

ESKIMOS ARE TOO HAPPY **W**HAT do you know about the Eskimos? You've seen pictures of them, standing around in the snow in their heavy furs, and probably decided they looked too stupid to be interesting. But the Eskimos are a remarkably fascinating, strange people, according to an interview with Donald B. MacMillan, the polar explorer, published in the Christian Register.

Parents select their children's husbands and wives among the Eskimos. Men marry at 20, girls at 12. A man's at liberty to have two wives if he can support them. The first wife is never jealous of the second, for she knows the newcomer will, by custom, do the household drudgery.

Orphan children are gladly given a home with any family they select. And Eskimo children never are punished. The old are deeply respected.

Life up there is a problem of hunting wild game for clothes and food, with no other industry that amounts to much. Eskimos have no calendar, no days, weeks or years. No woman knows her age. Time is taken as it comes, without worry, without measuring.

Until they were discovered by explorers in 1830, says MacMillan, the Eskimos thought they were the only people in the world. They have in their mythology two people who started the human race, an Adam and an Eve. The old men pass on to succeeding generations a legend about "a great flood that long, long ago came over the tops of the hills 2,000 feet high." Noah's flood?

The Eskimos have always believed in a life hereafter as firmly as in this existence on earth. They accept this belief as too sensible to doubt or argue about. Heaven, they believe, will have less cold than here, with better hunting and a reunion with loved ones who have died. They also believe in a form of reincarnation.

The Eskimos, says MacMillan, are the happiest, most care-free people in the world, though terrors of darkness, tempest, cold and famine are ever at their doors.

"Many children die at birth, the mothers are so hard-working; but if a child lived four or five days it will live until it is 60, for there are no diseases in the Far North: no cancer, pneumonia or tuberculosis."

What? A country with no disease? A people among whom every day is Sunday? A race where parents are respected by their children and families are supremely happy? That won't do. Our public affairs lunatics will have to hurry up and civilize them.

**PROBE SHOULD GO ON** "G

o and sin no more," says, in effect, the Senate committee appointed to investigate the charges of alleged waste and graft in the

United States Veterans' Bureau. And the Senate committee prepares to mix a coat of whitewash for the lamented administration of the bureau, in spite of the fact that the accusations of waste, petty graft and injustice are both unanswered and unproven.

Fortunately, there has been a change in the conduct of the bureau which points, according to present indications, to a fairly good housecleaning. That looks well for the future, but it is only half the story.

The other side is that powerful interests are urging the Harding Administration to make a big cut in the appropriations for the relief of disabled soldiers. A thorough investigation of the bureau right now might arouse public interest and reveal general opinion opposed to cutting of the veterans' relief funds.

What we need now is more facts. Then only will we be able to judge the merits of proposals for economy which may be at the expense of wounded and sick ex-service men.

On with the investigation!

**QUICK! BRING VACCINE** **T**HE League of Nations and the world court ideas have survived many sort of attack, fair and unfair, and have survived cruel and unusual punishments.

But there must be a limit.

That limit or thereabouts, seems to impend when the news is given out that George Harvey will resign as ambassador to Great Britain; pack his velvet panties in mothballs and devote the future wholly to campaigning for the world's court.

We shudder at the thought of an epidemic of Colonel Harvey speeches. In fact, if possible, the court idea should be vaccinated at once.

## Questions ASK THE TIMES Answers

You can get an answer to any question you have by writing to The Indianapolis Times' Washington bureau, 1322 New York Ave., Washington, D. C., enclosing 25 cents in stamps. Medical, legal, financial, political, and other advice cannot be given nor can extended research be undertaken, or papers, stories, etc., be prepared. Unsigned letters cannot be answered, but all letters are confidential and receive personal replies.—EDITOR.

What was the first U. S. division to get to France and the first to get in action?

The First Division, which went over with General Pershing, was the first to reach France, and the first to get into action. The first gun was fired by this division Oct. 23, 1917.

How much sugar does the United States import from Cuba and the Philippines? For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, from Cuba—\$8,20,255,237 pounds. Philippines—\$38,468,567 pounds.

In U. S. money, what was the value of the thirty pieces of silver paid to Judas for the betrayal of Christ?

They were tetradschisms, or shekels, and were equal to between \$20 and \$25.

What became of the Apostle St. John?

According to tradition, after a vain attempt had been made to martyr him, he was banished by Domitian to Patmos, but on the emperor's death, (A. D. 96) returned under a general amnesty to Ephesus, and resumed the supervision of the church there. He died somewhere about the year 120 A. D.

Where is the word "reverend" mentioned in the Bible?

