

OUR ONE-HOSS SHAY **N**OW that the Sixty-Seventh Congress has closed shop, to give us a few months of rest from its agonies, the best we can say of it is that it was not much worse than its immediate predecessors, and the worst we can say is that it was not much better than recent Congresses.

Like Oliver Wendell Holmes' "Wonderful One-Hoss Shay," which ran and ran, the Sixty-Seventh Congress "ran," but it did little else. It was antiquated, wasteful, helpless and inefficient. The same could be said of preceding Congresses. So this criticism is neither for Republicans nor Democrats exclusively.

Only one Congress in ten, or thereabouts, functions successfully. The Sixty-Seventh Congress should have been the one in ten, for in it the party of the Executive had an overwhelming majority. It was chosen by the people to put "more business in government," meaning more efficiency. If it had functioned smoothly, the retiring Congress might have been a record breaker for work.

Instead, it enacted but a badly patched and tattered legislative program, while vital questions such as transportation, government reorganization, foreign affairs, constitutional amendments, and other important matters, were caught in the jam provoked by the talkfest at the end of the session.

Much of its valuable time Congress wasted in quarrels with the executive and with the judiciary as to which branch of government was supreme, duplicating the pathetic spectacle of the Wilson administration.

The truth of the matter is, Congress, and the Federal government, too, for that matter, is not equal to its task. It is antiquated and impotent, and dominated—if not run—by demagogues and bureaucrats who are more interested in their own affairs than in sensing public will and in carrying it out.

One of two courses is inevitable; either the government at Washington must function—which it seems unable to do—or else it must be remodeled along newer lines, either through the medium of amendments to the Constitution or at a Constitution convention, so that it will work.

PERIL IN THIRST **T**EN coal miners near Litchfield, Ill., got so thirsty they held a convention in a cave and ate "canned heat," solidified and adulterated alcohol which comes in tin cans for camp-fire use. One of the miners had his thirst appeased. He is dead—poisoned.

The extent to which some people are resorting to get intoxicants makes us wonder if an epidemic of temporary insanity isn't following in prohibition's wake. A shrewd psychologist recognized this when he started the story:

First Man: "Do you drink anything?"

Second Red Nose: "Yes—anything."

MARKS AS JUNK **A** NEW YORKER wants to peddle German marks from a push-cart. The man who waits on him at the license bureau is a joker, sends him to police headquarters for a junkman's permit. More truth than jest.

Germany recently has been printing as high as 450 billion marks a week. By the first of April she will have about five trillion marks in circulation, or nearly 50,000 for every man, woman and child in the United States. Even Confederate money is worth more than marks.

ON TO MACHINE AGE **T**HE cutting and polishing of diamonds are now being done by machinery, says B. K. Price in Abrasive Industry magazine. Not altogether, of course, but, in the diamond industry, machinery is rapidly crowding out skilled hand labor.

This indicates a world trend. We have barely entered the age of machinery. The "skilled hand labor" of the future will be in making machinery and operating and repairing it. Which answers one angle of the old question, "Whither are we drifting?"

WHERE MONEY GOES **A** MERICAN banks lent \$70 million dollars last year to foreign countries and foreign corporations, announces the Guaranty Trust Co.

More than a third of this went to Canada and the Dutch East Indies. Europe got a nibble here and there, but on a relatively small scale. Brazil and Cuba got large sums. The figures are interesting because they show where the international bankers are placing their bets. As for Europe, the bankers apparently think she has a long way to go before she becomes a "safe risk."

Easter Is Always First Sunday Following Paschal Full Moon

QUESTIONS ANSWERED **Y**ou can't answer any question or fact of information by writing to the Indianapolis Times' Washington bureau, 1000 Indiana Ave., Washington, D. C., enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Letters cannot be answered, nor can they be returned, unless they are written in full, and receive personal replies. —EDITOR.

What is the rule for determining the date of Easter Sunday?

Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the Paschal full moon, that is, the first Sunday after the full moon on or next after March 21, and therefore, cannot be earlier than March 22, or later than April 25. If the full moon falls on Sunday, then Easter day is the next Sunday. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which comes forty days previous to Easter Sunday, not counting Sundays.

