

The Indianapolis Times

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AS TO "IMPUDENCE"

HEARING on the petition of the Indianapolis Water Company for increased rates has been concluded. Verbal attacks and defenses have been completed and expert witnesses have told their stories and made their calculations. The public service commission now has before it the difficult task of determining what is to be done.

Citizens of Indianapolis put up a harder fight than they ever presented in a utility rate case. They matched the company, expert for expert, and argument for argument.

There is a wide difference of opinion between the company and representatives of the consumers. This has to do largely with valuation.

Each side is right if its basis is to be accepted.

The commission must decide whether to accept either of the valuation theories or to adopt a third one. It has plenty of precedent for doing almost anything.

To the layman who has followed the progress of the case one thing stands out more clearly than anything else. That is the fact that the company is, on its own admission, prosperous; that it always has been prosperous, and that it merely is making an attempt to increase its profits.

The public is so used to seeing utilities appear before the commission contending they are losing money that the spectacle of a highly prosperous utility asking for increased rates takes on the aspect, as Taylor E. Groninger, corporation counsel, already has put it, of "impudence."

SMOKE WAR VOLUNTEERS

PROPOSAL of the Sciencetech Club, Society of Engineers, offering free services of its members to serve on a smoke ordinance technical committee, is an encouraging sign for good government.

Political leaders must beware when citizens evince enough interest over the success of a plan that they volunteer services without compensation.

Action of the Sciencetech Club probably is inspired by the past misfortunes of other cities where no civil service commissions or qualifying bodies have passed on the qualifications of candidates for the office of smoke inspector.

Chicago, until formation of an advisory smoke board employed a former florist to administer the intricacies of a smoke ordinance.

Cincinnati, where unusual success has been attained in reducing the smoke evil, had a former store clerk and a politician for smoke inspectors until the present practical engineer was obtained through approval of a civil service commission.

It would be about as efficient to hire an undertaker to lay bricks as to have some ward heeler of a political regime tell Indianapolis what kind of furnaces Mr. Citizen should install in his home and what methods are best for reducing smoke.

OUR CO-ED VS. THE HAT BOX

MISS AMERICA is going to college these days. The large enrollment at Butler College, where 635 girls and 557 men are registered, is testimony of this tendency.

Remember the time when girls—few of them as well—went exclusively to girls' private schools? It wasn't so long ago, either.

Growth of co-educational institutions is an encouraging sign for future citizenry. More girls demand careers. And in preparing for them, more girls are learning knowledge for the ballot box, instead of the hat box.

The men at Butler may be pitted by some. But athletic standards have not suffered.

Co-ed supremacy in numbers at least has not handicapped physical prowess and skill of the "stronger sex" on the football field and on the basket-ball floor.

CONVENTION HALL AND FUNDS

KANSAS CITY newspaper has started an argument. It says that in a year's time that city has been host to 220 conventions with a total attendance of 175,000 persons.

Minneapolis newspaper replies that with a big convention hall such as that possessed by Kansas City it could do as well.

Here is the claim of Indianapolis, based on figures of the Chamber of Commerce:

During the current convention season Indianapolis will be host to 200 conventions, with an attendance of 300,000. This without a big convention hall and without a special convention fund, both possessed by Kansas City.

Indianapolis conventions are fewer, but the attendance at individual gatherings is larger. This is because Indianapolis is so easily accessible.

If Indianapolis had a special convention bureau, an appropriate fund and a convention hall adequate to handle national gatherings, there might not be any conventions left over for either Kansas City or Minneapolis.

EGYPT has exhausted her immigration quota for fiscal year ending June 30, 1923. Egypt's quota is four.

AUTOMOBILES exemplify the statement that a vast number of people cannot read the signs of the times.

SECRETARY HOOVER'S idea, boiled down, seems to be that the regeneration of Europe must be left to another generation.

AMERICAN kids and grown-ups consumed 263,529 gallons of ice cream last year. This would make about 1,581,174,000,000,000 portions of the size served in our cafeteria!

POSTMASTER GENERAL last week resumed postal money order relations with kingdom of Bulgaria. Next day the kingdom blew up. No blame attaches to Harry New.

AUGUST automobile and auto truck production passed the 334,000 mark, again breaking all records for the month. That means great opportunity for inventors to make a permanent roadblock, one strong enough to stand the pounding of these trucks' wheels.

WASHINGTON'S new Senator is named Dill, while the latest congressional victor from Spokane bears the name of Hill. Both are Democrats. Dill and Hill, like Jack and Jill, together now we see. They represent what the folks out West think of the G. O. P.

