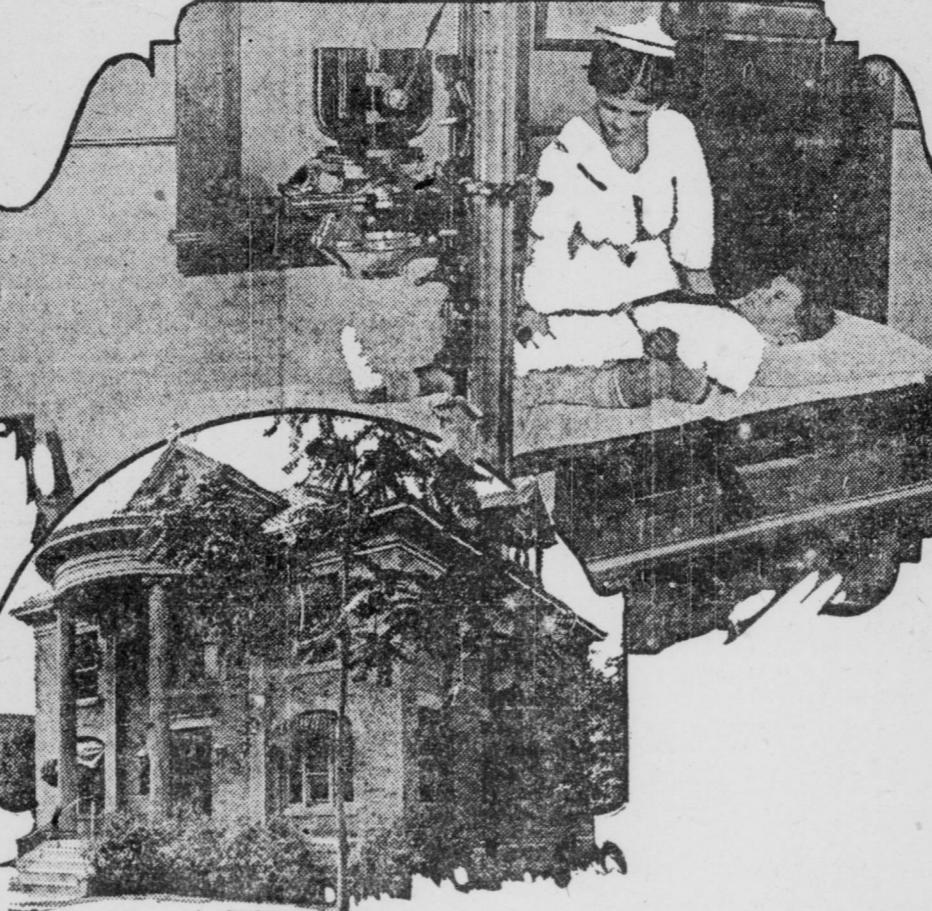
Leopold Auer, trainer of master violinists, tell in Success magazine how he instantly recognized a violin genius when he heard Jascha Heifetz play at the age of 9, also Mischa Elman at the age of 10.

Auer helped grubstake the two lads to a musical education.

A.—Stains made from nitrate of silver may be removed by moistening them with a brush dipped in a strong aqueous solution of cyanide of potassium (a deadly poison) and then well washing the fabric in water. Great care should be exercised in trying this, for a better world.

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

UNION CITY CLINIC ADOPTS GROUP DOCTORING



In the up-to-date X-ray room of the Union City Clinic (above), and a view of the Clinic building (below).

Accordingly, with a sixth doctor who joined forces with them, they opened offices in the same building in Union City, obtained the cooperation of a dentist with quarters less than two squares away, and launched their experiment.

The average patient doesn't know what really ails him. He knows only that he's troubled by certain uncomfortable symptoms. From his description of these symptoms the doctor determines his disease. Then, if the case is unusual, he directs the patient to a specialist—or maybe, if doubt exists, to an X-ray expert. All this costs the patient time and money.

In the service, during the war, were five Union City, Ind., physicians to whom the value of "group medical attention" made so strong an appeal that they resolved to keep it up when they returned home.

The plan further insures a prompt response to all emergency calls. If, when one is received, the physician summoned happens to be unavailable, the services of the member of the group best qualified to take his place is offered, and in several urgent cases the saving of life has resulted in the saving of life.

The first effect of the plan's adoption was to give Union City and vicinity a medical service in most respects equal to the best obtainable in the largest cities. In the eighteen months since the Union City Clinic was established, so much progress has been made that in April the doctors bought the Union City hospital, and eventually it is their plan to erect a new hospital adjoining their office building.

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