What color pigments or dyes are used in the making of United States postage stamps?

This is a secret closely guarded by the United States Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

Did the Indians use salt on their food before the white men came to this country? Why did the Indians dry their meat?

They did use salt. They dried their meat to keep it from spoiling.

When did Terry McGovern die? Feb. 23, 1918.

What is a sect? Can the term be applied to a religion?

A sect is a party or body of persons who unite in holding certain special doctrines or opinions concerning religion, which distinguish them from others holding the same general religious belief; a distinct part of the

Marble Players Working Out for Times Contest Bear in Mind They May Win Atlantic City Trip



LEFT TO RIGHT—ROBERT MEYER, 316 N. OXFORD ST.; HAROLD FRENKE, 401 N. OXFORD ST.; CHARLES BAKER, 409 N. OXFORD ST., AND JOHN MURPHY, 329 N. OXFORD ST.

Young Indianapolis is wearing collapses on its shootin' fingers and thumbs.

Practice is under way at every school ground and many other open spaces for The Times tournament to pick the city's current champion in the marble contest.

The Times' photographer snapped four N. Oxford St. lads "working out" for the local meet, the date of which soon will be announced.

Girls also are eligible to enter, and it is expected that some of the fair contenders will determine the race for honors.

Among those who already have entered their names:

Richard Thorl, 14, of 114 W. Fifteenth St.; Arthur Rosenberg, 13, 1009 Broadway; Robert Jandauer, 14, 110 N. Olney St.; Harold Janneck, 1716 N. Rural St.; Byron Todd, 1702 N. Rural St.; Carl Herman, 1522 N. Rural St.; Pat Spaulding, 11, of 121 Berry St.; Joseph Stuhls, 8, and Max, 12, of 26 Johnson St.; Glenn Mason, 11, of Fifteenth Ave., and Lawrence Delong, Beech Grove.

Going to enter? Send your name to the Marble Editor.

Clip These Rules, Boys and Girls

Entrants in The Indianapolis Times' marble contest should study carefully the following rules, which will govern the local contest, the sectional tourney and the national match at Atlantic City.

Sixty contenders or less will play in each game. The order of their turns to shoot will be determined by a 10-foot lag, to see who gets nearest to a given line.

Games for the title will be played with object marbles or ducks three inches apart on a cross mark. The mark will be in the center of a ring 10 feet in diameter.

The game will be played with each contestant knocking down on the edge of the big ring.

The shooters must be left lying when they stop inside the ring. If the shooter goes beyond the ring, the player gets as many ducks as he knocks out of the circle. Each duck hitting shot entitles him to another shot. If he hits an opponent's shooter, he gets a duck!

If the opponent's shooter is knocked out of the ring, the owner of the shooter is "killed," and must turn his ducks over to the one making the "killing." Ducks not knocked out remain in the circle. If all ducks are knocked out, the one having the most wins. Accurate scores must be kept.

The referee is boss of the game. His decisions are final in all cases.

Watch The Times for further details of the big national marble shooting contest.

Fellowship of Prayer

Daily Lenten Bible reading and meditation prepared for Commission on Evangelism of Federal Council of Churches.

Beloved of the Father

"This is My beloved Son; hear ye Him."—Mark 9:7.

Read Mark 9:13.

"The reasons for thinking Him divine are solid and colossal facts, even a wayfaring man can see."

MEDITATION: The spirit of Christ is not a matter of creedal statement but of fact. His power to renew lives is of the very nature of God. Others may introduce us to Him, but it is His power that strengthens us.

HYMN:

HYMN: "Lord of all being, enthroned afar, Thy glory flames from sun and star; Center and soul of ev'ry sphere, Yet to each loving heart how near!

PRAYER: The day returns and brings us the petty round of irritating concerns and duties. Help us to play the man! Help us to perform them with laughter and kind faces. Let cheerfulness abound with industry. Give us to go blithely on our business all this day. Bring us to our resting beds weary, and content, and undishonored. And grant us in the end the gift of sleep. Amen."

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