

The Indianapolis Times

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He that despiseth his neighbor sinneth; but he that hath mercy
on the poor, happy is he. Proverbs 14:21.

Have You a Home?

HOME-BUILDERS are gaining on the housing shortage now at a rate that promises plenty of places to live within a comparatively short time.

Residential buildings are going up \$500,000,000 worth per month, according to figures just completed by the Government. This figure indicates the value of contracts let per month.

Putting it in another way, residential floor space is being constructed about 128,000,000 square feet per month. That means space for about 125,000 families.

The housing shortage has been estimated at more than 1,000,000 homes.

Following the war the boom in building which set in did not help the home-seeker. Most of the construction was on factories, office buildings, theaters and other non-residential structures.

Now the home-builder is getting his. In point of floor space and in dollars the contracts for residences let during the first summer months were more than double that of any other class of buildings.

Through the housing division of the Department of Commerce the Government is keeping close tab on construction.

Costs, available supplies, simplified building codes and schemes to aid home-builders in financing building have been surveyed in a comprehensive way by the Government, which is working in close conjunction with State and city organizations to encourage building. Results are coming, according to the figures.

Save Republicanism.

GUTZON BORGULM, sculptor of Abraham Lincoln in the Lincoln Memorial at Washington, has invaded the political field with a circular asking for help in the task of freeing the Republican party from its domination by special privilege, Big Business and professional machine organization.

"We want no futile third party movements," says Borglum. "The success in Pennsylvania, Indiana and Iowa has demonstrated that we do not need them. Now the entire country is squaring itself for the coming congressional election. Our message should be printed and carried to millions of voters."

Borglum is right. The third party effort has been difficult. The Progressive party proved to be only a balance of power between the other two parties. But the Progressive party had a message and if its leaders had not betrayed it our political story today would be a different one.

We wish our idealist and artistic friend all success, but we would add a word of encouragement also for any opposing third party, fourth party, fifth party, or even a Democratic party out of office.

Ach, Du Lieber Augustine!

NOT that it makes our sun shine any brighter, but just to show how well we are off comparatively, consider the lot of the poor German house frau, when she goes to market, her basket stuffed with bales of marks.

In Germany, according to consular figures, the mark, which used to be mighty good money before the war, is now batting about .0009. Over there the cost of living is busting Babe Ruth's record daily—it is batting about 90,000 per cent.

It may be small consolation to reflect upon another's misfortune, but it is good cause for thanks that in America the cost of living has doubled only, instead of increasing by ninety fold, as is the case today in unfortunate Germany.

ANSWERS

Q.—What can an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times? New York Ave., Washington, D. C., enclosing a coin in stamps. Medical, legal and love and marriage advice will not be given. Unsolicited manuscripts cannot be answered, but all letters are confidential and receive personal replies.—Editor.

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

A.—Justinus, righteous; Elmer, protection and beauty; Michael, who is like God; Roderick, rash; Eileen, my own one; Osmund, protection of God; Koline, Swedish for Catherine, meaning pure; Ross, a houndsman; Anastasia, lively; Ethan, wisdom; Godwin, victorious in God.

Q.—What are truffles?

A.—A genus of fungi growing underground. The common truffle is of a fleshy fungous structure and roundish figure, without any visible root; of a dark color, approaching to black, and studded over with tubercles, and varies in size from that of a large plum to that of a large potato. It is much sought after as an ingredient in certain high-seasoned dishes. There being no appearance above ground to indicate the existence of the truffle, dogs are trained to find this fungus by the scent and scratch it up.

Q.—Why are novels called romances?

A.—The Latin (Roman) language ceased to be spoken in France about the ninth century, and was succeeded by a mixture of the language of the Franks and bad Latin, which was called the Romance language or dialect. Most of the early tales of chivalry being written in that language were called "Romances"—hence the name given to marvelous and half-fabulous stories or poems.

Q.—How did the term "Quack Doctor" originate?

A.—It is thought this is a corruption of "quake doctor," orague doctor. The quake being known as the quake, and in fenny countries being generally treated by ignorant persons, who professed to charm away the disease, the term "quake doctor" arose, which has been corrupted to quack doctor.

Q.—Why are English soldiers called "Tommy Atkins?"

A.—The term arose from a little pocket-book or ledger, at one time given to British soldiers, in which were to be entered the name, age, date of enlistment, length of service, wounds, medals, etc., of each individual. The War Office sent with each little ledger a form for filling it in, and the name selected for an illustration was "Tommy Atkins." The books were instantly so named and it

NATION WILL PAY ALMOST BILLION EXTRA FOR COAL

Present Shortage, Due Mainly to Strikes, Creates Acute Demand.

HIGH PRICES GENERAL
Railroads Escape Middleman Profit—Own and Operate Fuel Sources.

By C. G. LYON
Times Staff Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 4.—The Nation's coal bill during the next eight months will be some \$750,000,000 more than for the corresponding period last year.

That will represent the country's direct cash contribution to the greatest coal strike in history.

With practically all reserve coal piles now exhausted, economists figure must be mined between now and April 1, 1923, to meet the country's normal demands.

Operators and miners figure they may produce an average of 12,000,000 a ton.

Up to April 1, when the strike began, the average price for "spot coal" at the mines was approximately \$2.10 a ton.

