

The Indianapolis Times

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JAIL FACTS AND PRISON THEORIES

IT is bad enough for a prisoner, who may be innocent, to be compelled to stay in jail awaiting trial, but when his stay is prolonged by carelessness the situation is intolerable.

There are many injustices in our court system, and thus far no one seems to have been able to eliminate them. For instance, a man of means or a man with friends may be arrested, obtain bond immediately, and be released until the date of his trial. A poor man, or a friendless man, charged with the same offense or even with one less serious, must stay in jail until the time set for hearing his case. Courts grant continuances without much question and frequently prisoners must stay in jail for days as a result.

Two cases in which carelessness and inefficiency have played a part were reported in Indianapolis in one day.

In one case a man was charged with the all-inclusive offense of vagrancy. A detective suspected he was connected with a certain crime. The detective discovered three days later the man had no connection with the offense. The city court dismissed the charge, but through an oversight the man was not released. He stayed in jail sixteen days. Every one concerned agrees he is guilty of no offense, not even of "vagrancy."

In another case a woman had a quarrel with her husband and he caused her arrest on a vagrancy charge. He told the police she was insane and they fixed her bond at \$5,000. No step was taken to show she was insane. She was in jail, she could not raise \$5,000 and she apparently was forgotten. She was active in her own behalf, however, and through habeas corpus proceedings succeeded in having the bond reduced to \$50.

Indianapolis city councilmen, City Judge Delbert O. Wilmet and superintendents of State penal institutions have been invited to attend the National Prison Conference in Boston next month. There they will hear a great deal about humane treatment of prisoners, about libraries in prisons, about recreation in prisons, and learned individuals will discourse on elaborate theories for making life comfortable and happy for men and women actually convicted of crime.

Meanwhile men and women, presumably innocent until they are found guilty, will be held in jails, amid surroundings many times worse than those of the worst prisons. They will be held there on technical charges and will remain there for days or months because they cannot give bond, or because somebody neglected to release them.

CONSERVING OUR WEALTH

THE vast national wealth of the United States theoretically belongs to all of us. While most of it has been cornered by a minority of the population, the future probably will bring a more fair division for our descendants of a few generations from now.

So the conservation of our national resources—prevention of needless waste—should interest all of us. The natural wealth (forests, mines, soil fertility, etc.) may belong to individuals other than ourselves, but our cost of living will to considerable extent rise or fall accordingly as national resources are wasted or saved. You realize this when you go to buy some lumber out of the timber supply that's left in the woods.

What we call high cost of living is, to considerable extent, the penalty of squandering our national resources.

Since 1789 the exports from America have totaled 108 billion dollars. And forty-nine billions of this were exported in the last nine years.

Did it ever occur to you that a large part of this 108 billion dollars' worth of exports represents natural resources of the United States that never can be replaced?

In manufacturing, for instance, five-ninths of the final value of product represents cost of raw materials.

On which basis, it seems logical that, since the adoption of our Constitution, we have exported natural resources equivalent to a fifth of our present total national wealth.

That's the penalty of big foreign trade.

When it comes to squandering natural resources, the most dangerous leak is in the form of diminishing forests.

Depleted fertility of soil, for instance, can be replaced quickly by commercial fertilizers. But large trees take many years to grow, even several generations.

In the use of wood, we Americans are approaching Russian standards of living, warns the New York State College of Forestry. Since 1907, which was the peak year of lumber production, our output has been decreasing 3 per cent a year.

Between 1907 and 1920, our population increased 15 per cent, but our lumber output correspondingly dropped from 500 board feet a year for each American, to 316 board feet.

Available forests are vanishing so rapidly that, unless we plant trees on a tremendously big scale, wood will be as scarce in America in 1930 as it now is in Russia. If you don't realize what this means, ask a Russian—who will tell you how, in the old country, peasants gather even twigs.

Replanting of trees is a job that belongs to government and even more so to the timber barons who are heading us toward a treeless nation. As for the rest of us, our chief duty is to back the replanting by Uncle Sam and the States, and to exercise great caution not to start forest fires, especially when camping or taking strolls through the woods.

ONLY a few more days until the telephone bill arrives.