FAMILY IS DIVIDED FOR HAPPINESS

Actor Says Love Is Ruined by Intimacy and Separation Is Remedy.

By NEA Service

NEW YORK, Oct. 3.—Love ruined by the intimacy of family life.

Can a family more easily find happiness by dividing—separate households, two roofs?

Richard Bennett and his wife and three daughters, facing these problems, throw custom to the winds and say: "Yes!"

"Love?" says Bennett, noted actor. "That's exactly why we're separating. Our family is splitting three ways because we love each other—not because we don't. We're dividing so we'll be a happy family—so everyone will have a square deal. It's a radical experiment in equality—which ought to begin in the home."

Bennett says clashing temperaments are responsible for this new theory of family love and housing, which has just been carried into effect, and which eclipses in novelty the matrimonial experiment of one breakfast-together-per-week tried by others.

Constance With Mother

"Constance, our oldest daughter, now 18, is moving into one apartment with her mother," he said. "Barbara, who is 17, is going with me into another four blocks away. And Joan—she's 13—is already in boarding school."

"There's my wife—Adrienne Morrison, as she is known professionally. A good actress as well as a good mother. Do you suppose I want her worried with the care of a large establishment, playing ladies' man to three girls old enough to look out for themselves, and waiting on a selfish husband? No, I don't."

"Constance is not," he continued. "Barbara has an inferiority complex. When you develop a strong nature in one member of a family, someone else has got to be yielding. That's the law of averages."

Can't Manage Her

"Constance goes with her mother because—well, frankly her mother manages her better than I can, for I can't manage her at all."

He laughed, indulgently. "And I'm taking Barbara to bring her out," he went on. "When the family unites, as it will, of course, Barbara isn't going to lace anybody's shoes or run errands. I'll guarantee that."

"Joan is better off in boarding school, learning to depend on herself, than to be at home copying things she is too young to know about and being pampered by her parents."

"Meanwhile, Barbara is to appear with me in the same play. Mrs. Bennett is rehearsing in another. And Constance has become fired with ambition and is looking for a job. So we all expect to work this winter—and work is the real secret of happiness."

By the new arrangement, Mrs. Bennett gets 60 per cent of the family income and Bennett gets 40.

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.

To the Editor of The Times

Allow me to congratulate you on your editorial of Oct. 1, "Sure City for Speeding." As a citizen of Indianapolis I am interested in law enforcement and if we have to come to the time to put chain and ball on the criminal "leggs," let's do so. Especially on the speeders and bootleggers.

S. SCHUCK,
305 N. La Salle St.

To the Editor of The Times

I noticed in your paper a piece written by Thomas A. Stokes, United States correspondent, in regard to the remedy for high price of clothes, and I beg to ask Mr. Stokes why he is trying to deceive the public in the manner in which he has, as it isn't style altogether that causes the high prices. It is the high tariff and the labor unions that cause the high price, not styles.

FRANK METZGER,
3933 College Ave.

Animal Facts

Western Americans who know cotton tail and jack rabbit as pests will be interested to hear that carcases of these animals arrived in eastern cities in barrels and are sold at wholesale for 75 cents a piece and down, according to weight.

Now is the time when Mr. Toad huts a winter home. In making his house, he digs lustily with his hind feet only and pulls the loose dirt back on top of himself with his fore feet, so that no sign is left on the outside. He sleeps five months or more.

Dr. C. B. McNary, superintendent of Caswell Training School, Kingston, N. C., keeps a phonograph humming in the barn because, he claims, music makes the cows give more milk. Butter Girl, the cow, dropped from 348 to 316 pounds of milk, one week, when they cut out the tunes.

Bulls weighing from 2,600 to 2,900 pounds live in southern Italy, where they are used as beasts of burden. Stockmen are planning to bring bunches of them to Texas and New Mexico. Next thing we know we'll have beef steaks as big as mother's company tablecloth.

Heard in the Smoking Room

"MULES," said the stockman who was in the smoking room to chew rather than smoke, "are all that they are pictured and then some. It is true, as well, that they need only vigorous and picturesque language to win the ladies' hearts at times. A man from Youngstown, Ohio, was out driving his car in the country one bright afternoon. He came upon a mule, lop-eared and stubborn, standing in the middle of the road. On a mound at the side a colored boy was industriously whittling

UNUSUAL PEOPLE Around World On \$500

By NEA Service

SEATTLE, Wash., Oct. 3.—Antonio Locatelli, famous Italian ace, holds a commission from his government which gains him audience with military chiefs of America, England and France. But he traveled steered aboard the President McKinley on his way here from the Orient.

