

# The Indianapolis Times

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## FIRE DESTRUCTION ON INDIANA FARMS

**T**HAT considerable part of Indiana's population whose business is farming is urged by the National Board of Fire Underwriters to heed the wisdom of schooling in practical fire prevention.

"It is found," says the board, "that during 1918-1921 no less than \$2,270,360 worth of Indiana farm property went up in smoke, the great bulk—probably 90 per cent—of this loss being from causes that were strictly or partly preventable."

"Chiefly responsible among the known causes in the State was 'lightning.' This element alone inflicted \$548,906 damage, although its ravages might have been reduced to trifling proportions by the proper installation and maintenance of approved lightning rod equipment."

"Prominent also among the causes of rural fires in Indiana were 'sparks on roofs,' with \$299,607 recorded loss; 'defective chimneys and flues,' with \$282,833; 'spontaneous combustion,' with \$108,680, and 'matches—smoking,' with \$82,139 loss."

Every one of these causes is regarded by fire prevention engineers as strictly or in large part preventable by the exercise of care.

"To appreciate what this permanent waste of property means, it is only necessary to think of such a sum as \$2,270,360 spent constructively in the interests of the rural population of Indiana," the underwriters continue. "It would for example, have purchased 4,540 farm tractors at \$500 each, and thus have helped to lighten labor and to increase production; or it might have been invested in good roads, of which no State has more than it needs; or again, if thrown into farm loans it would have been no negligible factor in agricultural financing."

"As to fatalities and mutilations due to fire on the farm, while there are no statistics available to serve as a guide, conservative opinion holds that of the 30,000 deaths and injuries by fire in the United States last year, a regrettable number occurred in rural districts—and Indiana did not escape the payment of its share of this grisly tax."

"It might have done so, as well as materially reduced the property destruction, if to their strong strain of common sense the farmers of the State had added a reasonable amount of fire-caution."

## JUDICIAL ARROGANCE

**K**ANSAS CITY has a crime wave that has aroused its population and press to justified protest. On a recent Sunday, the Rev. Baxter Waters, a leading pastor of that city, preached a sermon of general comment on the prevalence of crime there and the apparent breakdown of the police, courts, and all law-enforcing and administrative powers. The following morning he was summoned to the Circuit Court of Judge Thad B. Landon, where, standing at the bar, he was severely catechized and condemned by the court for his utterances in the pulpit.

There was no case or charge pending against Dr. Waters; he was not in direct or indirect contempt of court; he had interfered in no way with the orderly processes of judicial or legal affairs; he had violated no rules of any court; he had jeopardized no act of justice. He had merely given voice to and comment on what was of very common knowledge in the city.

Without the slightest authority and without one scintilla of moral or legal right, he was haled into this particular court and humiliated and browbeaten. More than that, the court employed the occasion in telling the preacher just what he should and should not say in his sermons. He made plain that his judicial purpose was not alone to visit unwarranted and illegal punishment upon the helpless man before him. He was attempting to place a muzzle on free speech.

If there has been, at any time, a more flagrant and arrogant violation of the lawful rights, powers and privileges of a court of justice than this, it has escaped eyes that are ever on the watch. And yet there are lawyers and jurists who pretend they cannot understand why contempt for courts is a growing sentiment among the people.

## BUT HOW ABOUT THE BOODLERS?

**T**HAT Senate committee on the Veterans' Bureau has wound up its "constructive investigation" and made its preliminary report. It may be constructive, but:

It says nothing about the charges of graft, fraud and corruption, which General O'Ryan, committee counsel, says was established by witnesses' testimony and documentary evidence.

It says nothing about the purchase of hospital sites at more than twice their value at Livermore, Cal.; Sulphur Springs, Mo., and other points.

It says nothing about the payment of huge sums to architects for worthless plans for hospitals never built.

It says nothing about the clean-up in the sale of Government drugs from Perryville which witnesses said officials were planning when caught.

It says nothing about the use of wine, women and song in Washington by agents of big contractors to bag generous building contracts at fat and unfair profits.

It says nothing about the testimony of one Elias Mortimer that at least once \$50,000 was split three ways, officials sharing, for the granting of certain construction contracts to Mortimer's company.

It says nothing of the costly inspection junkets by which tens of thousands of dollars were squandered giving high bureau officials "swell trips" and good times.

It says nothing of a lot of other rottenness in the old Veterans' Bureau, which was hinted at the hearings, but which was hushed up when it developed into too much of a high up Washington scandal.

A "constructive investigation" and a "constructive report" may be all right, but it is no excuse for whitewashing fraud, corruption and boodling in general.

Somebody was responsible.