THE five-power pact is effective. But France still is in the Ruhr and peace is not yet.

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NOW that "dog days" are here, the city is making a drive for dog licenses.

PRIMA donna sues husband—headline. Most of them don't keep their husbands long enough to sue them.

THE days when the popularity of an actress could be enhanced by the press agenting of mere rot are gone.

THE days when the school boys with shining morning face creeps unwillingly to an abandoned residence will soon be here.

GERMANY has now faced about every kind of crisis ever heard of and some that never were heard of before.

CITIZENS of Indianapolis do not wish to pay any higher taxes than are necessary for efficient government. When a figure that will agree with this proposition is determined it will be the proper tax levy.

ENGLAND IS NETWORK OF RAIL LINES

'Only Snobs and Americans Ride First Class,' British Declare.

By JOHN W. RAFFER

IN ENGLAND: "This country is a network of railway lines. A road between London and Scotland will have its main line and scores of branches and from every important city lines run out like the spokes of a hub."

A train starts from one of these cities with eight or ten cars. Perhaps only two of these will go to the terminus, the others being dropped off at junction points and other cars being picked up on their way from other cities to the terminus. Then there is a heavy suburban travel that must be looked after.

Stations and cars are planned for handling passengers in a hurry. There are two types of cars. One is divided into compartments, from four to eight, according to the length of the car. These compartments run clear across the car with a door at each side, the passengers sitting in rows, facing one another.

There is a door at each side because the platform in the stations are sometimes on one side and sometimes on the other.

Three are two classes of compartments, "first" and "third," the "second" having been abolished some time ago. The door always bears the painted numeral 1 or 3. Some compartments are set aside for smoking.

The only difference between first and third classes is in the first the seat is divided, as a rule, by arms on which passengers may rest their heads, there are old-fashioned "ladies" on which they may rest their heads, perhaps a rug on the floor, and a slight difference in the upholstery.

Third Class Cheaper

There is another type of car called the "corridor car" which has a narrow corridor running its full length, on one side. It seats not quite so many passengers as the other type.

Englishmen say, "Oh, nobody travels first excepting English snobs and crazy Americans who are afraid we'll think they will be regarded as poor if they travel third." They're about right.

Third class fare comes to about 3 cents, American money, a mile, figuring the English penny at two American cents.

The first-class rate for the short journey is almost invariably 5 cents.

You Can't Forget Baggage

Before the war were, of course, much lower.

Stations are constructed with both first and third class ticket offices, waiting rooms and restaurants. There is no difference of any consequence except in the prices of food in the restaurants.

You always pay a fee for baggage except that which you carry to your compartment. When you reach your destination you must be at the baggage car door (luggage van over here) to claim your baggage and either carry it away or turn it over to a porter to carry.

Dining Car

The railways run Pullmans a century behind the American Pullman in comfort, and they run diners.

The diners are of two classes, first and third, the only difference being in price. They have high seats of the Pullman type so that passengers have some privacy, but they are arranged with an open kitchen, displaying the kitchen mess—a mess it is on an English dinner—and you have it, benefit of all the kitchen odors. The cars in which I have eaten were dirty, food bad and service worse.

NEXT: Coronation and inaugurations have nothing on the state ceremony of getting started on the train for Edinburgh, says Honest John.

Science

The most important factor in the growth of any community, a permanent basis, is the agricultural development of the land. All other sources of wealth are secondary.

The growth of Southern California often has attracted speculation and theories from business experts. The real cause is found by the United States Department of Agriculture to be in farming. The soil crops of Los Angeles County for the last year brought sixty million dollars. This is the largest agricultural value of any section of that size in the world. It is greater than that of the entire States of Massachusetts, Connecticut or Wyoming.

Shortly before the Civil War, General Sherman, then captain of the United States Army, was sent to that section to report on its probable future value to the country. He stated that it would never be of use because it was a sandy desert surrounded by a forbidding and dangerous country. Irrigation proved General Sherman wrong.

Russ

Russia gets more optimistic in its crop forecasts. It has signed contracts to deliver to Germany much grain, including 200,000 tons of rye. Acute car shortage over there. Trade news we pass on, for the benefit of farmers who are trying to "dope out" the world market.

