

## The Indianapolis Times

EARLE E. MARTIN, Editor-in-Chief ROY W. HOWARD, President.  
ALBERT W. BUHRMAN, Editor. O. F. JOHNSON, Business Mgr.

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### RATES ARE RAISED AGAIN

HAVING cried before it was hurt, the Indiana Bell Telephone Company has now discovered it was not hurt very much. It may have been that the telephone company started its action against the public service commission in Federal Court merely to force the commission to issue its order. If that was the object, the move succeeded.

The commission was unable to agree—and still is unable to do so—as to whether the company is entitled to any increase. John W. McCardle, chairman of the commission, who declares the company is entitled to no increase, said: "Under proper operating conditions, present rates are sufficient."

The commission is frankly concerned over operating expenses of the telephone company. They repeatedly have been reported to be too high. The commission is powerless to control them, despite statements to the contrary by apologists for the telephone trust.

But the fact remains, telephone rates have been increased and they may be further increased by the Federal Court. About all the public can do is to grin and bear it—or have its telephones removed.

### SHOWDOWN ON GASOLINE

IS the price of gasoline too high? Apparently, we are soon to know.

In South Dakota, a State accustomed to take the initiative in such things, the State government is selling gasoline. The price is 16 cents a gallon. To meet this competition, the Standard Oil Company has reduced its price to the same level. In Texas, the oil companies are charging only 11 cents a gallon.

The South Dakota price may be too low. The State's action may not be on a sound basis. It will not take long to find out. If the price is too low the sale will not keep up very long.

But there are evidences the price is too high. If oil companies in Texas can sell gasoline for 11 cents, why should it sell in Indiana from 21 cents up, plus highway tax? Of course, Texas is closer to the oil fields than Indiana, but Indiana has large refineries and the cost of transportation should not equal the difference between 11 cents and 21 cents.

Some years ago Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis attempted to fine the Standard Oil Company \$29,000,000. He did not accomplish much so far as the price of gasoline was concerned. Maybe South Dakota will have better luck.

### DISPOSING OF COKE

COKE is being suggested as a substitute for coal this winter in order to do away to some extent with the smoke nuisance.

This brings us to the fact that the Indianapolis Gas Company is beginning to show indications of being a utility with a soul, despite its frequent demands for rate increases.

In previous years, the company has had the habit of adding 25 cents a ton to the price of coke each month beginning with June. This practice followed the spring decline in price. The monthly increase has been abandoned this year, indicating it can be done.

C. L. Kirk, manager of the gas company, has promised to cooperate with civic leagues in getting coke to the consumer. There is talk of a plan whereby the 5 per cent sales committee paid to the Domhoff-Joyce Company for disposing of the company's coke will not be charged to Indianapolis consumers.

This contract for the disposition of coke has long been a matter of controversy between the company and coke consumers. The company contends that it would cost it 10 to 15 per cent to dispose of its own coke, while it pays only 5 per cent to the Domhoff-Joyce Company, the business of which is selling coke. As compared with sales costs of other businesses, this sound reasonable.

### GIVING THE PRESIDENT A CHANCE

COMES Senator Edge of New Jersey with a method of relieving the President of the United States of his overwhelming burden of detail in the White House, so that he can maintain his health and devote himself to the major matters of policy of government.

Sensor Edge's plan is only one of many that have been suggested since the late President's breakdown. Edge would add a simple amendment to the Constitution transferring the Vice President from his trivial post as presiding officer of the Senate to the far more important duty of assistant to the President.

The Vice Presidency has been a joke for half a century. The idea of duly electing a man to the second highest office in the land and then giving him nothing to do is preposterous, especially so when viewed from the White House, where another man, just one step higher in our system than the Vice President, is so burdened that he cannot attend to it all.

Most of the other schemes for relieving the President involve the creation of a new Capinet post, which would correspond to the premier in most modern democratic governments. One advantage that the Edge plan has is that it involves merely putting to work an official already provided for in the Constitution. The weakness is that this official, the Vice President, is not responsible to the President for his job, and therefore might not make an ideal subordinate.

More important than the details of the Edge plan, however, it will strike many people, is the warning that the Senator makes of "the positive necessity to lighten the executive burdens at once and not just talk about it."

Let's do something and give our Presidents a chance.