The most constructive thing the Senate committee can do is brand the responsible parties and turn them over to the proper authorities for trial.

When grafters and boodlers in Government service are punished for crookedness in as certainly in public as in private employ, then and then only will we have good management of Government.

## QUAKES ARE CAUSED BY CRUST SLIPS

Tremor Zones Follow Mountain Chains, Weakest Part of Earth's Surface.

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

**T**HE contraction of the earth's surface, as we have seen, is responsible for the rise of continents and mountain ranges. All life upon the earth, therefore, owes its existence to this fact.

But while this contraction makes life possible, it also results at times in the destruction of life. For it is the chief cause of earthquakes.

An earthquake is caused by a sudden movement or slipping of a part of the earth's crust.

Earthquakes occur in certain regions. These are the regions of great upheaval, during the last movements of the earth's crust which resulted in the buckling up of the present great mountain ranges.

The largest earthquake region extends along the line of the Alpine-Himalayan mountain system. It starts in the Alps and extends to central China, taking in Italy, the eastern Mediterranean, the Caspian, and the Himalayan mountains.

### Youngest Mountains

These mountains are among the youngest upon the earth. Many geologists believe that they are still growing, that is, still being pushed up by movements of the earth's crust.

Over one-fifth of the earthquakes occur in this region.

Another great earthquake region extends from the Bay of Bengal to north of New Zealand. It includes the mountain region through the Malay Archipelago.

A third region starts at Kamchatka, a peninsula at the eastern end of Siberia, and follows the eastern coast of Asia to the Philippine Islands. This region includes Japan.

There are three earthquake regions in America. One lies along the coast of Alaska and British Columbia, the second begins in California and ends in Ecuador.

The third is along the west coast of South America from Peru to Patagonia.

Another earthquake region is the West Indies. Geologists believe that at one time these islands were all connected together into a continent, but that great regions subsided, owing to movements of the earth's crust, leaving the present archipelago.

### Southern Quake Region

A southern earthquake region extends from South India westward to Mauritius in the Indian Ocean.

Another large earthquake region extends from North Africa to Spain and Portugal. A smaller region includes the Bermuda Islands.

Many factors tend to aggravate the natural instability of these weaker portions of the earth's crust.

One is the atmospheric pressure. Delicate measuring instruments prove to the satisfaction of geologists that when the atmospheric pressure is heaviest in western Japan and when heavy rains fall there, the result is an upward tilt of eastern Japan. It is noticeable of course, except for the records made by exceptional delicate apparatus.

Strains in the earth's crust are also aggravated by the tidal pull of the moon and by the fact that the earth does not rotate smoothly upon its axis but wobbles somewhat as it rotates.

### Next article in series: Volcanoes.

## PARALAUGHS

But is being dug up faster than the money for a soldier bonus.

Should the golf ball be lighter? We doubt it. But a pedestrian tells us the auto should be lighter.

Senate is considering a \$729,000,000 postage appropriation so we can get our bills on time.

Presidential slogans are being coined. Here's ours: More action and less faction.

A ring of leather thieves is operating in St. Louis, possibly shipping the leather out disguised as attacks.

Some men buy loud speakers, some marry loud speakers and some loud speakers are elected to office.

A grandmother will marry again in Charlestown, Mass., this being the first sign of spring in that town.

Ireland is competing with Egypt. A skeleton dug up near Dublin is said to be 3,000 years old.

Henry Ford employs 162,792 men and worries many more.

None being Government officials. Five Dallas (Texas) oil men have been sent to the penitentiary.

## Family Fun

### Friendly

Mrs. W. F. Dixon, who recently had her teeth extracted and was shut in, was very much surprised yesterday when twelve ladies, her most intimate friends, came in a body, and smiling when they entered, removed their teeth, so she would not feel embarrassed when talking. They brought with them oysters and trimmings. Mankato Free Press.

### Sister's Face Said It

"Miss Smilax out? Didn't she get my note this morning?"  
"Was that yours, sort? Sure, I thought it was a bill from the face she made."—Boston Transcript.

## Bishop Is Facing Heresy Charges



REV. WILLIAM M. BROWN

By N.E.A. Service  
ALION, Ohio, Feb. 18.—Adam and Eve figure prominently in the forthcoming trial for heresy of Rev. William M. Brown, Episcopal bishop, now living here.

In a bill of complaint, formally filed by three members of the House of Bishops, the clergyman is accused of holding and teaching through a book "Communism and Christianity," doctrines contrary to those held by the Episcopal belief.

Rev. Brown, who says he welcomes investigation by constituted church authorities, expressed a willingness to withdraw from the House of Bishops if the members would declare belief in the literally interpreted representations of the Bible.