Heard in Smoking Room

A LAWYER had just got a roar out of the fellows in the smoker by a good one on farmers, when a real dirt-farmer looking fellow on the end seat said:

"Up above here in Wisconsin a ways, one time, a party of lawyers that had been on a case in St. Paul got stalled at the village of Atwater. As the whole train was colder than Greenland and wouldn't move for two hours, the party got off and huddled about the baseburner in the depot's small waiting room. They made a solid circle around the stove and had got to going tooth and nails on replevins, demurrers, deeds and such, when the door was burst open and a backwoods looking fellow came in. He had on tremendous leggings and bore a pack and was blue with the cold, but not one in that circle moved

TOM SIMS - - - Says

WITHOUT work man degenerates," thinks Yale Review writer. With work, in August, man evaporates.

"My ambition is to beat Tilden," says a tennis player in Sport. Ours is to whip a collector.

"Kentuckians' never uncouth," writes Burman in the Nation. But often, we add, uncouth.

"Oaths are conservative," says a Bookman writer, who maybe never hit his finger with a hammer.

"Many think authors a superior class," thinks an Atlantic one. Some think some are second class.

"Books are like friends," says Book Chat writer. We don't think so. Books never borrow money.

"Taxes are like death," says Sullivan in Metal Workers' Journal. And, we add, so are taxis.

"China has no commercial crookedness," says a Harpers' writer. As you know, she isn't modern.

Collier's says director of our budget chews gum as he walks. But that isn't where our money goes.

Mencken says something about baseball in the Nation. We didn't stop to read what it was.

"Procrastinatio is China's trouble," writes Ching Ying Pang. That, and their Chinese names.

"Average politician is a comedian," says Dawes. It won't make any mad. All are above the average.

"Belgians applaud an act, good or bad," says Actor A. V. Powell. May even applaud acrobats.

"Stars have social instincts," says Isabel Lewis. Movie stars, we add, have a divorce instinct.

"I have been a fool all my life," said Tom Foley in court. They didn't get him for perjury.

Editor's Mail

The editor is willing to print views of Times readers on interesting subjects. Make your comment brief. Sign your name as an evidence of good faith. It will not be printed if you object.

Thanks Papers

To the Editor of The Times: The newspapers of this corps area, embracing the States of Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and West Virginia, have rendered splendid assistance in giving publicity to the Citizens' Military Training Camp movement.

The purpose of these camps is "to bring together young men of high type from all sections of the country on a common basis of equality and under the most favorable conditions of outdoor life; to stimulate and promote citizenship, patriotism and Americanism, and through expert physical direction, athletic coaching and military training, to benefit the young men individually and bring them to realize their obligations to their country."

The army is proud of the work being accomplished in these camps and is desirous of informing the great body of our countrymen of the advantages they afford to the youth of the nation.

General McKee, corps area commander, would be pleased to have you or one of your staff visit the Citizens' Military Training Camp at Camp Knox. If you find that you can attend, please notify the commanding officer, Citizens' Military Training Camp, Camp Knox, Ky., and arrangements will be made for your reception.

C. D. RHODES, Colonel General Staff, Chief of Staff.

"High Sign"

To the Editor of The Times: I recently returned from an automobile trip through the Northwest. Naturally I passed many machines, a few of which bore an Indiana license. Even a battered old "liver" with this license in a strange State looked good to me, and I have no doubt, the other fellow felt the same way, but as the old poem goes, "We do not speak as we pass by."

Wouldn't it be kind of nice for Indiana drivers to have an Indiana "high sign" or salute to greet each other when they pass in any other State? I leave it to you to furnish the signal.

TOURIST.

A Thought

Swear not, neither by heaven, neither by earth, neither by any other oath; but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.—James 5:12.

Father as a Driver

"Your husband motors a good deal. Is he a careful driver?"

"Indeed he is. Why, he generally makes a car last until a new model is out."—Boston Transcript.

WHY IS GAS PRICE CUT BY TRUST?

Writer Avers Slash 'Come-back' at Venturesome, Independent Concerns.

By JOHN CARSON

Times Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—What happens when the oil trust goes to war? And why does it go to war?