PEOPLE stricken with dismay at being seen in questionable places by friends forget that the recognition is mutual.

FROM explanations by bakers one would think bread is made up of electric light, heat and other overhead expenses instead of wheat.

SPECT the French wish that ice sheet which a Harvard professor predicts will destroy Scandinavia would roll on down to the Rhine.

NO doubt members of "the trade" who are unselfishly trying to relieve the great American drought in Indiana consider the "nuisance law" Prosecutor Evans invokes so often is rightly named.

## 'SILENT CAL' OWES MUCH TO WILSON

War President Gave Coolidge Opportunity for Limelight During Strike.

By JOHN CARSON

Times Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13.—President Calvin Coolidge has not forgotten he owes much, in his rise to power, to Woodrow Wilson.

Discussions of Coolidge's life and the paths he took to the presidency have overlooked entirely the fact that then President Wilson did more to make opportunity for Coolidge than did any other person during the time Coolidge was Governor of Massachusetts.

Coolidge knows and remembers, however, and there is a bond of regard and sympathy between the President and the wounded veteran of the White House, who is living in seclusion through the twilight hours of his life in a little house on S. St.

Credit is Argued

Coolidge gained prestige during the Boston strike of policemen. How great credit is due him for the little part he played in the strike is a matter for argument among those who know the intimate history of the strike. But almost invariably those newspaper men who covered the strike insist that officials of Boston got and kept the situation in hand before Coolidge asserted any of his power as the Governor. Coolidge did make the declaration law and order would be preserved and he could use all his power to enforce order and he did criticize the policemen who went on strike.

But the history of the strike will show that immediately following his entrance into the situation, Coolidge was given little recognition, even in Boston. It was accepted he would do what he did and say what he said. There was nothing else to be said and nothing else for him to do. Opportunity came then to him and it came from the White House, where Wilson was the chief executive.

A national political campaign was brewing. President Wilson was being attacked with great vigor as the leading figure in the campaign. The Republicans were making their fight on him.

Wilson Wires Congratulations

Suddenly there came from the White House the announcement that Wilson had wired his congratulations to Coolidge—that a President elected by the Democrats and then being denounced by the Republicans had not hesitated to praise a Republican Governor. The telegram from Wilson immediately threw the spotlight on Coolidge and made him the big figure in the Boston strike.

Just why President Wilson took the step he did was then and is today a point for debate. It is a fact many Democratic leaders, blinded by their partisanship, criticized Wilson. Charges were made that some of the White House politicians had inspired the telegram. There was even the charge that Wilson had not written it, a charge which was so absurd it gained no credence. The Republicans joined in and denounced Wilson for playing politics, big politics. They were irritated and sore because they contended that Wilson was capturing some glory out of the Boston situation.

Wrote Telegram

The full truth of the story may never be told, but such facts as can be had indicate that President Wilson not only wrote the telegram, but that also it was his idea that brought it about and that it was a spontaneous and sincere expression of regard for Coolidge.

That was the doorstep to opportunity for Coolidge. Wilson built the doorstep himself. Immediately Coolidge jumped upward in Republican politics. That he had done little else as Governor, that he could not make a speech and that he was a burden as a campaigner, meant nothing. He won his fame then and there, and the telegram was the vehicle.

Science

There are many stories and strange beliefs about electric fish and they are mostly founded on fact. There are about fifty kinds of fishes that give electric shocks. The force of the shock of at least two of them is enough to knock a person down who weighs fifty pounds. The naked fish, their shocks will kill other fish. There is an electric eel that is well known. It is found mostly in the Amazon and other rivers in South America. It sends out waves eight feet in length and weighs fifty pounds. It is able to stun a horse or cow with its shock.

In most cases the organ of electric fishes that causes the shocks consists of transformed muscles and the associated nerve endings. The electric organ discharges electricity, not as a current, but in a number of short shocks.

### First, Disarm Woman

Day by day, in every way, woman is getting toward a higher quality of sexiness. There's that Mrs. Burgess of Lewiston, Mont., who met her errand, murderous husband at the door and took three shots at him with a shotgun. Bagged him, too.

Why talk of national disarmament, when wives go to keeping automatic shotguns behind the front door?