Locatelli is out to win a wager that he can make a circuit of the globe on only \$500 expense money.

The Italian was the first man to fly across the Andes. He performed the feat just before the war started, flying from Buenos Aires to Valparaiso.

so. During the war he distinguished himself in the service of his country, and around this one flyer as a nucleus Italy built up a corps of air fighters which made themselves feared over the Austrian lines in the rugged heights of the Alps.

Locatelli has toured India, China and Japan. After his jump across the United States he plans to go on to Europe to complete his long journey on the \$500 and win his wager.

LOCATELLI

Tom Sims

NE handicap about being poor is you get shot instead of being sued for breach of promise.

The only hard thing about saving a dollar is you have to keep on saving it every day.

The weather man could vacate next month and leave a three months' supply of cold predictions.

We can't decide whether to buy an auto or use the money as a first payment on a new suit.

It's easier to get the wrong phone number than the right one because there are more wrong ones.

Two-faced people are so busy looking in both directions they can't see where they are going.

Being a movie star's husband must be a nice life, but there is no future in it.

When a man with but a single idea gets there he hasn't enjoyed the trip very much.

After everybody gets well educated there will be nobody left to do our work for us.

Married man tells us he is assistant head of his house.

Painting a car or a face never kills the knock in the engine.

Light words often carry more weight than heavy ones.

Too many people will give three cheers for something they won't give anything else for.

The height of foolishness is the high cost of living.

Just before a man worries his wife to death she hopes his next wife is a good pistol shot.

Twenty years ago today there were more men than women being arrested for bigamy.

We have safety pins, but no safety pens.

Injured feelings are cured quickly by kicking them out the door.

Babies are harder to keep than autos, but they go farther.

Many a coat lapel gets one of these school girl complexioners.

It is about time for the women to put on their woolen beads.

An ideal husband is a man who gets his weekly pay every night.

Talk may be cheap, but cheap things don't pay.

Two can't live cheaper than one, but they can keep warmer.

Science

The strangest of all living creatures in the class of mammals are three animals that live in Australia. Mammals, as a class, do not lay eggs and they suckle their young. These three Australian creatures do both. Apparently they are the connecting link between modern mammals and their reptile ancestors.

These animals are the duckmole, and two varieties of anteaters. In many respects they show their close relationship to reptiles. They have varying temperatures and are cold-blooded, like snakes, and their eggs are similar to those of reptiles. The duckmole lives near water and grubs in the mud for small animals. It can swim and dive and can also burrow somewhat like a mole. It has claws as well as webbed feet and has jaws like the bill of a duck. The anteaters live among rocks and burrow in the ground, very rapidly, in search of food.

FARMERS IN IOWA ASK FAIR DEAL

He Is Dissatisfied and Discouraged and Hopes for Economic Miracle.

Harold C. Place, editor of the Des Moines News, traveled 1,000 miles over Iowa country, interviewing more than 500 farmers in their homes, their fields, their barns, and their shops—wherever he could gain audience with them. His object was to find out what is the matter with the farming business. This is the first of six articles in which he tells what he learned about this serious economic and political question.

By HAROLD C. PLACE

THE farmer of the Middle West is still restless and dissatisfied, and will remain so until he gets what he terms a "square deal." The farmer, generally speaking, is discouraged, but not hopelessly so. He is stunned and bewildered by his uncomfortable situation, but he is not quite clear as to how he got there nor has he any definite idea as to how he is going to extricate himself.

For the most part, the farmers are inclined to depend upon the Farm Bureau leaders to rescue them from hard times. Those who do not belong to the Farm Bureau Federation live in hopes some political or economic miracle may be worked to place things on a more equitable basis.

Legislation Not Cure-All

His reaction was manifest first in the political field because that was the most obvious and most immediate method whereby he might register his dissatisfaction. He still has a lot of faith in the virtue of political action, but realizes legislation is not the cure-all for the agricultural ills existing.

The mental status of the farmer today, however, is improved over a year ago. With the possible exception of the farmer who is relying entirely on his wheat crop for revenue, the farmers of the Middle West, buoyed by steady and higher prices for corn, hogs and cattle, are feeling a trifle more optimistic.

Wheat Price Minor Factor

The low price of wheat, while serious in the extreme northwest, is really a minor factor in the situation. Its importance has been over-emphasized when considered in relation to agriculture as a whole. Wheat represents only about 6 per cent of the total value of farm products.