To take up the latter question first, these price-cutting wars are the occasions when the oil trust is able to embarrass and often to gobble up the independent oil companies. Visualize what happens to oil before it finally reaches the gasoline tank in your machine.

First, someone has to prospect for oil, sink test wells, and get the crude oil out of the ground. The oil trust does not do that generally—it is too expensive. It may buy oil wells after they are already producing and it may sink wells near others that are producing, but it does prospecting only on a very limited scale.

Most of its oil the trust buys from independent producers who have to sell at the price fixed by the trust because the latter owns the pipe lines through which the oil must be carried to refineries and to markets.

Next Step Is Refining

The next step in the trust's activities is refining. From the crude oil it gets gasoline, kerosene, fuel oil, and numerous other products, some of which are sold to independent marketing agencies.

The big product today is gasoline, and the trust has established gasoline distributing stations all over the United States. They fix the price of gasoline to the service station. To make sure that the service station will be "good" and sell gas at the fixed price, the trust maintains its own service stations all over the country.

These trust service stations are the instruments of price war. When the trust declares war on the independent companies, it immediately reduces gasoline prices at its own service stations. By reason of its fine profits elsewhere, the trust can sell gasoline at a loss long enough to drive the independents in any locality to the wall.

Come to Trust Terms

Just an illustration of how this is done. As this is written, gasoline is selling for 23 cents in the city of Washington. In Chicago the price has been reduced to 16 cents. A few days ago gasoline was selling for the same price in both cities. The trust, by reason of its widespread activities, can reduce its price in one city, in Chicago until the independents in that city come to trust terms.

The reason for this temporary price in the Middle West is that some of the independent companies are underselling the trust. Any time the independents do not follow the trust within a day or two in the price adjustment, either up or down, the trust is in a position to "declare war."

Often along State border lines automobile travelers notice there will be from 1 to 3 cents difference in gasoline prices at the service stations only a mile or two apart on the different sides of the State lines. The reason for this is that the State line is often the border line between the territories divided up between the trusts.

Try to Beat Game

Independent owners of gasoline stations have tried to beat this game by hauling their own gasoline across the line. The trust beat them by charging them the wholesale prices prevailing in their own territories even when a lower price prevailed at that station's territory.

During the recent congressional investigation by the La Follette committee, an attempt was made to find out just who got the 23 cents a gallon paid by the consumer for gasoline. About as far as the committee could get was that the gas station man who sells you your gasoline gets but two cents a gallon and oftentimes less than that, while the independent refiner rarely gets more than 9 cents per gallon. The other 12 cents in between is distributed in such a roundabout way that even the oil trust's books would not show who got how much, and Standard Oil officials refused to reveal that particular piece of information.

The only conclusion that the Senate committee could reach was that the consumer paid 23 cents for his gallon of gas simply because the oil trust wanted him to pay that much.

Family Fun

No Danger

A visitor from across the line who had been imbibing a little too freely of Quebec hospitality happened to pass one of the churches on which were twelve large, brooding statues, representing the twelve Apostles. A small fire close by somewhat confused him, and, looking up at these statues, he shouted: "Don't jump, boys! The firemen will be here in a minute with the net!"—Judge.

Grandma at the Circus

It was a rather small circus and carried but one lion, one tiger, one elephant and so on down the list.

After the trainer had put the lion through his paces, an elderly lady appeared at the cage door and remarked: "Aren't you afraid that this ferocious beast will attempt to make a meal of you some day?"

"To tell you the truth, ma'am," confided the man in the dazzling uniform, "if business doesn't get any better, I'm afraid I'll have to make a meal of this ferocious beast."—American Legion Weekly.