## Heard in Smoking Room

A NATIVE of Indiana had just regaled the Pullman smoker with a gross yarn that was three parts Hoosier oaths, when a little minister-looking fellow in the corner seat spoke. The latter was a minister, all right, as was called into that blasphemous Indiana with all he had. He fired the whole Bible at him and finally got around to the miracles to demonstrate the truth of the good book.

"Sir," he said, "yesterday I had the good fortune to meet at Evansville, a gentleman who had just returned from the Holy Land. What wonders, prophecies and their fulfillment he

## TOM SIMS - - - Says

VERY presidential possibility thinks he is the berries.

Fire losses increase. Insurance may go up. All this in spite of celluloid collars going out.

Cider is being made. Watch it. The stuff may try to act hard.

Today's plan for universal peace: Burn the phonographs.

If Babe Ruth and Cy Williams intend to keep knocking home runs they ought to hire caddies.

Philippines want freedom from us. Sorry, we haven't any.

Good news from Hollywood. Movie stars consider divorce much more humane than shooting.

What officials call a bootleg directory in New York may turn out to be a city directory.

Shoe men are happy. Fall trade is booming. We will need the shoes for hunting coal.

Spokane couple stayed married forty years before he was shot.

Pershing advises girls to marry soldiers. We don't. Soldiers get up at 5 o'clock.

Chicago man has forgotten who he is. Which is nothing. Most men away from home do that.

Some foolish fellow swam Lake Erie with nothing after him.

Tiffin (Ohio) printer's hen laid three eggs in one day. Why don't these printers quit lying?

Spoon dated 1744 was plowed up near Berryville, Va., proving they had picnics in those days.

## Indiana Sunshine

Here's another meanest man in the world. A bandit held up and robbed Jack and Wilbur McCleure of near Nashville, Va. Not content, he forced them to drink a quantity of white mule.

The best known dog in Greenfield is dead, the victim of an automobile. "Old Rover" was the constant companion of Bert Parish for fourteen years. He was night watchman of the business district, champion rat catcher of the town and had licked every dog in the community.

A spelling bee for the 80-year-olds is a feature of the annual reunion of the Octogenarian Club, to be held Aug. 28 at Marion.

Poplars aren't very popular in Huntington. After going through the experience of tearing up blocks of streets to get the roots of poplar trees from sewers, the city council has ordered all this variety destroyed.

No longer will bridal parties celebrate in Richmond with the honking of horns, clanging of bells and the banging of sawed-off shotguns. The chief of police has banned all charivaris.

A cemetery at Elwood has proven such a popular quiet place for petting parties that citizens are planning to take steps to break up the practice.

## Family Fun

Different

"We want some rope."  
"I have some at \$4 a pound, also some at \$6. What do you want it for?"  
"To lynch a profiteer."  
"Take your choice at 40 cents."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Tough on Little Johnny  
"Johnny, you have grown to be the living image of your father. You have your father's eyes, you have his nose, you have—"  
"Yes, and I have his pants, too."—Judge.

What Wife Takes  
"Does your wife take much interest in your business?"  
"Interest? She takes a mighty big share of the capital."—Boston Transcript.

Sister a Diplomat  
"Now listen, dear, papa is likely to accuse you of seeking my hand merely to become his son-in-law."  
"I shall resent such a charge!"  
"No, dear, better agree with him. I know papa. He's a lot prouder of himself than he is of me."—Boston Transcript.

One For The Minister  
The soldiers marched to the church and halted in the square outside. One wing of the edifice was undergoing repairs, so there was room for only about half the regiment.

"Sergeant," ordered the captain, "tell the men who don't want to go to church to fall out!"

A large number quickly availed themselves of the privilege.

"Now, sergeant," said the captain, "dismiss all the men who did not fall out and march the others in—they need it most."—The Continent.

## PEOPLE IN LEEDS ARE DIFFERENT

Same Island, But English Customs Prevail Over Scots.

By JOHN W. RAPER

IN ENGLAND. On the same island, but in a different country. And among different people. Certain similarities, of course, as you would expect to find in two peoples in the same empire, on the same little island, and with only an imaginary line separating them. But different.

You begin to notice the difference as you come south from Scotland. In that country you see no big trees as we in America know big trees. Until you get into the southern part. I first saw them at Abbotsford, the home of Scott.

