

# The Indianapolis Times

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## SOFT FOR CAR COMPANY

ROBERT I. TODD, president of the Indianapolis Street Railway Company, and Taylor E. Groninger, corporation counsel for the city, with the assistance of a few other individuals, staged a little vaudeville skit before the public service commission Thursday. It was for the "benefit" of the public.

The car company and city representative appeared in almost perfect harmony.

Groninger made emphatic the "miserable condition" of the car company property. Todd agreed with him.

The answer, Todd brought out, is higher fares.

"That's what I think, Mr. Todd," Groninger remarked, and that was about all there was to it.

In other words, everybody simply went through the motions of holding a hearing. The company presented its carefully prepared exhibits in rapid fire order.

Groninger asked question of car company witnesses which brought out the "crying necessity" for higher fares. Very little was said about efficient or inefficient operation.

Perhaps the company does need more money. But certainly, the undisputed testimony presented to the commission would convince no one, either one way or the other. It was an investigation in form only.

Pretty soft for the car company! It wasn't even required to make a case.

## LUDENDORFF'S ACQUITTAL

A WAVE of jubilation sweeps Germany. General Ludendorff who, with Adolph Hitler, last year attempted a "putsch," or revolution, calculated to restore German monarchists to power, has been acquitted of treason.

Press reports say the trial was a farce, and while Hitler was given five years, all hands seem to agree he will be amnestied and released in less than six months.

Patently guilty because caught red-handed, the two men have never been considered in Germany as other than national heroes. As traitors, never. And had they been condemned to death, or even if long sentences had been imposed, their followers would have risen and torn their prisons stone from stone.

Ludendorff correctly gauged the situation when, in a grandiloquent speech during his trial, he lauded himself as "the victor of Tannenburg," and warned his judges that they, not he, "stood before the judgment of history." And "history," he reminded them, "does not send men who fought for the fatherland to a fortress, but to Valhalla!"

Striking a theatrical attitude, correspondents tell us, he boldly told the judges after the verdict that he considered the whole proceeding, arrest, trial and acquittal, "an affront to this uniform and the insignia of honor upon it."

Whoever thinks Germany learned a lesson in the last war, would do well to study the Ludendorff-Hitler trial at Munich, the atmosphere surrounding it and the feeling it aroused.

The German army was not beaten in the war, Ludendorff and his followers continue religiously to believe, but, as the general exclaimed at his trial, that "it was crowned with everlasting fame."

"Something slipped"—that's why Germany didn't win. And uppermost in heart and soul and mind of virtually every German today is a yearning for a new "Der Tag" when that "slip" can be remedied.

## THE NEW ATTORNEY GENERAL

SO far as the personal character and professional record of Harlan F. Stone has been disclosed up to now, there is no reason why the Senate should not confirm him as Attorney General of the United States. The sooner the better, so that he may get on the job and get busy.

The country has been without a department of justice in the real sense of the term for from three to seven years. The Department of Injustice would be a more proper designation for the Daugherty outfit.

The country, outside of a very narrow New York circle, knows little or nothing about Stone. Without being captiously critical, it has right to expect of him the very highest quality of public service to establish the great office of Attorney General in public confidence.

The forced resignation of Daugherty was only the beginning of the thorough job of house cleaning which is needed and which must be done in the Department of Justice.

If the new Attorney General is as wise and big as he should be, he will welcome the assistance of the Wheeler committee in the housecleaning job.

The committee has made a good start, but it is only a start, and it would be nothing less than a public calamity if it did not continue its work with renewed energy and aggressiveness.

This will be no reflection whatever on the new Attorney General, as he, of course, is in no way responsible for the foul mess that he has inherited. If Mr. Stone does not welcome the committee's assistance it will be an indication of his unwisdom and littleness, which will make the committee's continued efforts all the more necessary.

**EXTRA!** Greece a republic again. (The Times takes no responsibility for the truth of this item tomorrow.)

WAYNE WHEELER says the Anti-Saloon League does not control Congress and perhaps he is right. Congress is a trifl too wild for that.

ENGLAND'S labor government has been in power a little over a month and has violated all the union laws by working fourteen hours a day.

