

The Indianapolis Times

EARL E. MARTIN, Editor-in-Chief ROY W. HOWARD, President
ALBERT W. BUHRMAN, Editor WM. A. MAYBORN, Bus. Mgr.

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A BANG-UP NAVY OR NONE

IT'S a mighty gloomy picture they are painting of our Navy. First Admiral Coontz says it. Then William B. Shearer, former special expert with the Navy Department. And after them, the first naval officer you meet.

Recently, says the admiral, when the fleet arrived off Panama for maneuvers, the light cruisers, store ships, destroyer tenders, colliers, tugs, repair ships, sea planes, lighter-than-air craft and miscellaneous auxiliaries were missing.

They had not been able to keep up.

After maneuvers started, it was found that even the snail's pace of ten knots an hour could not be maintained by the fleet formation owing to the slowness of certain units. Speed had to be reduced to something approximating a brisk walk.

Nor was that all. Submarine behavior proved that our under-sea craft are more dangerous to our own boys who man them than to the "enemy." Obsolete in design, lacking in ventilation, unreliable and deficient in speed, for fighting purposes they are virtually so much junk.

As to destroyers, we are not so badly off, compared with Britain and Japan. But even these are handicapped for lack of destroyer leaders. Ours number exactly zero as against Britain's eighteen, Italy's eight and France's seven.

We are lacking in proper air-craft carriers, mine sweepers, mine-sweeping gear and mines.

We are lacking in fast light cruisers of 10,000 tons and thereabouts. In fact, we haven't one. Britain has six and Japan four. In the 3,000 to 8,000 ton class, we have ten ships—like the Richmond—and these are good; but Britain has thirty-five and Japan twenty-three, so we are again outclassed.

We lack destroyer tenders, submarine tenders and unarmored auxiliaries capable of keeping up with the fleet.

A chain is no stronger than its weakest link, and Mr. Shearer is not far off when he says that instead of the ratio of our strength being what the Washington conference said it should be—Britain, five; America, five, and Japan, 3—it is nearer Britain, five; Japan, three, and America, one.

What Admiral Coontz, Mr. Shearer and other experts are saying will open the eyes of the country. We hope it will do as much for Congress.

The country hears much of crack ships like the Colorado, with her 32,600 tons of sleekness and her race horse speed. And a lot is said of bullseyes scored at 30,000 yards and of world's records made at target practice. And we go away with the comfortable feeling that our Navy is "the best on earth."

Well, it isn't. What's the good of bullseyes at 30,000 yards if other navies can score them at 35,000 yards—which is the case? In the event of war we could not get close enough to the other navies to score any bullseyes.

Our Navy must be as good as the best. Unless it is, then it is worse than none at all. It becomes a highly dangerous and mighty expensive luxury, a needless challenge to other and more powerful fleets which could send us to the bottom in a day.

It's up to Congress to remedy this disgraceful, if not actually menacing, situation.

AN IMPOSSIBLE IMPOSSIBILITY

THE husband with the American home is that the modern husband expects his Penelope to be a Cleopatra, too," declares Mrs. Walter Ferguson, exponent of women's editorial views.

It is a terrible indictment of the modern husband and somebody should say something for his reform. A Penelope-Cleopatra wife the aspiration of the modern husband? Let us deliberate.

As we recall matters of youthful days when a long-whiskered professor scorned our grasp of ancient history, Mrs. Penelope virtuously awaited the return of her husband for many years, occupying herself with knitting socks, rearing a fine boy and holding at bay some dozen of eager suitors, who were finally shot up by her returned husband without asking many questions. Mr. Penelope found his house in perfect order, wife knitting vigorously and virtuously, fresh paper on the pantry shelf, warm biscuit in the bread box, coal in the bin, rugs cleaned, son's ears washed, and everything. His was a wife to be clung to by any husband, modern or 'way back. But, how in blazes can any modern husband conceive of a composite of such a wife and Cleopatra? Mrs. Cleopatra never worked or kept house a little bit. She passed her time sailing around, in a mere sample of a kimono, on the Nile, with seven large blacks fanning the flies off her and six immodest maids seeing to it that the kimono didn't interfere with the public view. She married her own brother and took up with Anthony, Caesar and other Roman high-ups as fast as they came along.

Verily, in those old days, as in our own era, there never has been a husband who believed he could have, or who wanted to have a wife who, morally, both knitted and flattered, as a habit. The modern husband who could vision such a composite is just one of the idiots who sit up nights to figure on what would happen should an irresistible force run against an immovable object. That's that!

Tom Sims Says:

Other Editors

New Plaza Idea

Speaking of the plan to demolish churches now standing on that World War Memorial plaza at Indianapolis, just what provision has been made in the memorial building itself for a chapel or for a place for religious or sacred services fitted to such a memorial structure? And is it not possible so to remodel or adapt existing church buildings, if remodeling is necessary, as to fit them into the general scheme of the memorial plaza?—Lafayette Journal and Courier.

One Explanation

Comfort is the prevailing note of the spring fashions. The younger generation must be getting old.—Clinton Clintonian.