Among these, he mentions the creation and downfall of Adam and Eve, the birth of Christ and other issues.

"Orthodox christianism and Orthodox scientism are irrevocably opposed to each other," Bishop Brown says.

### UNUSUAL PEOPLE

## One Way to Be 'Self-Made'



**WILSON E. THOMPSON**  
Wilson E. Thompson, 15-year-old newspaper of Santa Ana, Calif., has amassed a "fortune" of \$1,000 by "cutting out picture shows and extras and sticking to business." The boy was penniless when he arrived from Ohio at the age of 9.

### No. 7

## Third Degree Yourself!

23 More to Come

If there is a growing youngster in your house, you can try this test on him as well as on yourself.

Those whose mentality is better than that of a normal 3-year-old child will be able to do these tests with few mistakes.

The person giving the test should give the child being tested directions similar to the following, being sure that the tests are heard and understood before concluding that the child cannot do them.

1. "Show me your nose."
2. "Show me your eyes."
3. "Show me your mouth."
4. "Show me your hair."
5. "What is this called?" (What is the name of this?) or "What is this?" Show the child a key, penny, knife, watch, and pencil.
6. "Are you a little boy or little girl?"
7. "What is your name?" Have the child tell his last name.
8. Have the child repeat these sentences: "I have a little dog. The dog runs after the cat. In summer the sun is hot."

(Copyright by Science Service)

## A Thought

Grudge not against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned; behold, the judge standeth before the door.—Jas. 5:3.

**F**ULL jealousy! that turnest love divine to joyless dread, and maketh the loving heart with hateful thoughts to languish and pine.—Spenser.

### What Woke Ma Up

"Betty, John brought you home very late last night."  
"Yes, it was late, mother. Did the noise disturb you?"  
"No, dear, it wasn't the noise. It was the silence."—Cornell Widow.

## Heard in the Smoking Room

**W**E druggists," said a smoker whose clothes bore an aroma of iodine, "are supposed to do most anything as public servants. The other day a boy came into the store with some white powder in a paper."

her baking soda and wants you to taste it and tell her."  
"I put my tongue to the powder and said, 'I should say that it's soda.'"  
"Hi! Ho!" said the boy. "It's one on Dad again. He says he's bin poisoning me with it."  
"Yes, I washed my tongue then."

## INVENTOR IS AFTER GOLD OF PIRATES

Man, '90 Years Young', Gets Financial Backing for Expedition.

By N.E.A. Service  
"I'd ninety bars of gold, as I said, as I said. I'd ninety bars of gold, as I said, as I said. It's ninety bars of gold, as I said, as I said. With riches uncounted, as I said."

**L**EWISTON, Maine, Feb. 18.—This was the song of none other than Captain Kidd himself.

And now comes along Moses King, Jr., styling himself "ninety years young," who says he knows where some of those ninety bars of gold are buried and he's planning to search for them with a device of his own manufacture.

Just as soon as the snows and the ice are gone from the Sheepscot River, King will start out on his expedition to grapple for the chest of gold, which he says is embedded in the river bed.

### Joined Expedition

When King was a lad of 20 he joined his father's expedition up the same stream and for a similar purpose. With them went Jeremiah Trask, an old friend of the family. Trask claimed his great-grandfather had been a buccaneer with the real Capt. William Kidd, the Scotman who was executed in London in 1701 for piracy.

Trask told his friend King his great-grandfather even helped Captain Kidd hide some of the valuable loot in the very same Sheepscot River, not far from the village of Wiscasset.

The buccaneer Trask had willed to the fourth generation charts, maps and diagrams showing the location in the Sheepscot River of the buried loot.

The story goes on to tell how after repeated trips made up the stream from Wiscasset in the sloop "Glory" by Moses King, Sr., Trask, a professional diver named MacGregor and young King, then a lad of 20, the party finally came across a sort of chest which they believed to be that of the notorious Captain Kidd.

### Remembers Experience

But let King finish the story: "I was just 20 at the time," he says. "I remember the experience as if yesterday had been the day it happened. "One morning shortly after sunrise as we were raising the anchor of the sloop 'Glory' to the cathedral, MacGregor, the diver, noticed on one of the flukes a box-like affair resembling an old chest.

"A chest it was, and we firmly believed it to be Captain Kidd's very own. It was without a doubt the same one MacGregor had found in the mud a week before but which he had been unable to extract. But the thing was apparently so very heavy and so poorly attached to the anchor that suddenly it fell off and splashed into the river again with a terrific thud. That was the last we ever saw of it."