As you slip across the border into the city of Carlisle, you feel you have left Scotland. The trees have become taller and greater in girth. There is more foliage and the hills seem softer. The brick houses have appeared in large numbers. And things are not so ugly. The neigies are ragged, the stone fences not so well kept up; there are more weeds.

I dropped from Scotland into Leeds. For a month I had heard nothing but Scotch dialect, burrs and "Aye." The men wore tweeds, fine clothing, but fitted upon them by burlap sack experts. Shoes were of enormous weight.

American Lines Started

The quick change to Leeds made me feel as though I had dropped into an American city. Clothes and shoes were more like those worn at home. The buildings were more like those in an American city—that is, in an American city of a half century ago.

It looks like parts of the pictures of old New York, parts of those of old Cleveland and Cincinnati, but with this difference: In Leeds all the buildings, brick and stone, are coal black. Of course, Leeds can't help that, for it is an industrial city with much smoke.

We live in Yorkshire, of which we hear more in America than any other county in England. Scratch an Anglo-Saxon in America and you find nearly always that he is of Yorkshire stock.

You hear in England many stories about the tightness and selfishness of Yorkshiremen and as my ancestors came from only a few miles of Leeds I don't believe it would be quite becoming for me to say they are unjust to him. In Scotland and in England they say, "Going to Yorkshire" instead of "Going to Dutch," or "Dutch treat."

Ice at Last  
This is a modern, progressive, English city. No doubt about that. A hot wave has hit England, the temperature being 73 today, and I saw a wideawake Leeds confectioner place a pitcher of lemonade in a bowl in which there was a one-pound cake of ice. Right up to the times, that boy.

First piece of ice I have seen in Great Britain.

Also, the hotel has a telephone system. A card near your room phone announces: "New Telephone Installation. Please use the telephone for your requirements." But the chambermaid said the guests don't like the system. Too much risk of being misunderstood over the phone.

I ran out of matches yesterday evening and made the foolish mistake of trying to buy a box at two minutes after 8 at a street tobacco stand. No argument or entreaty would move the clerk. "If you can't sell any thing why are you keeping the stand open?" I asked.

I could get no satisfactory answer and walked away. I had gone only a short distance when a young man tapped me on the shoulder and handed me a box of matches.

Leeds is a fine, modern, progressive, peppy city of 458,000.

NEXT: British industry in the dumps, with factories silent and millions idle.

## A Thought

Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this. To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.—James 1:27.

I HAVE sped by land and sea and mingled with much people, but never yet could find a spot unspurred by human kindness.—Tupper.

## Observations

Now it develops that those blue laws, up in Michigan, couldn't stand up against a yellow streak.

The first trip of the Leviathan made a profit of \$379,000 and a prophet of Lasker. That seems to pretty near make our merchant marine complete.

Firpo seems desirous of avoiding a fight with Dempsey, but we are betting it isn't pride that makes him act that way.

Oscar Underwood says his hat is in the ring, if Alabama orders it. There may be some advantage in being a made-to-order candidate—who knows?

"Diet," says an expert, "changes the color of chickens." That accounts for those blue ones to be found on market, perhaps.

The automobile is wonderful, but a locomotive beats it all to pieces.

Our statesmen go to Europe in search of proof that what they think before they go is correct. No matter what the thought, the proof is there, all right.

Knowledge of coming weather changes shown by birds is attributed to atmospheric pressure on their nerves.