Maximum Price Uncertain

Under the Hoover agreement of May 30, a "maximum price" of \$3.50 a ton was agreed on as a move to prevent profiteering by many non-union operators who were even then taking advantage of a coal famine to shoot their price sky-high.

If the Government's coal-rating commission, of which Henry B. Spencer is chairman, does not increase the "maximum price" for coal at the mines beyond \$3.50 a ton, the coal operators will be able to sell 12,000,000 tons a week for \$42,000,000, as against \$25,200,000 they were receiving for a similar tonnage prior to April 1.

This does not take into consideration the coal brokers, jobbers and retailers who will add on their profits before the coal reaches the consuming public.

Economists say they are ultra-conservative in figuring an increase of \$2 a ton to the buying public over prices of last year.

Rails Evade Profits

The railroads are the only interests that can protect themselves against middlemen's profits. They buy their coal at the mines direct—many roads own their own mines.

Industries, at the same time, will pay \$212,000,000 more for their coal; electric power, \$45,600,000 more, and other coal-consuming interests in proportion to their demands.

POLLUTION

Morgan County Citizens Object to Filing in White River.

To the Editor of The Times:

We, citizens of Morgan County, would like to know who is responsible for the filth that goes into the White River.

We would like for the board of health and the fish and game warden to get a boat and go down White River to Martinsville. They had better wear masks.

There is not a fish from Indianapolis to Martinsville but if we have a net and try to get a mess of fish they will arrest us and put us in jail.

I can smell the river for a half mile. THOMAS TAYLOR.
Brooklyn, Ind.

To the Editor of The Times:

My mother used to tell me "self-praise is half scandal." Now I read in the Times that Edgar Blessing, a member of the Indiana utilities commission, talks to the Indianapolis Lions Club of "the benefits" that are derived to the people through the public utilities commission of forty-six States, presumably including the one in Indiana, which has so consistently boosted utility rates at the expense of the long suffering consumer. My mother's words come back to me.

GAS CONSUMER.

ECZEMA

By DR. R. H. BISHOP.

ECZEMA is the commonest of all skin diseases. It is the skin crying out, either from neglect or bad treatment.

It is not contagious. Sometimes it is acute but more often it is chronic. Invariably it is attended by itching.

The skin, like other parts of the body, depends on the whole system for nutrition, and when the system fails to give this nutrition there is an eruption on the surface. When the skin is not properly nourished every slight irritation is liable to produce eczema.

In treating it the cause must be found and removed if possible, moisture and air must be avoided and protection must be furnished by means of ointments, dusting powders and bandages, but seldom by lotions and watery fluids. The bowels must be kept open and attention should be paid to the diet, excluding acid fruits, shell fish, tomatoes, and any other irritating food. Pure air, combined with the proper kind of exercise, promotes the functions of the skin and assists in keeping the blood in good condition.

A person suffering from eczema should avoid tub-baths and use soap and water sparingly. Bran added to the water, or baking soda, in the proportion of one teaspoonful to the basin of water, is helpful. The water should always be soft. The use of water on the face should be followed by the immediate use of cold cream.

The cause can sometimes be traced to weakness of the physical condition or bad nerves. In all cases a physician should be consulted in order to point out causes of the disease and special treatment.

HOBOES

By BERTON BRALEY.

WE don't know where we're going, but we're on our way.

The running-board is cluttered with our stuff.

The car is loaded with baggage like a moving-day.

And we're fit for any travel, smooth or bumpy.

So we're starting motor-tramping with an outfit made for camping.

And our destination's anywhere we please.

So we can't say where we'll find us for we've left our home behind us.

And we're in the door and thrown away the keys.

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United States Spends Millions for Starving Russian Urvins, Haskell's Report Shows

By NEA Service

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.—The peak of American relief has been reached in starving Russia and the specter of famine fast is disappearing.

That is the message brought by Col. William N. Haskell, director of the American Relief Administration. Just back from Russia to make a report to Chairman Herbert Hoover, he gives a comprehensive survey of the work already done.

"We are feeding 10,000,000 people, including 3,500,000 children and 6,500,000 adults," he says. "The work, covering an area of 4,000,000 square miles, is being done by 200 Americans. Close to 800,000 tons of supplies have been distributed.

"Child feeding was begun last Sept. 1 and adult feeding April 1. By the coming September adult relief will cease, and the feeding of children will be cut down gradually to 1,000,000.

"By that time crops will have matured, for there was much more planting last spring following the distribution by the Soviet government of the \$10,000,000 worth of seed grain.

U. S. Checks Hunger

"America checked the famine, reduced deaths by starvation to a minimum and tided the people over, especially in the Volga region. When the harvest comes our food drive will be practically over and we shall devote our chief attention to medical and sanitation work."

Out of the \$30,000,000 subscribed by the American people two years ago for Central European relief, \$8,000,000 has gone to feed Russian children, according to Haskell.

Daily 3,500,000 children visit the 18,000 American kitchens. Each has spoon and spoon receives a well-cooked meal consisting of bread, coco and milk and either rice, beans or corn grits.

Out of the \$20,000,000 appropriated by Congress 200,000 tons of corn have been shipped into the Volga region. Nearly adults numbering 5,000,000 receive thirty pounds of corn a month.

They are fed through American aid.

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