

LET'S NOT BOAST ABOUT IT

SOMETIMES we boast of our "Christian civilization." Then comes, perhaps, a story like that of Martin Tabert. Martin, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Tabert, had spent the twenty-two years of his life in the immediate vicinity of the home farm at Munich, N. D. He was untraveled and not learned. He knew, for example, that murder, theft, assault, embezzlement, arson and the like were felonies and that one guilty of any of these crimes was in danger of punishment.

What he did not know was that in one State, at least, "beating his way" on a passenger train without a ticket was the most heinous crime in all the calendar—a crime so awful that for it he could be arrested, thrown into jail, fined, and on the same day, in default of payment while the money was actually on the way from his parents in North Dakota, be "sold" for \$20 into the most horrible slavery, to toil from dawn until dark, hid deep in the slime and cold water of a turpentine swamp. He did not know that the sheriff of Tallahassee, Fla., could and would do these things to him.

Martin found out all these things in a few short days. He fell by the wayside when he attempted to work, was sick in the swamp, when the foreman of the gang to which he had been "sold" called him out in sight of all the other "convicts" and there beat him with a great strap with an iron buckle, beat him so that two days later, on Feb. 1 of this year, he died from his wounds.

Martin probably didn't know these things, because after the beating he never regained consciousness, and the first his family heard was when the Putnam Lumber Company wrote that Martin "had been given a Christian burial."

This tale is so terrible that it sounds untrue. Folks just can't believe it. Nevertheless, the Florida Legislature, on investigation, found that the reports were true, even in their worst.

Now, probably, that sheriff who returned to the family the envelope containing the money to pay Martin's fine will be punished. And, because of the noise which has been raised, the fiend Higginbotham, who beat Martin until he was unconscious, will get a year or two in a nice quiet penitentiary for the murder, and possibly the Florida system of leasing convicts into slavery will be modified, even abolished.

Possibly, other States which have convict leasing systems almost as bad will be compelled by the tide of indignation to reform. Let's hope so. But let's not boast of "our Christian civilization" for a few days, at least.

MORE CHAMPS. MORE!

JUST as soon as they get the championship for endurance dancing settled, we shall insist upon decisions as to the endurance championships at gum chewing, cigarette smoking, salad eating, face painting, hair bobbing, stocking rolling, jazz horn blowing and other sciences supporting the scientific theory that our civilization is descendant from monkeys. All other human affairs may well be held in abeyance until these matters of vital importance are settled.

After they are settled, and our form of civilization gets upon a sound, progressive basis, some endurance championships of minor importance ought to be discovered.

What girl can wash mother's dishes the greatest number of days?

What girl can do the most washing of the family clothes the quickest?

What girl can habitually get up the best meals?

What girl can bake, sweep and scrub the longest?

What girl can save mother the most steps?

We say that contests for such championships ought to be. No, we are not going to offer prizes and publicity for such contests. Simply, anybody else who wants to start something along this line, at the risk of not unearthing contestants enough to decide anything, will get our kindest words of approbation for courageously tackling enormous adverse odds.

VOLSTEAD AND HIS FAME

ANDREW VOLSTEAD, retired from Congress, hangs out his shingle again as a lawyer in Minnesota. Because his name is on the Volstead act, he will be remembered long after all his contemporary associates in Congress will be forgotten. He may persist on as a legendary character.

Volstead has been the target of a lot of ridicule and hatred from the wets. They seem to think that he personally screwed the lid on John Barleycorn's coffin. Yet it was only by chance, as chairman of a committee, that his name was attached to the Volstead act. He lent his name to a vast movement. The public, however, always singles out some one individual as the goat for a situation.

Questions

ASK THE TIMES

Answers

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to the Indianapolis Times, Washington bureau, 1322 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. 6. Questions should be brief, to the point, and should include full name, address, and telephone number. Questions should be sent to the Washington bureau, not to the local office. Questions should be sent to the Washington bureau, not to the local office. Questions should be sent to the Washington bureau, not to the local office.

Did General Grant change his name? Yes, he was first named Hiram Ulysses Grant, but through some error he was appointed to West Point as Ulysses Simpson Grant.

How do cyclones move? In general, in an eastern or north-eastern direction. Occasionally a cyclone veers to the north or the northwest, but this is rare and does not continue for any length of time.

Is Ben Turpin, the movie comedian, cross-eyed off the screen? Yes.

