

The Indianapolis Times

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PUBLIC SERVICE ON TOP

POLITICS met defeat and public service triumphed when the State board of tax commissioners flatly rejected for the third time bond issues for two Terre Haute roads.

The mere bond case would be of little general interest if it were not for other factors.

For weeks the State board has been subject to political pressure to approve contracts held by the Carpenter Construction Company of Terre Haute, in which Natt Kemper, Terre Haute, is a leading official and stockholder.

Three times taxpayers remonstrated vigorously, citing the cost of \$60,000 to \$70,000 higher than contemplated and deemed necessary.

Kemper was a leading figure in the Vigo County McCray campaign in 1920. Hence the political pressure which had become a matter of open comment at the Statehouse.

The State board should be commended. Rights of the public must be safeguarded.

PAGE CHIEF RIKHOFF!

"CLEAN up the crime cesspools. Don't waste time bawling out people who make left-hand turns. You catch the bandits. Never mind chasing a couple of blocks after automobiles without tail lights. Politics and the police department are divorced. No invisible government will threaten any policeman."

So read "General Orders No. 1," issued by a fighting general, S. D. Butler of the marines, now head of the Philadelphia police department.

These instructions should be given policemen throughout the country and kept before them continuously.

This applies to Indianapolis as elsewhere.

Too much attention is given to petty investigations and arrests. Too much time is devoted to sticking notices on windshields and not enough to bandits who are sticking up banks. This fault is not peculiar with the Indianapolis department, but it exists here as elsewhere.

WOW! WHAT A HOWL!

ENEMIES of the League of Nations, in the United States Senate and out, seem to have gone stark, raving mad over Bok's \$100,000 peace plan.

They charge it is only the league covenant, with reservations. Which, frankly, is about what it is. But what of it?

And, they protest, American participation in the league was killed by the Senate and buried under a 7,000,000 majority of popular votes.

Then why the howl? If it is dead and buried, the nationwide referendum now under way will but serve to emphasize that fact.

The whole thing is "league propaganda," they say angrily. What if it is? Propaganda for world peace is surely as commendable as, for instance, Wall Street's propaganda in favor of Mellon's big tax cut plan.

An effort is under way among Senate irreconcilables to "probe" the origin of this peace propaganda.

Fine. If they go deep enough they will find St. Luke had a hand in starting it when, inspired by God, he uttered that phrase about "on earth peace and good will towards men."

SENDING SICK TO JAIL

ONE of the most serious problems before the community is the humane care of the insane.

Slowly public officials and citizens generally are beginning to realize that an insane person is a sick person, just as much as a person suffering from any other disease, and that he is just as much in need of expert attention.

Still, under the law, insane persons are committed to jail and housed with criminals, sometimes for weeks, before they are removed to hospitals.

We are punishing men and women by imprisonment because they are sick!

The Times has in the past repeatedly called attention to this state of affairs. At last some official action seems probable. The judge of the city court, the county clerk, the Governor and the county commissioners are looking into the situation.

The latest proposal is that the State take over the county hospital for the insane and that additional facilities be supplied at the State hospital. That more facilities are needed no one will dispute. There appears to be no very good reason why both the county and the State should care for these unfortunate.

Another proposal is that additional accommodations, together with medical attention, be supplied at the jail. This may be very well in an emergency, but there is no reason why there should be any connection between a person suffering from a mental disease and a jail.

We don't send persons suffering from pneumonia to jail. Indiana is spending millions for a model reformatory to house able-bodied prisoners.

And we are sending sick people to jail!

THE UNNECESSARY LASH

GOVERNMENTS are such sensitive plants, aren't they? Over in the Philippines the Supreme Court of the islands has just decided that Isaac Perez must go to prison for all of two months just because he dropped a casual remark that General Wood's head should be cut off with a bolo. They call his offense sedition, and that sounds ominous.