IT IS explained that "Apples" in those private McLean telegrams referred to Fall, it being recognized, no doubt, that he was a pippin.

IT IS stated that it would cost \$5,000,000,000 to wipe out all the grade crossings in the country, but that would be a comparatively small price to pay for making them fool proof.

SO, THEY'RE thinking of reducing taxes, just as we were getting used to the income tax, the gasoline tax, the luxury tax, the property tax, the school tax, the road tax, the dog tax, the city tax, and the movie tax. But if they really want to lift the burden, they might remove that movie tax.

## DEATH OF EX-SOLDIER BARES SEX

As Man, Girl Fought for Cause of Irish Republic.

By NEA Service  
CLEVELAND, April 4.—"Frank" O'Brien isn't answering the buzzer in the big ward at Huron Road Hospital any more. The slender, boyish looking orderly is dead.

But "Frank's" secret did not die. Death only revealed it.

"Mr." O'Brien was a girl.

### Irish Soldier

The "Irish Republic" scarcely had come into being when Mary O'Brien, still in her teens, quit her classes in a convent school, shone her tresses, donned male attire and ran off to join the Republican forces.

It was only when she was wounded her sex was disclosed. But they let her stay as a nurse.

The "Black and Tans," though, were on her trail. She skipped out for America. In Philadelphia, she found a home at her uncle's house.

But things in the Quaker City were a bit too tame, she determined to be a movie actress.

She donned boy's clothes, started for Hollywood, though it was mid-winter. When the train pulled into the yards here, she was nearly frozen.

### Landed Man's Job

She had no trouble in landing an orderly's job at Huron Road Hospital. One night when she reported for duty, the nurses noticed her face was pale and drawn. She had contracted pneumonia.

Mary lived just three days after that. To the last she refused to tell the names of any relatives. So they buried her in Potter's Field.

By chance, her uncle, George Moran, learned of her death. He had the body exhumed and sent to Philadelphia.

There the little patriot has found rest at last.

## TOM SIMS -! -! Says

Reckless drivers should steer clear of ambulances because they will ride in one themselves some day.

Show your garden seeds according to directions or you will be sowing the seeds of discontent.

If your memory is bad, you can improve it by trying to learn all the new soft drink names.

Haircuts are so high now it almost pays to be a musician or a poet.

The hot summer months are coming. A practical hot weather costume in a bathtub full of water.

A summer resort is a place where the mosquitoes start in about dark just when the flies quit work.

There is a big crop of fried chicken this spring.

If you are well bred, you will buy your new straw lid instead of getting it in a restaurant.

## A Thought

We know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully.—1 Tim. 1:8.

LAWS can discover sin, but not remove.—Milton.

## McLachran's DAILY POEM

### Combinations

HERE are many combinations that the world knows mighty well. What I mean is, things we mention in duet. And they come in close relations; just for instance, let us tell of a line of combinations we can get. Ham and eggs are surely listed in the places where you eat and you'll also find the famous pork and beans. Many years they have existed and stood forth as quite a treat and have caused you to bring money from your jeans.

Then there's liver with its bacon that we all have heard about. And the well-known dish of beef and cabbage, too. Where's the man who has not taken cakes and sausages? There's no doubt that mere bread and milk have oft appealed to you.

Steak and onions are a winner that is always bound to please, and another dish that's sure to hit you right is the spare ribs and its sauerkraut, or the bite of pie and cheese, that you eat before you go to bed at night.

Now there may be many dishes that I've left out of this list which are prominent at morning, noon and night. But, with these, my little wish is that the aim in mind's not missed and those mentioned give you all an appetite.

When did palmistry originate?

The origin of palmistry is not known definitely. It is known to have been practiced thousands of years ago in the Chaldeans, Assyrians, Egyptians and Hebrews.

When is the moon new?

Popularly the moon is said to be new when it is seen as a thin crescent. The almanacs, however, use a different and more exact definition of new moon; namely, the instant when sun and moon have the same longitude. At this time the moon is so near the sun as to be quite invisible.

This definition is in accordance with astronomical usage.

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## Fellowship of Prayer

Daily Lenten Bible reading and meditation prepared for Commission on Evangelism of Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

FRIDAY  
By Their Fruits

Read Mt. 12:31-37. Text: 12:33.