The only place is the III Psalm, ninth verse: "He sent redemption unto His people: He hath commanded His covenant forever; holy and reverend in His name."

What was the "year without a summer"? The Fine Arts Commission, Washington, D. C., considers the capitals at Providence, R. I.; Boston, Mass.; Nashville, Tenn.; St. Paul, Minn.; Jefferson City, Mo.; and Madison, Wis.

## AMERICAN FARMERS BITE THE HAND THAT'S FOOLING THEM

By HERBERT QUICK.

WHEN this Administration came in, it had in mind the commission of the Fordney-McCumber tariff. I speak of it as the commission, not as the enactment; for it seems to be much more of an offense than a statute.

There was need to line up the farmers. So an emergency tariff act was passed which, it was loudly asserted, would

keep our farmers from being ruined by foreign competition and out in the country, were fixed up. Fordney did his worst—and quit. He will never be seen in Congress again.

And now what is this we hear from the American Farm Bureau Federation? Why,

the awful truth is that this

federation of farmers, scattered all over the country, has

had the nerve, the supreme

gall, to make a study of the tariff, to see just how much good it is doing them. Samuel R. Guard, the federation's publicity man, tells about it in The Country Gentleman. This study was made by the bureau's research department—the nerve of these grangers having a research department! And by the way, the men who made the study seem to be Republicans in the main, head-

ed by Professor Moorhouse, who served as a Republican in the California Legislature a few years ago.

This study shows the Fordney-McCumber tariff costs our farmers the tidy sum of \$301,000,000 a year as consumers over and above the gains by it as producers. It shows the tariff costs the whole people the somewhat impressive sum of \$1,750,000,000 a year, and

yields not over a third of that sum in revenue.

The interesting thing is a lot of the farmers are getting the real truth about the tariff, are lining up against it, and will ask some embarrassing questions of the orators who go out in the next campaign telling what the administration has done for the farmers. Done to them, is what lots of them are saying.

## Premier Mussolini Declares Germany "Is a Block in the Road"

Man With Peculiar Power  
Holds Italy Hypnotized.

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS  
NEA Service Writer

ROME, May 16.—Interviewing the man who hypnotized forty million people would seem a difficult job. It wasn't. Premier Benito Mussolini of Italy is the easiest man to interview—once you get to him—in Europe.

It is easy because he answers questions. Most Latins—most Europeans—beat the devil about the bush. Mussolini comes right back at you.

"Eh bien!" he exclaimed, drilling me with his enormous hypnotic eyes as we sat facing each other across his desk in Chigi Palace—the Italian foreign office. His tone said as plainly as had he used the word:

"Shoot!"

"The world is full of trouble," I said as an opener. "What is Italy's?"

"Dona!" Mussolini exploded, the word which indicated he was about to unlimber coming across the desk at me like a cannon ball. "Six months ago Italy's chief trouble was that she needed order. Now she has it."

His words came in jerks, about six at a time, like bursts from a machine gun.

**Finances Problem**

"Today," he went on in perfect French, each word bell-clear despite the fact he is the son of a blacksmith a "self-made" man and has taught himself pretty much all he knows.

"Today Italy's greatest need is to get her finances in order—to balance her budget. Three years ago there was a deficit of 20,000,000,000 lire. We have cut it to 3,000,000,000. We must cut it to zero. Voila!"

"When will you reach that 'zero'?" I asked.

"That does not depend entirely on Italy. If Europe quits making trouble soon, if not, I can not say."

"What's the matter with Europe?"

"Mainly two things," Mussolini shot back much like a tennis player volleys back his opponent's ball. "Russia is one. Germany is the other. Russia is just a big hole—a void—in the world. Nothing there but literature—phrases."

"These two countries may be considered as one obstacle, for they are working together—one supports the other. Europe's economic ill cannot be corrected until the void is filled and the block removed from the road. That means reparations must be settled. Germany must pay."

**Conferences? Not!**  
"How is this to be brought about by conference?"

"No. Conferences don't settle anything. All they do at one conference is to agree to have another. The patient is very sick. The doctors consider, but the patient gets no better."

"The interested nations must agree one with the other—first two, then three, then four and so on, until a general agreement is reached."

"What about the opposition to the Fascisti party which has just resulted in four resignations of cabinet members being handed in to you?"

"What opposition?" snapped the premier as if he did not understand. "You mean in the Popular party? Over with. Finished."

"Have you no fear of a reaction setting in—a return to the old days and parties as they were before your march on Rome?"

**Old Particulars Dead?**

"Not the slightest. All the old parties are dead, their ashes scattered. The rest have been absorbed by us. Tomorrow you will see. The streets of Rome will show you why I do not fear a reaction. The people are with me and then there are 160,000 Black Shirts—Fascisti soldiers. These are mine. They belong to me."