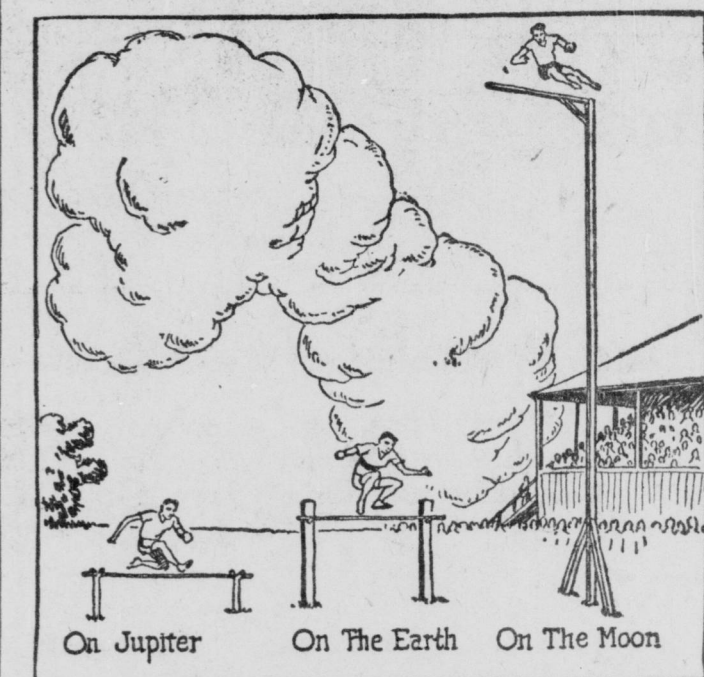
The Soviets in Russia are more severe—more sensitive. They have sent Mme. Akharinia, famous actress, to prison for three years of hard labor because she "insulted the workmen's celebration" by boldly referring to it as "a rabble."

Governments in cases like these seek to gain respect by the application of unconvincing oppression, and they produce fear, perhaps hate, rather than respect. And they give too much heed to the mouthy vaporings of irresponsible and thoughtless persons who lead no cause and have no influence.

Governments do not totter and fall before attacks that gain prominence only because they are unduly noticed. No government ever has fallen that way and no stable government ever will. And stable government does not need to notice or recognize the empty words of individuals. It weakens its power when it does.

SUN IS NOT LORDLY MONARCH OF SKIES

Old Sol Is Small Fry as Compared to Some of Stars That Appear as Mere Pin Points.



THE FORCE OF GRAVITY UPON THE SURFACE OF ANY HEAVENLY BODY IS A RESULT OF ITS SIZE. THE SKETCH REPRODUCED HERE SERVES TO INDICATE THE VARYING FORCE OF GRAVITY. THE CENTER FIGURE SHOWS AN AVERAGE JUMP ON THE EARTH. THE SAME ATHLETE COULD JUMP SIX TIMES AS HIGH ON THE MOON. ON JUPITER HE COULD ONLY JUMP HALF AS HIGH. ON THE SUN THE FORCE OF GRAVITY WOULD BE TWENTY-SEVEN TIMES AS GREAT AS ON THE EARTH. UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS OUR ATHLETE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO JUMP AT ALL IN FACT. IF HE WERE TO LIE DOWN HE WOULD FIND THE FORCE OF GRAVITY SO GREAT HE WOULD BE UNABLE TO GET UP.

This is the third article of a series by Dietz on "Secrets of Science." He discusses scientific facts and phenomena in every day terms.

By DAVID DIETZ
Science Editor of The Times
Copyright by David Dietz

THE sun, we learn from astronomy, is not the lordly monarch of the skies that it appears to be.

It only appears so to us, because this earth of ours is so very much closer to the sun than it is to any of the stars.

Many of the stars which appear to us as mere pin-points of light are anywhere from fifty to five hundred times larger than the sun.

The reason for the difference in appearance to us is that the sun is 93,000,000 miles from us, while the

TOM SIMS -!- Says

He's 70 and she's 69. They live in New York. Both go to dances and dance. That shows sense.

A bride of five months left home in Detroit. A man can't shave every morning before breakfast.

Leap Year news from Chicago. School teacher shortage reported.

New Orleans cops caught a William Desmond Taylor murder suspect, the first one this year.

A Denver judge gave a movie actor two years in the pen, but it wasn't for being a movie actor.

Rodolph Valentino, the alderman movie star, would make an ideal brother. He has 150 suits.

Movie stars are getting to be as bad as many other people. Fortune is their misfortune.

A pumpkin in Fresno, Cal., weighs eighty-nine pounds and would make pie enough to keep 300 people awake.

Los Angeles song writer's wife got a divorce. We don't blame her.

Leap Year news from Spokane is alarming. Woman's Club head says women should propose.

About 40,000 schooners went down off the Florida coast when a beer ship ran on the rocks.

Michigan bean growers will meet in judgment upon the faults of beer in some dirty work.

Poor sailor married a rich girl in Manistee, Mich. poor sailor.

Here's great news for the soap makers. A woman in San Francisco is refusing to wear stockings.

Boston had a cat show. When we get mad enough we will say the first cat show was a sewing circle.

Fire destroyed a \$250,000 school in Woodland, Cal., and proved that wishes do come true.

News from North Africa. Italians are fighting the Arabs, and the Arabian nights are bad.

Needy old women will be given the chorus girls' jobs in Germany. Sherman spoke a mouthful.