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One exception to this general condition may be noted. The farmer is continuing to buy automobiles. He believes the automobile to be a necessity in his business, and, somehow, he finds the money to afford one.

Will Break Even

The majority of the farmers in the Middle West, outside the wheat belt, will just about break even financially this year, while some may make a little money.

Obviously the chief trouble of the farmer is he receives too little for what he sells and pays too much for what he buys. Farmers want prices equalized, but they are not sure how this can be done.

There is considerable resentment concerning the high wages being paid labor in the cities.

Occasionally, however, you will find a far-seeing farmer who has analyzed his situation, such as Ira Baker of Sac County, Iowa.

"The farmer who stops to think," Mr. Baker told me, "must realize the laborer must be well paid in order he may have money to buy the products of the farm. We ought not to begrudge the laborer the money he can command."

Indian University co-eds of 1867, the first year that women students were admitted, were bobbed hair. A picture has been found in Bloomington proving the fact.

After a recent community picnic, members of the Rush County Child Welfare Association took the surplus food and distributed baskets to sick and needy persons throughout the county. Citizens donated automobiles to deliver the food.

Bound for South Bend with a two-ton truck, loaded with 264 cases of alleged real Canadian beer, Dudley Grayson was halted by a Mishawaka policeman. Grayson denied knowledge of the contents of the cargo, stating he understood it to be door-knobs and automobile windshield wipers.

There's a certain town in Indiana that organized a bridge club. When a name was desired it was called "The Pink Cats." A new club sprung up and not to be outdone called themselves the "Homestead Horses." Everyone hopes there is no third club organized.

When were mirrors first used? Probably for ages after the civilization of man commenced, the still waters of ponds and lakes were the only mirrors. We read in the Pentateuch of mirrors of brass being used by the Hebrews, while it is known that mirrors of bronze were in very common use among the ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans, and many specimens are preserved in museums. Pliny taught the use of polished silver for mirrors in the year 323 B. C., and polished mirrors of obsidian, or natural glass, were used by the Romans. Mirrors of glass were first made at Venice in 1300, and judging from those still in existence they were very rude contrivances compared to those of modern make.

What have been and will be the total eclipses of the sun visible somewhere in the United States during the present century?

Total eclipses here or will be visible in 1918, 1922, 1925, 1945, 1954, 1979, 1984, and 1994.

How many women in the United States are gainfully employed?

According to the 1920 census, 3,549,511.

What is the population of Russia?

The 1920 figures were: European Russia, 93,887,923; Minor Areas, 21,404,745; Siberia, 22,577,825; Associated Republics, 7,495,492.

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It's About Time He Was Finding a Better Way



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

During the summer an actor was killed by lightning while on Long Island beach. What was his name?

H. M. S.
Bert Savoy, female impersonator.

Should a young lady walking with two young men walk between them or should she walk on the inside?

Between them.

How many stars are visible? About 6,000 with the naked eye, and over 80,000,000 through the most powerful telescopes.

What is a good scratch mixture for hens? A good mash?

Two parts cracked corn and one part oats, while a mash of three parts corn meal and one part meat scrap will be found very satisfactory.

Where do we get the picture of Christ?

There is no authentic portrait of Christ. Each artist paints his own conception of Christ, though a general type has become conventionalized to a large degree.

How were the following measures established: Yard, foot, acre, inch, quart?

A yard is said to have been established by Henry I, who ordered that the ulna, or ancient ell, which corresponds to the modern yard, should be the exact length of his own arm.

Foot was originally taken from the length of a man's foot. The word signifying a man's foot is used in almost all the languages to denote the linear measure of ten to twelve inches.

The word acre is from the Latin *ager*, a field, originally an open space with reference to size. The word acre now has a definite area. Inch comes to us from the Latin *uncia*, the middle English, *unce*, and the Anglo-Saxon, *ynce*, or *ince*, meaning one-twelfth of a foot. Quart is from the Latin *quartus*, a fourth. A quart is a fourth of a gallon.

What is the name of the instrument used in the United States Army to give warning of an impending gas attack?

It is called a "rattle." It is sometimes spoken of as a "gas rattle" in the Army.

What is meant by "Tom Tiddler's ground?"

This is a contraction of Tom the Idler's ground, thus, "Tom Tiddler's ground." It is a common expression in Hertsfordshire, England, for the garden of a sluggard or a person too idle to pull up the weeds.

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