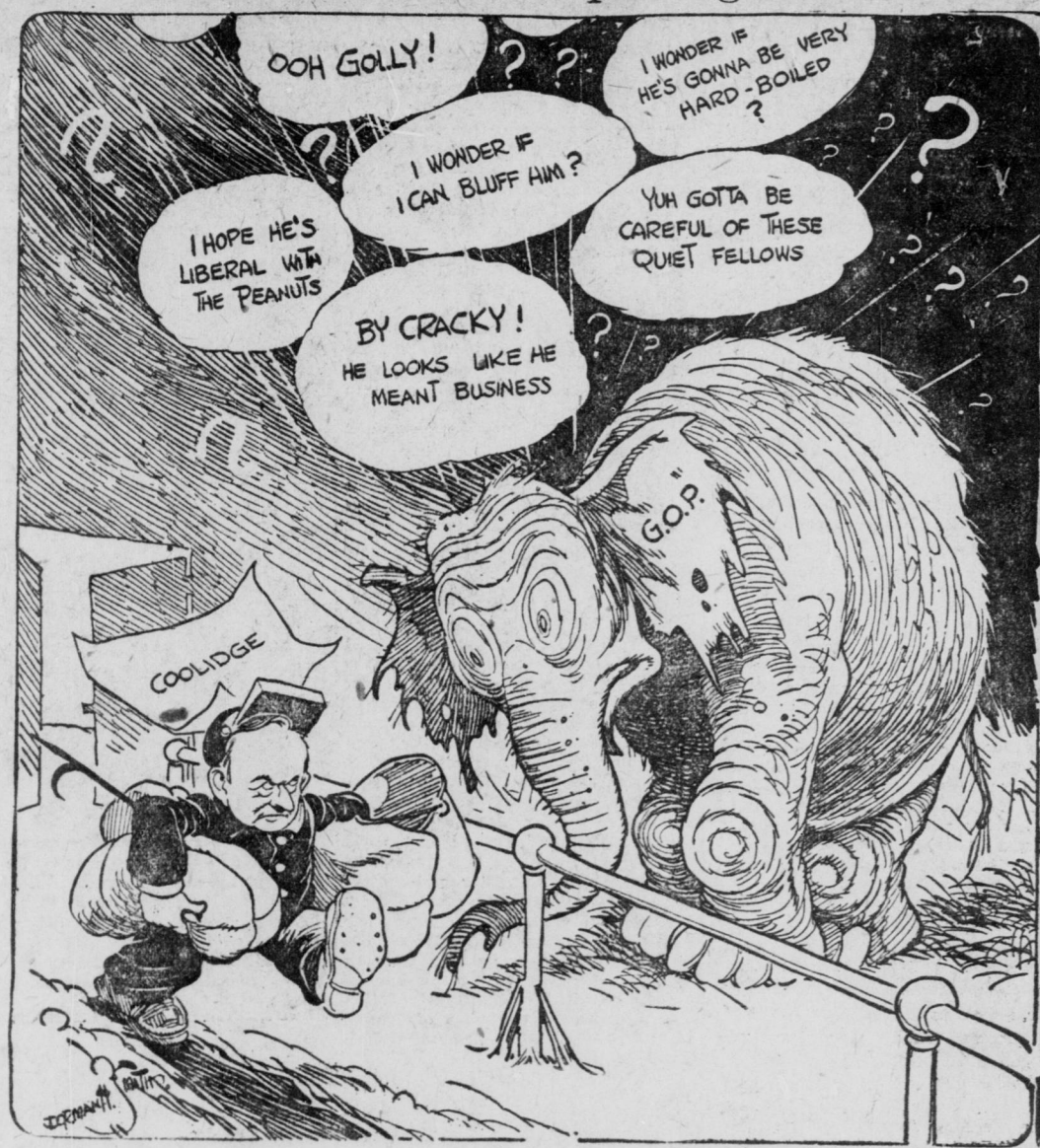
Whales measuring as much as 105 feet in length have been caught in the Antarctic.

The total value of all the roads and bridges in the British Isles is estimated at \$4,500,000,000.

Smoke deposit which fell on the city of London—about one square mile—in the month of June was fifty-four tons.

Tibet is the loftiest region of its extent on the globe.

## Bolivar Ju.: Can't Help Being Nervous



## What Editors Are Saying

Sarah

(Bloomington Star)

Mayor Shank of Indianapolis, has required all city officials to declare themselves in harmony with the administration. All readily complied with this order, including "Sarah" of the park board.

Easy

(Bluffton Banner)

Speaking of candidates for governor of Indiana how about Bert McBride. Bert has a chance no other man has. All he has to do is to pay each and every Dollars certificate holder in full, and that nomination and election is hiszen. By the way, which party does Bert associate with?

'Balderdash'

(St. Wayne News-Sentinel)

The Governor of Ohio who imported a couple of murderers into Canada in direct violation of the Canadian law, is now confronted with the necessity of shipping them back to the United States. His statement that "men have sat across the table from me in the capitol at Columbus who are much worse examples of society than these two 'lifers.'" Is the sort of sophomoric balderdash one would expect from a man who would, while serving Ohio in an official capacity, thus insult the laws of the Dominion of Canada.