What could be more daring than a French soldier getting shaved in a German barber shop?

A Thought

Let not him that eateth despise him which eateth not; and let him which eateth not judge him that eateth; for God hath received him.—Rom. 14:3.

THE most generous and merciful in judgment upon the faults of others are always the most free from faults themselves.—Aughney.

Heard in the Smoking Room

THE subject in the smoking room was the sightseeing trips in various towns of the country. A friend of mine tells me that Springfield, Ill., boasts the greatest borer among its sightseeing guides that he ever met up with, said one of the smokers. "He was there recently and he hired one of the town's cab drivers to take him around. The cabbie was

loquacious and tiresome. He insisted on regaling my friend, a very polite man, with local news of no interest whatsoever to strangers. After a long ride and much talk by the cabbie they passed one house and the driver pointed an unclean finger at it and said, impressively: 'Lincoln's home.' 'Is he, indeed?' replied my friend, bored, but still polite."

ODDS LONG POLAR TRIP WILL FAIL

Quick Declares Naval Secretary Is Betting With Other Men's Lives.

BY HERBERT QUICK

I DON'T know that our Secretary of the Navy is a betting man, but if he has the gambling instinct, I respectfully suggest in the proposed expedition of the great dirigible, the Shenandoah, to the polar regions next summer, he is taking long odds.

The odds are the Shenandoah will be lost with all on board.

If the secretary were betting his money against money, I should not object. I do object when he bets the lives of a large number of human beings on the ability of the Shenandoah to make that voyage over the ice and come back from the solitudes safe.

I don't believe he has any moral right to do it. I refuse to assent to the proposition that any of their superior officers have the right to send men out on a venture when nothing important is to be gained by success and where it is ten to one that they will all be lost.

Even Money on Failure

In the language of the gambling fraternity, it is even money that the Shenandoah will be lost before she even gets to her point of take-off for the polar trip. It is ten to one she will be lost if she takes off for the voyage.

Of course, the officers and men who are scheduled to go will say they are willing. They are good soldiers. They do not think of their own safety. It is therefore the duty of the Secretary of the Navy to think of it for them.

The dirigible is, except under favorable conditions, an unmanageable, easily wrecked machine. The French General Dumas was interviewed recently and stated the building of the dirigible should be abandoned. The loss of the Dixmude marked the end, he said. It ought to mark the end. Every great airship has been lost before it was long in use.

Tragedy Is Predicted

General Dumont asserted the Shenandoah will surely be lost. He did not say it will be lost if it starts on this polar trip, but the inference as to his judgment is plain.

The Shenandoah voyage was planned before the loss of the Dixmude. That sad affair should bring about a reconsideration. The Secretary of the Navy has this in his hands. If this voyage is undertaken and the boys are lost, he will be responsible. The people will applaud an abandonment of the trip. I should not like to be in his place if he has to bear the responsibility—I had almost written the guilt—of the probable tragedy, if this foolish thing goes on.

UNUSUAL PEOPLE

Showman Once Penniless

By NPA Service

TOLEDO Jan. 9.—Eleven years ago H. V. Buelow came to Toledo broke. He slept on park benches and for forty-eight hours had nothing to eat.

Today Buelow is the head of the National Farmers' Exposition, which is to the farm display world what the International Livestock Exposition is to the beef and dairy world. More than a half million people will attend in the few days it holds forth.

Besides handling this exposition Buelow stages all of the big affairs in Toledo, including two auto shows during the year. He spends his summers at his villa on Lake Erie and with the beginning of each new year he tours to his winter home in Florida.

Buelow is an old friend of Henry Ford, having known the magnate before the days of his financial success.

BUELOW

Has Liberia ever asked the United States for a loan? Liberia wanted a loan of \$5,000,000 in order to balance her budget, for like many other countries her taxes were running behind, and the finances of the country were in a bad condition. Congress, however, did not pass the loan, and it was not granted.

How many different species of birds are there in the United States? About 1,300.

Tongue Tips

The Rev. R. Brannstein, eastern preacher: "Religion is the revelation of God through Jesus Christ to the heart of man. Theology is what other men have said of that revelation. We are not Christians because we are theologians. We are theologians because we are Christians. Before we had the science of botany we had flowers. Before we had the science of astronomy we had stars. Before we had the science of theology we had God."

Dr. Charles H. Willits, medical director of Provident Insurance Company: "Vacations, living out of doors, the taking of more exercise, the less frequent use of trolleys and trains, the simpler diet of fruits and vegetables, help to keep the death rate low in summer. It begins to rise in the latter part of September, after the effects of the summer vacations have worn off. If people took vacations twice a year—in February as well as July and August—paid more attention to personal and public hygiene, our death rate might be lowered. At least it would be more uniform throughout the year."