For the tree is known by its fruit.

"The best thing about a piece of work well done is that it registers itself in the personality of the man who does it, and he goes forward fit for a more important task than he would be fit for if he had left a slow piece of work behind him. If he does his work well he lives under the great law of enlarging opportunity."

MEDITATION: Some try to camouflage the poverty of their spiritual life and lack of moral principle by smooth talk and occasional generous deeds. They may succeed for a time in deceiving others, but in the long run such efforts result in failure, for the pretender will forget his pose and his own inner life will stand revealed in all its poverty and insincerity. But greatness of heart and honesty of purpose are self-revealing.

PERSONAL QUESTION: What growth do I detect in my personal life as fruit of the spirit of Christ?

PRAYER: Our Heavenly Father, we pray that our souls may be like well watered gardens. Give us a hearty will to bring forth fruit pleasing to Thee. May we not be contented with the good but ever seek the best, through the indwelling of Thy spirit. Amen.

(Copyright, 1924—F. L. Fagley)

## MATTER IS NOT SOLID, BUT 'ALIVE'

Molecules in All Substance in Continuous State of Vibration.

By DAVID DIETZ  
Science Editor of The Times

Copyright by David Dietz

T HE physicist has two remarkable facts about molecules equally as astounding at first glance as the fact that the diameter of a molecule is on the average one one-hundred-and-twenty-five-millionth of an inch.

The first fact is that there is in reality no such thing as "solid" matter.

So-called solid matter is not made up of molecules piled tightly together like the bricks which make up a wall. All matter is porous in that there are spaces between the molecules.

A simple experiment proves this. If a piece of gold is placed in a pool of mercury, the gold will absorb some of the mercury just as a sponge absorbs water. What has happened is that molecules of mercury have made their way into the open spaces between the molecules of gold.

### No Inert Matter

The second interesting fact is that there is no such thing as inert matter from the molecular viewpoint. There is an old phrase "dead as a doornail." But in the figurative sense of considering motion as life, the doornail is very much "alive." The physicist knows that the billions of molecules which compose the nail are in continuous and ceaseless motion or vibration.

The same is true of all matter in existence. The molecules are in a continuous state of vibration.

It is this vibration which accounts for the temperature of a body. As the rate of vibration increases, the temperature of the body increases.

In a solid, the molecules have fixed positions. They do not touch each other and they are continuously vibrating. But each molecule seems to stick to its own sphere.

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The molecules of a steel bar have so great an attraction that it takes a force of hundreds of tons to pull some steel bars into pieces.

In a liquid the molecules do not adhere to specific positions. They adhere to some extent but are free to move about each other at random.

A very beautiful experiment illustrates the molecular motion in liquids. If very fine particles of matter are placed in a liquid and then watched under a microscope, the particles will be seen to dart about violently like billiard balls knocked about on a billiard table.

Physicians have demonstrated that these movements, called Brownian movements after the scientist who first observed them, are caused by collision of the particles with the molecules of a liquid.

TRAVELS IN ALL DIRECTIONS

In a gas, the molecules apparently exercise no hold on each other at all. That is why the slightest bit of gas let loose in a room immediately spreads throughout the room. The molecules travel out in all directions.

Each molecule of the air we breathe is traveling faster than a rifle bullet. But it collides with another molecule every twenty-thousandth of an inch and is turned from its course five billion times a second by such collisions.

IF WE KEEP IN MIND THE MOLECULAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN GASES, LIQUIDS, SOLIDS AND THE STOCK MARKET, WE CAN SEE THAT TEMPERATURE DEPENDS UPON MOLECULAR MOTION, WE CAN SEE WHY HEATING A SOLID TURNs IT LIQUID AND THEN GASEOUS AND ALSO WHY GASES AND LIQUIDS CAN BE FROZEN INTO SOLDIERS.

Next article in series: Discovery of the Electron.

## Family Fun

Work Nothing

Archie's deaf mother was paying them a visit and her affliction greatly impressed the little fellow. As he and his small sister were getting ready for bed, he remarked: "Isn't it awful to be deaf, Nancy? Just think of having to wash your ears every day and never getting any good out of them at all!"

—Boston Transcript.