What are the average weights and volumes of coal? Anthracite coal, 1 cubic foot, 55 to 65 pounds (1 ton 34 to 41 cubic feet). Bituminous coal, 1 cubic foot, 50 to 55 pounds (1 ton 41 to 45 cubic feet).

What is the cause and nature of the disease trichinosis and how may it be prevented? Caused by eating meat of infected swine and its severity depends on the number of parasites consumed. It may begin with chilly sensations, or a distinct chill, and there may be a slight fever of varying intensity in the course of the disease. Digestive disturbances are common, consisting of sensations of discomfort, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhoea. These may appear several hours or days after the infected meat is eaten, or they may be entirely absent. Next to these

symptoms, those affecting the muscular system are the most important. In all cases they begin with sensations of general lameness of the arms, legs, and great tenderness of the muscles, and great tenderness of the muscles. Manifestation, deglutition and respiration are rendered difficult. Swelling of the eyelids and of the face, appearing usually on the seventh day, is quite characteristic. The disease lasts from five weeks to four months. The mortality varies in different epidemics, and has been as high as 30 per cent. Meat infected with trichinosis is made harmless by thorough cooking.

Where does the smoke given off by an aeroplane while "writing" in the sky come from? A smoke pot made of tar, a certain amount of resin, and solidified alcohol.

What are good reflectors of light (visible rays)? According to the Bureau of Standards the following: Selenium (Amorphous), 20 to 25 per cent. Galena, PbS, 40 to 45 per cent. Molybdenite, MoS₂, 45 to 50 per cent. Pyrites, FeS₂, 50 to 60 per cent.

What causes "clubroot" in vegetables, and how can it be cured? An ailment known as "raticicola heterodera," which attacks the roots of the vegetable and induces the disease which causes the swellings. The only way to prevent it is by sterilizing the soil with the steam process which, of course, is only done on a large scale. There is no cure for it after the vegetables are once infected.

"BERTIE AND BETTY" IT WILL BE AFTER TWO "NCES", ONE "YES"



BY MILTON BRONNER

NEA Service Staff Writer

OXFORD, April 23.—All Britain,

which was so pleased when

Princess Mary became the wife

of Lord Lascelles, is tickled to death

over the marriage set for Thursday

of Bertie and Betty.

"Bertie" is the Duke of York, the

second son of the King of England.

"Betty" is Lady Elizabeth Bowes-

Lyon, youngest daughter of the Earl

of Strathmore.

The nicknames are what they call

each other.

The loyal Britisher is pleased not

only because once more one of the

king's children is choosing a Briton

as a life partner, but also because

the 25-year-old duke had to pop

the question three times before he

landed his girl.

"They had met years ago at a kids'

party when Lady Elizabeth was 6

and Prince Albert 12.

Mary's Bridesmaid

They met frequently after that be-

cause the girl was one of those

chosen by Queen Mary as a com-

panion and schoolmate of Princess

Mary. Naturally, she was one of

Mary's bridesmaids.

At the wedding the Duke of York

paid marked attention to her. At

an informal dance preceding the

wedding festivities the duke ven-

tered his first proposal. "No."

Not despairing, the duke tried his

luck a second time last summer at

a country house in northern Eng-

land, where both were guests. Lady

Elizabeth and the duke were playing

in a foursome at golf.

"How about a twosome for life?"

the duke asked. Again, "No!"

But last winter, while a guest at

the duke's home in Hertfordshire, he

and she strolled through the woods

on their way to church on a Sunday

morning. He proposed for the third

time and got "Yes."

That's why the couple didn't reach

church in time for the services.

Not for Gold

Princess Mary married a very rich

man. But the Duke of York is not

marrying a very rich girl.

Her father, the Earl of Strath-

more, is the head of a very old house.

He owns about 25,000 acres of land

in Scotland and England. However,

a greater portion of this probably

will go to his eldest son and heir.

As the earl has three other sons

and daughters, the dowry he gives

the duke's bride will probably not

be in the same class with the mil-

lions of Lascelles.

The bridegroom has been drawing

an allowance from the British people

of about \$50,000 a year. Upon his

marriage he will draw \$125,000 a

year.

The social duties of a son of the

king will make big holes in that

income.

After the Prince of Wales, the

Duke of York is the next heir to

the throne.

RECLAMATION OF 5,503,000 ACRES NOW UNDER WAY

Inland Empire to Be Carved
Out of Deserts and
Waste Places.