M. O. Eldridge, executive chairman of American Automobile Association: "We all believe in traffic laws, but the most of us do not think of enforcing them until we find ourselves picking ourselves up out of the street, or being picked up."

Henry Ford: "I have little confidence in these professional schools of religion. By the time they get through with religion it is a very thin product. But I believe in a movement to put religion in the schools."

This Would Simplify Matters



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., enclosing 2 cents in stamps for reply. Medical, legal and marital advice cannot be given, nor can extended research be undertaken. All other questions will receive a personal reply. Unsigned requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor

What was the first 5-cent show in Indianapolis?
The Bijou, about 124 E. Washington.

What is the best way to clean the hair on the mounted head of a deer?
Rub lightly with absorbent cotton saturated with gasoline.

Is it true that trained monkeys are used to knock coconuts from the top of the trees?
It is not true; natives are employed.

Are briquets safe to use as fuel?
The United States Bureau of Mines says that briquets, as usually purchased in this country, are perfectly safe to use as fuel.

What is the largest number of children that has ever been born at the same time?
A certain Signora de la Riva, of Florence, who is mentioned by more than one Italian writer, is credited with having given birth to eight children on Sept. 9, 1867.

Does the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul have its own tracks from Chicago to the coast; if so, how far is the line double track?
Yes, the C. M. & St. Paul has its own tracks to the coast; the line is double tracked as far as St. Paul, Minn.

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Pals

BY BERTON BRALEY

Some kids I know are afraid of a cop. Whenever he comes, they run. They think he's comin' around to stop.

The fellows that's havin' fun. When I've found out he's a darn good scout.

As good as you could design. An' I feel safer when he's about; The cop is a friend of mine.

He doesn't fuss at a little noise. When we're playin' around the street.

An' he's lookin' after the girls an' boys. That's livin' along his beat.

He sees that the motor-cars don't whiz. Too close to our football line.

I'm tellin' you I'm a friend of his. An' he is a friend of mine.

If a kid behaves like he'd ought to do if he had any sense at all, He'd know that the cop is a friend that's true.

To fellows that's big or small. He's one of the gang, that's what he is.

If you treat him that way—he's fine. An' that's why I am a friend of his.

An' he is a friend of mine! (Copyright, 1923, NEA Service, Inc.)

Family Fun

Line's Busy

A man who believed he knew all about parrots undertook to teach what he thought to be a young, mute bird to say "Hello" in one lesson. Going up to the cage, he repeated that word in a clear voice for several minutes, the parrot paying not the slightest attention. At the final "Hello" the bird opened one eye, gazed at the man and snapped out, "Line's busy!"—Successful Farming.

Says Pa to Ma

"If the human body is renewed every seven years, I can't be the same woman that you married."

"I've been suspecting that for some time."—Boston Transcript.

Willie Sticks Dad

"Pa, teacher says we are here to help others."

"Yes, that's so."

"Well, what are the others here for?"—New Zealand Farmer.

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.

Plea for Pigeons

To the Editor of The Times

Now that the earth has been wrapped in a mantle of white and the gurgle of the fountain in University Park has been silenced by Old Winter, the swarms of humanity of all classes that frequented that beautiful park in the good old summer time have ceased to lounge therein.

But how about the pigeons that all visitors to the place were so anxious to have flap all over them in their quest to get the crumbs? Are they to be left to die hunger now, while their friends of yore sit toasting their toes? A few million German marks will save the birds.

WILLIAM C. U. LATEN.

Against Soviet

To the Editor of The Times

A writer in The Times, J. R. Martin, makes a plea for the recognition of soviet Russia by the American Government.

The soviet and the communist are making every effort possible to overthrow the Government of the United States and fly the red flag over the White House and have a government of the proletariat, such as Russia now has.

If the United States Government recognizes the soviet it simply means that under the cloak of diplomatic establishments the communist horde could work undisturbed in its attempt to overthrow this Government. I wonder if J. R. Martin ever thought about when he laments so sadly over Russia's condition?

The communists and bolsheviks have exploited Russia and they are still doing it. While America may feel a profound pity for the peasantry of Russia, she does not propose to load up this nation with dynamite in the form of Russia's recognition. If Russia wants soviet rule, let her have it, but the United States wants none of it, and what's more, will not tolerate anything that looks like it. This nation is not taking any wolves in sheep's clothing at this time.

P. T. J.

For Sister's Feller

"I'd offer myself to you for a Christmas present if I thought you'd take me."

"I'm afraid I'd have trouble in exchanging you."—Boston Transcript.

NOTICE

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