Firpo

(Lafayette Journal and Courier)

All Indiana will approve the action of Governor McCray in preventing the Firpo-Downey prize fight at Indianapolis. The bout was to be staged Wednesday night at the Hoosier Motor Speedway. The Governor properly ruled that the meeting was a prize fight and not a boxing match under the Indiana law. He further suggested that in the present period of mourning for the late President Harding, while the body of the Nation's dead chieftain lies in state, it might be well to postpone such affairs as the Firpo-Downey fight. If the so-called sporting crowd, in its blind commercialism, is unable to see the impropriety and illegality of its conduct, it is a good thing there is somebody in authority to show the way to decency.

'Pie-Eyed'

(Richmond Item)

The average American on the farm has more real brains, intelligence, common sense, than Brookhart and Johnson together. He isn't a Socialist. He doesn't want to see this country run under class domination. He knows that nothing could be more really dangerous than to adopt any such pie-eyed scheme as that of the western radicals. He knows that, absolutely.

Wonderful!

A correspondent, in sympathy with Germany, sadly cables grass has begun to sprout on the tops of thousands of freight cars, idle in the Ruhr since the French entered, last January.

Whereupon, a French correspondent announces it's all right. The French will mow and bale the grass when it is ripe enough to make good hay.

All we've got to say is, "Ain't Nature Wonderful?" Last January we put \$2 grass seed on top of our perfectly good front yard and it now sprouts chick-week and "pusley."

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## Vacation Litany

By BERTON BRALEY

From places where they dress in Paris fashions gay. Where rates are never less Than twenty bones a day. With tips we have to pay, Which give us feelings shiverous, From grafts that make us gray, Good Lord, deliver us!

From jazz by day and night, From hotel concerts, too, From ladies whose delight Is bridge the whole day through, From smart young folks who do Strange dances quiverous, And never move a shoe; Good Lord, deliver us!

From Private Links (six holes), Three bucks, or more, a round, Where every ball that rolls Is lost and never found; From porches which abound In gossip-hounds carnivorous, Whose tongues with scandal sound, Good Lord, deliver us!

From front and stall and bluff With which hotel men flatter us, From all that "high class" stuff, Good Lord, deliver us! (Copyright, 1923, NEA Service, Inc.)

## from the Referee's Tower

By ALBERT APPLE

Lotteries

Uncle Sam, plausibly opposed to gambling, objects to the big lottery conducted by the Cuban government. The Cubans might make Uncle Sam stouter by asking him: "If you are sincere in your practice against gambling and lotteries in general, why do you permit stock exchange speculation in your own country? And how about your economic system, in which success on a big scale depends nearly as much on the law of chance as on effort and worthiness?"

Skirts

The attempt to make American women again wear long skirts appears to have failed. While women made noticeable concessions in the way of lengthening their skirts, the sidewalk-sweeper was unable to attract any large following nationally. Short skirts are coming back officially. This is shown by the new fall models displayed at the National Merchandise Fair in New York. Some designers are predicting that, by next summer, skirts will be as short as ever. Meantime, however, increasingly adopt knee pants—knickerbockers.

Devil

G. Nash Morton objects to the way "newspapers and writers generally have of belittling—the Devil by spelling his name with a small 'd.' He is an individual with a most distinguished personality, and if anybody is entitled to a capital 'D,' he is."

A capital suggestion, in two ways, and this column assures Mr. Morton that hereafter we'll give the Devil his dues. It's about time, for Satan's family is increasing at an enormous rate.

Romance

From the deserts of Morocco comes Major Hassan Sarsar, to spend a vacation in the United States. He describes himself as a "Mohammedan sheriff." That sounds like "Arabian Nights." It thrills the imagination. Alas, Sarsar spoils the picture by admitting that, when not enforcing the laws, he's selling sewing machines in the desert.

Civilization is extending its monopoly to all far corners of the earth. It's a lucky thing for posterity, that writers have embalmed romance in fiction. The Age of Machinery may make this a frightfully dull world in another fifty years.

Bamboo holds the record among plants for quick growth. It has been known to grow two feet in twenty-four hours.

Barrel which will hold 625,000 gallons, largest in the world, was recently completed in Germany.

Caterpillar breathes through holes in the sides of its body.

## QUESTIONS Ask—The Times