Read This to Sister

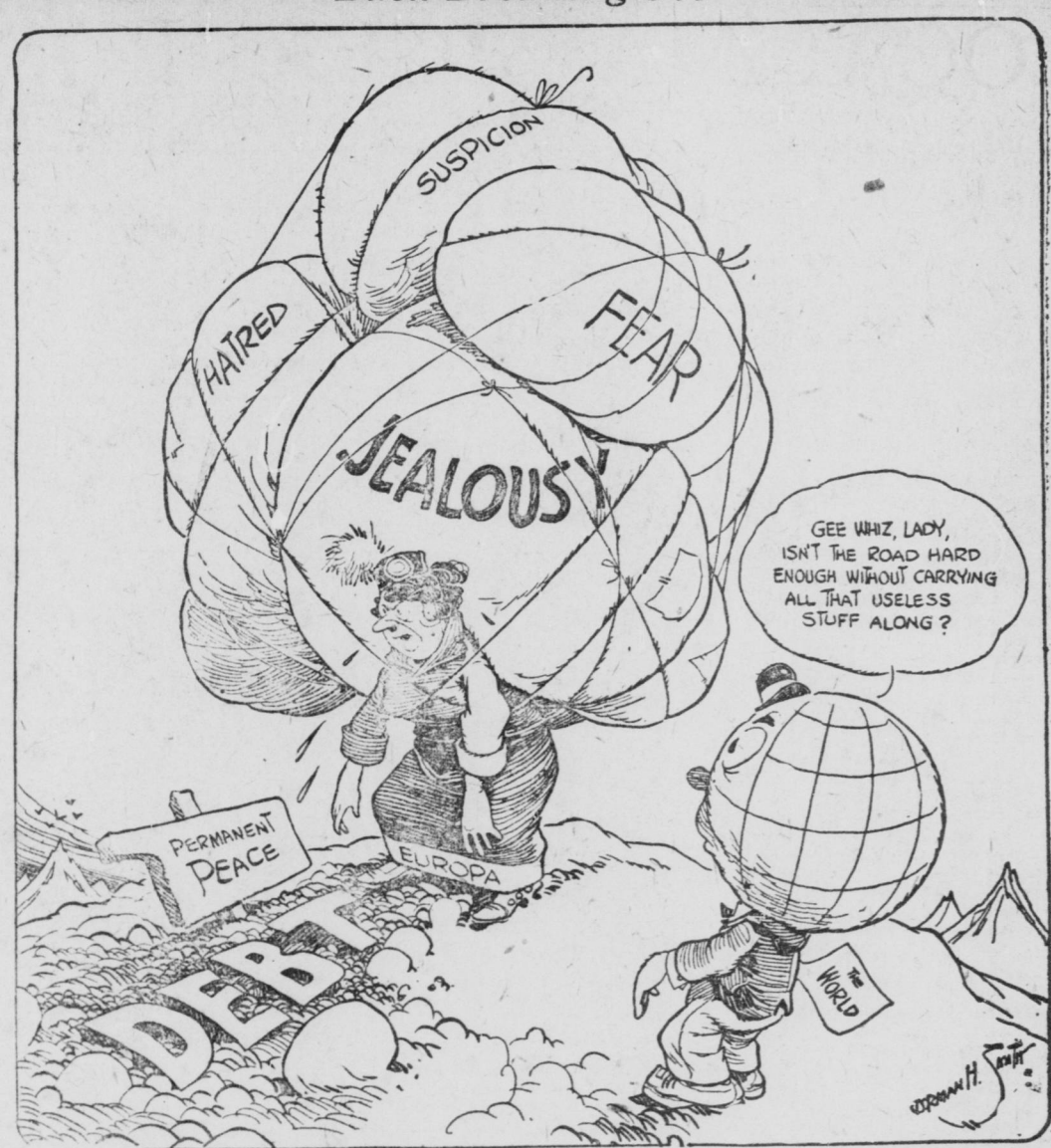
Father's umbrella was not to be found anywhere. So he asked the members of his family if they had seen it.

"I think Mr. Benson took it last night," said Johnny.

"What makes you think that, my son?"

"Cause when I was in the hall last night I heard him say to sister: 'Well, I'll have to steal one!'"—Minneapolis Tribune.

Back-Breaking Job



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, 1332 N. Y. Avenue, Washington, D. C. Enclose 2 cents in stamps. Medical, legal, love and marriage advice cannot be given, nor can extended research be undertaken. Questions, speeches, etc., be prepared. Unsigned letters cannot be answered, but all letters are confidential, and receive personal replies.—Editor.

Who becomes the Acting Vice President of the U. S. now that Vice President Coolidge is the President?

No one; the office of the Vice President remains vacant until the next election. The President pro tempore of the Senate, Senator Cummings of Iowa, takes the Vice President's place so far as presiding over the sessions of the Senate is concerned.