For a few minutes we talked of people—European personalities. Lenin was a menace. Kemal Pasha quite a figure. Chancellor Cuno "was to be reckoned with. He's a business man." Lloyd George "writes too much."

Then I put the question—the one question—I most wanted to ask. This new Italian leader, virtually dictator, who holds Italy in the hollow of his hand, seems to wield some sort of supernatural influence over the 40,000,000 people of his country. His great, black, wide-open and staring Swengall-like eyes gave him the air of a hypnotist.

**Force, Faith—Eyes**

"You seem to have some strange hold on the people of Italy." I said. "To what do you attribute your power?"

I asked the question deliberately. I wanted to see how he would take it.

Mussolini smiled. He had risen and come around to my side of the desk. Now he took a step forward until we stood face to face, very close, his piercing eyes stabbing directly into mine.

"That is one of the mysteries," he said enigmatically.

"Personal magnetism," suggested his chef de cabinet, smiling also.

One thing is certain. Part of Mussolini's power comes from his absolute faith in his own star. He is the most self-confident man I have ever seen. In his lexicon there is no such word as fail.

Only time can tell whether Europe has another Napoleon or just a most interesting meteor trailing across the sky.



MUSSOLINI'S EYES—THEY DOMINATE ALL OF ITALY.

## GOUGERS IN SUGAR HAVE HEAVY LOAD

Costing Gamblers \$18,000

Per Day to Hold Off  
Commodity.

By JOHN CARSON,  
Times Staff Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—It's costing the sugar gougers at least \$18,000 a day to carry their sugar load.

The housewife who may complain about lack of sweets and now and then be tempted to surrender her boycott on sugar should remember that gougers have cause for worry. They are paying the bill every day they buy sugar from the market.

The last figures showed about 1,400,000 tons of sugar in Cuba and the United States, controlled by the New York financial ring and American refiners with plantations in Cuba. Granting their investment is not more than 4 cents a pound, that sugar is worth \$12,000,000. At 8 per cent, the interest on that is \$8,720,000 or about \$18,000 each day.

The sugar gougers are investing that sum in the hope they can put over their gamble and gradually peddle just enough sugar to keep the prices to their present high level. If they succeed, they will clean up millions for the thousands of dollars they are investing. But sugar profits depend on large sales and rapid turnover. Sugar cannot be carried indefinitely.

The fact that the misuse of funds was carried on at the expense of the needy veterans will be soft-pedaled. This plan dovetails with the scheduled whitewash of the Veterans' Bureau. Were a thorough investigation to be made it would be shown that more serious than the waste and graft was the neglect of helpless ex-service men.

It will not be difficult for the appropriate slashes to find evidence of waste. They can point out that during 1922 the Veterans' Bureau ran up a sight-seeing travel bill of nearly \$2,500,000. That皓was directly administered from the Washington, D. C. office of the bureau in order that headquarters officials could take long and pleasant "official trips," etc.

If you can't dance, dance anyway. You can claim what you are doing is the latest step.

June bugs are due next month, but many of us are bugs about May.

Kentucky predicts a big tobacco crop. You can put that in your pipe and smoke it.

The trouble with climbing the social ladder is people up above kick the rungs in your face.

It is harder to sing "Home, Sweet Home" in a rented house.

This is the time of year you can swap anything for an overcoat.

France has so many airplanes now the British are afraid the French will drop in on them.

Egyptians led clean lives. The women are wearing bathrobes and calling them King Tut dresses.

Being human is a hard life, but suppose we were microbes. Takes a billion microbes to be a crowd.

Horse power is no good without horse sense.

Now snow every month of the year in New York, Pennsylvania and the New England States, and even as far south as the Virginia mountains. Very cold weather was prevalent over the entire world. This was caused by terrible volcano explosions which prevented the sunlight from reaching the earth.

When and where was Mike McGovern born?

In County Clare, Ireland. Nov. 28, 1892.

What is the horse power of the Ford.

Twenty-two and one-half.

How is menthol obtained?

Menthol (or peppermint camphor) is obtained from the common plant Menthha Piperita, and from Menthha arvensis, found in Japan. The oil obtained by distilling the fresh plant is cooled, whereupon prismatic crystals with a peppermint odor, separate from the water.

They are slightly soluble in water.

How many United States soldiers were killed at the Battle of Little Big Horn and how many Indians?

Authorities differ. One states that General Custer and his 27 men were killed to the last man.

There are no authentic statistics concerning the number of Indians killed, but in Major McLaughlin's book