By HERBERT QUICK

WASHINGTON, April 23.—Recla-

mation projects now under consid-

eration by the Department of Interior

engineers total the stupendous area of

5,503,000 acres, an inland empire to be

carved out of deserts and waste land.

The dissection of the interior of the

United States into a series of states

is a project of the Interior, and has

been in progress for many years.

The first project is the Colorado

river project, which would make

fertile 3,307,000 acres in six States, in-

cluding 710,000 acres in California and

Arizona, 47,000 acres in upper Arizona,

1,018,000 acres in Colorado, 50,000 acres

in Nevada, 483,000 acres in New Mexico,

456,000 acres in Utah and 543,000 in

Wyoming.

The Columbia Basin project in

Washington is second in importance,

with a possible acreage of 1,753,000

acres.

The third project in size is the

Lower Rio Grande, in Texas, in-

volving an area of 600,000 acres.

Idaho has the fourth project in size,

at Mountain Home, where it is esti-

mated 400,000 acres can be made fer-

tile and productive.

LABOR SHORTAGE IS EVIDENCE OF GOOD TIMES IN INDUSTRY

By HERBERT QUICK

It was only the other day when we

had several million people idle for

lack of work. Now there is said to

be a labor shortage.

Well, there ought to be. There al-

ways ought to be more work to do

than there are people to do it. Any

other condition is distinctly bad for

the people as a whole. The most dis-

tinct evidence of the failure of civiliza-

tion is to see the worker tramping the

streets idle because "no man hath

hired him."

Forced unemployment demoralizes

a people. We never had tramps and

bums and hoboes in this country until

the 'seventies, when for the first

time in our history, owing to the

taking up of all easily available lands,

we had unemployment in a financial

crisis.

Before that we could tell the man

who preferred to be idle from him

who was willing to work. When

through lack of work, men began to

find out that they could live after a

fashion without work, thousands of

them yielded to the temptation and

began to live by some form of beggary

or trickery.

It is mainly a matter of pride. When

a man loses his pride in earning his

living, if his standard of living is low,

enough, the life without work be-

comes preferable. And then the de-

cent to the Avernus of the outcast

begins.

When the President and others be-

gin to suggest that we let down the

bars to the emigrant on the plea of

shortage of labor, try to figure out

who is back of the suggestion. Is it

not the great employers who would

like to see the queue of job-hunters

waiting at the employment office for

jobs—why? So as to beat down the

wages of the men now at work. So

as to expand their business further—

temporarily—and make more money.

Let the government, if necessary,

stop its own public building, and save

up some work for the time of slump

which is surely coming. Let us accept

the so-called labor-shortage as a prop-

er and normal thing—which it is—ad-

just ourselves to it, and save our-

selves from the calamity of unem-

ployment which will come with the

next slump if we fill up to the tip of

the demand in the bulge.

MRS. MARTHA SMITH DIES

Old Resident Was One of Founders

of Christ Church.

Mrs. Martha Stella Smith, 69, wife

of Benjamin Smith, 1114 Tecumseh

St., who died Friday morning at her

home, helped to establish Christ

Church on the Circle, relatives said

today.

Mrs. Smith was born in Madison,

Ind., and came to Indianapolis at the

age of 8.

She was a member of All Saints

Episcopal Church, Central Ave. and

Sixteenth St. The Rev. James Stanley

of Christ Church will conduct the

funeral at the home Tuesday at 2

p. m. Burial will be in Crown Hill.

INDIAN SEEKING DIRECT HEARING FROM CONGRESS

Woman Contends Bureau Is
Anything but Friendly
to Tribes.

By Times Special

WASHINGTON, April 23.—"In-

dian affairs are like tangled

yarn with which the cat has

played," says Mrs. Leta Myers Smart,

brilliant young Indian woman of Du-

luth, Minn.

Mrs. Smart, with her black-eyed,

red-skinned 5 months old baby, is

here to try to influence Secretary

Work of the Interior Department to

abolish the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

She contends that the Washington

bureau, while it is supposed to be

the Indians' friend, is in reality any-

thing but that.

"When we go to Congress and ask

for a hearing on any proposition," she

says, "Congress refuses unless the

case has been given the O. K. of the

Indian Bureau. We do not think that

is right. When there is a suit in

court to recover a note, a hearing

is not refused pending the approval

of the defendant."

Mrs. Smart has frequently visited

Washington in behalf of the Indians.

Before her marriage to Frank Smart,

Chippewa representative, she was Miss

Leta Myers, and under that name she

wrote many articles for newspapers