### Never Found It

"Though we stayed about that spot for weeks, night and day, working and even went back on expeditions year after year we never found that chest again."

At dinner one evening last year King told this story to a Portland banker. He was fascinated by it and said he would finance another expedition up the Sheepscot River to look for Captain Kidd's treasure chest.

King, who had long been working on a grappling device, borrowed enough money to complete his invention and it is with this device he, his banker friend and a party of historians of New England will start up the Sheepscot River in April.

And some day, perhaps, this old lawyer-author-explorer may find his dream of childhood come true.

## Science

A comparison of ants, bees and wasps shows the influence of foods on form of life. Science holds these three are at bottom blood brothers, children of an insect eating all kinds of food in diet the ants have followed their parents' footsteps. The bees became vegetarians, and the wasps meat eaters.

Hunger turns the meat-eating wasps into bandits. They attempt to raid beehives, forgetting the old family tie. The bees usually succeed in driving off the free booters. Then, the wasps loiter around the hive. Some bees, laden with honey, are tired, and stop a minute to rest before entering the hive. Such a bee the waiting wasp will pounce upon, and sever its body between thorax and abdomen. The wasp bears away the honey-laden abdomen, meat, honey and all as a complete meal.

## Animal Facts

Years ago, when horses were dirt-cheap, ranchers up in the Columbia River country near Bend, Oregon, turned their extra Dobbins loose. They shifted for themselves in the mountains. They have increased so mightily in the wild State that the neighbors are talking of hunting them to death as a nuisance.

A neighboring housecat hunted New York Zoo for rabbits, hare and other small exhibition animals so successfully it killed of the meat and ate only the brains of its victims.

Oddest, most interesting bird on this continent, the flamingo has left the United States. His last refuge was Florida, but the milliners got him for his beautiful scarlet all-over plumage. He has legs like bean poles. Two colonies of the flamingo still exist in the Bahamas, sixty miles across the Gulf Stream from Florida. Millions of their swam African lakes.

After becoming almost extinct, "refugees" in Louisiana have saved this snow-plumed bird and that State is now said to have 30,000 pairs of them.

### Her Auto Policy

"Do you ever allow a man to kiss you when you're out motoring with him?"  
"Never. If a man can drive safely while kissing me he's not giving the kiss the attention it deserves."—Kansas City.

## 'Now See What He Went and Done'



## 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. Including 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. Unassigned requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor.

**What is the electric fleet?**  
This term is applied to a group of six United States battleships which are driven by electricity. The battleships are equipped with large steam-driven dynamos which generate electricity. The electricity goes to large electric motors, specially designed for this purpose, which are directly connected with the propeller shafting.

**How are artificial diamonds made?**  
By dissolving carbon in molten iron. This is cast in a mold and when the exterior has solidified the mass is suddenly cooled by a stream of water. The outer part contracts and greatly compresses the interior, and part of the carbon separates out, and crystallizes as diamond.

**How are electric light globes on the ceilings of theater replaced?**  
By the use of a long pole with a clamp on one end to hold the bulb.

**Is there any place in the United States where it rains only once a year?**  
Generally speaking, no. However, Death Valley, California, has been known to experience only one shower of rain in a year.

**What are the proper refreshments to serve at a dance?**  
The hostess should always provide punch, as dancing creates thirst. Ice cream and cake or sandwiches and coffee are suitable.

**Is the phrase "on him and me" correct?**  
Yes. This is correct. On is a preposition followed by the objective case.

**What war was known as the opium war?**  
The war of 1840 between England and China. Opium was largely cultivated in India, and was introduced into China by English merchants in spite of the prohibition of the trade by the Chinese government. England came to the aid of her merchants, and the infamous treaty was forced upon the weaker country.

**What causes such dense fogs in London?**  
London fog is not really fog but smoke held in suspension by mist. The combination of mist and smoke gives the appearance of dense fog; however, if the smoke were cut off there would be no heavier fog than is to be found anywhere.

**Are dimes, nickels, quarters, half dollars and pennies legal tender for the payment of debt?**  
Dimes, quarters and half dollars are legal tender for amounts not exceeding \$10 in any one payment. Nickels and pennies are legal tender to the extent of 25 cents.

**What is the difference between thoroughbred and purebred?**  
Thoroughbred is a term applied to running horses, meaning one descendant of a noted line kept pure through generations. Pure-bred is a term applied to stock bred of parents, both of whom are registered with some international stock association.

**What famous persons committed suicide?**  
Cato, Themistocles, Cleopatra, Mark Antony, Zeno, Hannibal, Saul and Judas.

**What is the largest picture in the world?**  
Constructing your question to mean ornamental painting, it is said that "Paradise," by Titoretto, is the largest. It is eighty-four feet wide and thirty-three and one-half feet high; it is now in the Doge's Palace, Venice.