When were postage stamps first used in the United States?

The earliest were in 1846, issued by postmasters at their own expense. The sales of these stamps were so satisfactory that in 1847 the Government took control of the printing and selling of them.

Is it true an enormous salary is paid to Miss Florence Pullman for naming the Pullman cars?

No. The cars are named in the offices of the Pullman Company, the names being chosen in various ways. Sometimes they are named for cities, sometimes for famous men. One name suggests others. For example, someone named a car Charles Dickens; then the idea occurred to use the names of the characters in the author's novels.

Who was the first Vice President to be called to the Presidential chair?

Tyler, and as he was absent at the time of President Harrison's death, the cabinet had concluded he should be styled "Vice President of the United States, Acting President."

Is chloroform a good substance with which to kill and preserve spiders?

No; it will kill them, but as a preservative will turn them black. Glycerine will preserve the color of specimens almost indefinitely.

Are gears used in connecting an airplane to the engine?

No. The propeller is driven directly by the crankshaft.

How long will Calvin Coolidge have served as President when he finishes out the term for which Harding was elected?

Five hundred and seventy-eight days, nine hours and thirteen minutes.

What does the name Coletta mean? Of noble birth.

Can a boy of 18 be held responsible for the theft of an automobile?

If he is of normal intellect, he is presumed to be responsible for his acts, and can, therefore, be committed to the penitentiary or reform school.

Is "Politics" used with a singular or plural verb?

"Politics" is singular, therefore, the singular verb form is used.

What is the correct form of salutation in addressing a cabinet member in a letter?

"Sir" or "My Dear Sir" is correct.

Who is "Belgian Charlotte?"

The Empress Carlotta known to the Hapsburg court as "Belgian Charlotte" is a sister of Leopold II, late king of the Belgians. She married Archduke Maximilian, brother of the late Emperor Franz Joseph of Austria-Hungary, and was sent to Mexico with her husband through the instrumentality of Napoleon III of France. For many years she has lived in seclusion in a Belgian chateau, suffering from insanity. At her death her estates, which are valued at \$70,000,000, will go to the Belgian royal family.

Why is Ireland called the Emerald Isle?

This is a figurative name given to Ireland on account of the richness of its verdure. It was first used by Dr. Drennan in his poem entitled "Erin."

Ambition

By BERTON BRALEY

I'm gonna try to play the game, And play it hard and play it fair; I may not win, but just the same I'm gonna try to do my share. I may not always meet the test As well as some more clever guy, But while my heart beats in my chest I'm gonna try.

I'm gonna try to stand the gaff, Yet keep my nerve; I'm gonna seek To love and work and play and laugh And never show no yellow streak. I'm gonna struggle to be kind And not grow hard of face and eye, I'll flop at times, but never mind, I'm gonna try.

I'm gonna try to be a friend That folks can trust, and who they know Will be the same way to the end, Whether the luck runs high or low; I'll hitch my wagon to a star And set my goal up in the sky, And though I may not get that far, I'm gonna try. (Copyright, 1923, NEA Service, Inc.)

Indiana Sunshine

Poetry is said to be the cause of a wreck in which Marietta Porter and John Houston of Columbus were injured. Houston was reading to Miss Porter from the works of Swinburne, when it is said the poet's flight of fancy caused the girl to forget the car was driving, and it took a nose dive into the ditch.

W. W. Hall of Bloomington now owns a \$1,000 clock once used as a regulator for the clock in the Monroe County courthouse tower. It weighs 1,000 pounds and was run by water power.

Residents of Brookville are on the lookout for a wild man loose in the community. He approaches farmers in their fields, drives them off with a gun and threatens them not to return.

Many Depositors Recommend This Bank

More new customers come to the Fletcher Savings and Trust Company through the recommendation of satisfied patrons than from any other source.

These recommendations are the result of:

1. A constant effort to give more than merely perfunctory attention to customers' needs.
2. A complete banking service.
3. The convenience of nine offices.
4. The uncommon safety afforded by this bank.

Ask some of your friends about us. Then start a small account, checking or savings, at our nearest office.

Fletcher Savings and Trust Company
Evans Wool