**On what verses of the Bible do the Roman Catholics base their doctrine of the celibacy of the priesthood?**  
As we understand it, celibacy has no doctrinal bearing in the Roman Catholic Church but is regarded as purely a disciplinary law, though of prime importance in maintaining the character and dignity of the priest.

## What Editors Are Saying

(Lake County Times)

Home stills still still because fools fool fools.

### Easy

(Decatur Daily Democrat)

The Democratic editors in session at Indianapolis should have had no difficulty in finding sufficient things to "view with alarm" to make their resolutions as interesting as the average platform and perhaps more so.

### Small

(Marion Leader Tribune)

A real small town is one in which a man can find nothing to do when his wife is away.

### Discrimination

(Richmond Item)

One of the new taxes imposed for highway funds has already been declared illegal. What about the tax on gasoline?

The constitution of our State plainly and explicitly declares that all taxes imposed in Indiana shall apply equally to all persons. But the gasoline tax does just as clearly and just as positively make a discrimination.

The new law does not say that all users of gasoline shall pay the two-cent tax. On the contrary, it directs that the tax shall be refunded to all persons who use it for any other purpose than automobiles or motor trucks.

How is the Supreme Court going to interpret that? If there's any way of declaring the tax legal, as against the very simple and very positive rule in our State Constitution, law must indeed be a very queer and amazing thing. Why hasn't the case been pushed before the Supreme Court?

## Tongue Tips

Dr. W. H. P. Faunce, president Brown University: "The world waits upon the church. It is the time of the church's great opportunity. Never before has it been so real, so vital, to all the people."

Ida Clyde Clarke, assistant editor Pictorial Review: "Uncle Sam needs a wife. If women did their housekeeping in as wasteful and extravagant manner as Uncle Sam runs his government, and judge in the city would give their husbands divorces."

Edward Young Clarke, imperial knight of the KKK: "I am bitterly opposed to the Klan system of espionage, character assassination and intimidation, in use against Klan members and those outside the Klan. It is bad enough inside the Klan. Outside, it is unjustified and un-American."

Emile Coue, the "better-and-better" Frenchman: "It is not will power that is the first quality in man. It is imagination. There are many persons who are sick, blind and paralyzed because they think they are."

Mrs. Walter Kirtan, Nairobi, British East Africa: "Coffee trees are much like cherry trees. The growth and fruit are the same and we speak of 'coffee cherries.' The trees are pruned at a height which allows the 'cherries' on the top to be within the reach of a man's hand. Every grain of coffee in the world is picked by hand."

Dr. Marion L. Burton, president University of Michigan: "Americans today need most of all to develop spines. Too many of us have lost the inner standards of right and wrong. People ask themselves what others are doing, not what is right."

Dr. Alexander Meiklejohn, college professor: "Teachers may be described as third-rate minds, but that does not say they are second to plumbers and brokers."

Dr. Herbert S. Langford, Harvard University: "I am skeptical about the intelligence test as a yardstick to measure the capacities of incoming students. Every day we see men succeed in the practical affairs of life whose intelligence we would not classify as high. Usually they have a large endowment of determination, patience, enlightenment, without, will power."

## 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.

### Home Brew 'Cartoonists'

To the Editor of The Times  
As a result of a round of the valentine shops I noted absence of the mass of horrid comics that formerly prevailed, and it was with great pleasure I also noted the works of art that are so rapidly replacing them in recent years, showing the trend of public feeling.

However, I wish to say that I do not understand why both the home brew and foreign humorous cartoonists still persist in inflicting their horrible pictures upon us day after day. It is not the helpless public's fault, surely.

AN OBSERVER.

### Oil Investigation

To the Editor of The Times  
"Action Camera" is the slogan of Hollywood, but "Action Senate" is the slogan of the United States. Yes, action is what the people want and not so much hunting for political ammunition.

What started as an investigation of oil leases has turned into a fight as to which party can most implicate the other.

Much ridicule has been given to the "Einstein Theory," but it is the most simple thing on earth compared to the investigation the Senate is making in the oil deal. Unless sudden developments occur, both the political parties will be subject to disappointment in the future election.

S. P. W.

1810 Montclair St.

### Helping Blind

To the Editor of The Times  
Concerning your editorial, "School for the Blind," I wish to say our international institute can, at a very small expense to the people, provide a department in which the blind can be educated in such a way as will enable each blind person who is sound in mind and more than 18 years of age, and who will utilize the information they receive in our senior departments, to care