Maybe

McAdoo is still a candidate for the presidential nomination on the Democratic ticket. Did we say "still"? Yes, very still.—Alexandria Times-Tribune.

One Way to Look at It

One nice thing about being a candidate, even if you are not elected to office, is that one has such a fine opportunity to get acquainted with the people and find out how many folks promised the other candidate to vote for him—and did it.—Logansport Pharos-Tribune.

Let Us Sing

We will sing the little ballad entitled: "She was only a livery man's daughter, but she was well liked by all the employees."—Middlebury Blue Baboon.

INDIANS ARE FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES

Battle Conducted by Aborigines Against Death, Dope and Settlers.

By ROY J. GIBBONS
NEA Service Writer

SANTA FE, N. M., May 3.—Pueblo Indians of New Mexico are nearing the end of the trail.

Members of the oldest civilization extant in America are now battling for life against a combination of desperate odds.

Great stretches of cultivated lands they claim are occupied by white settlers.

Numerous diseases are taking great toll.

And dope, bought by factors that claim to use it for religious and medicinal purposes, has brought on the added peril of internal strife.

According to estimates obtained from reliable sources, half of New Mexico's Pueblo Indians are afflicted with a disease of the eyes, while many are victims of tuberculosis.

Most Babies Die

Infant mortality among the race is also high.

Says Mrs. Francis C. Wilson, president of the State board of health and child welfare:

"During the summer months in some of the Pueblo villages practically



PUEBLO MOTHER AND CHILD

all of the Indian babies are expected to die.

"This is a deplorable situation over which the State has no control since the Pueblo are wards of the Government.

"Most Indian mothers know nothing about infant dietetics and many of them feed their year-old babies on chile, watermelon and corn."

Investigators believe this health problem among the Pueblos to be paramount to the legislation now being agitated in Congress to reclaim great stretches of Pueblo land and water rights now in possession of white settlers.

At one time the Pueblos held title to some 300,000 acres of land.

Part of this was given them during days of the Spanish sovereignty.

Other tracts were purchased outright by the Pueblos, or else were confiscated upon them by Congress.

Land Is Taken

Today the Pueblos, who number slightly in excess of 8,500 members, claim that practically all but 17,000 acres of the 20,000 acres in their original holdings susceptible of cultivation, have been taken from them.

The Pueblos charge that most of this lost irrigable land passed from their hands in an illegal manner.

They are now petitioning Congress for restoration of their former property, and, in event such return is impossible, want the Federal Government to compensate them for its loss by building ditches to irrigate their lands not now under cultivation.

Some 5,000 white and Mexican settlers are affected by the controversy.

The Indians claim that these settlers in most instances should be ousted from their lands.

But attorneys for the settlers maintain that fully 80 per cent of their clients are holding former Indian land in good faith, and that the Indians were paid for these lands generations ago, before New Mexico became a part of the United States.

What might be likened to a separationist movement is afoot in many of the Pueblo villages.

Smokes

Americans use 140 cigarettes for every 100 used in 1922, judging by factory output.

Cigars and pipe tobacco continue slumping steadily.

The cigaret, made "respectable" by the war, is our national smoke. Fifty cigarettes a month are being manufactured for every man, woman and child in our country.

Congressman Would Indict All Cities Named for Once

Enemy Nations.

Times Staff Correspondent
132 New York Ave.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—And now Congress is asked to investigate the whole United States for treason! Page W. J. Burns' representative John F. Miller of Seattle, Wash., has uncovered the most gigantic plot against 10 per cent Americans never conceived.

Miller has disclosed to Congress that there are States, cities and counties in the Union named for British nobility who fought against the United States!

That there are hundreds of places in the West with names of Spanish origin, in spite of the fact that Spain was once at war with this country and for many years previous had oppressed peoples now American citizens!

Patriotic Horror

That there are even towns here with names distinctly and unmistakably German in their origin!

Therefore he raises his voice in patriotic horror and calls on Congress to appoint a committee to immediately investigate geographical nomenclature in the United States and recommend new names for all those places that can't show unsullied and honorable American derivation.

The trouble started over Mt. Rainier. Some one discovered that the mountain was named for Admiral Peter Rainier to the British navy, who once fought against the United States. Miller says even more glaring examples of disloyalty in nomenclature remain unchallenged.

Ach Hemmell and Caramba

He particularly objects to these: Georgia, Virginia, Maryland, Baltimore, Bradflock, Mount Vernon, Easton, Georgetown and Norfolk, named for British nobility. San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Jose, Santa Barbara, San Diego, San Joaquin, Los Alamos, Saint Augustine, all of Spanish origin. (Sacramento) Caramba!

And these: Germantown, Bismarck, Bremen, New Munich, Kaiser, Schleswig, Metz, Berlin, undoubtedly of German origin! (Ach Hemmell)

He would have a committee of ten members investigate the United States, Philippine Islands and Canal Zone and find new names for all of these places within eight months.

Ask The Times

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to the Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 132 New York Ave., Washington, D. C., inclosing 2 cents in stamp for reply. Medical legal and medical questions will be given preference. All other questions will receive a personal answer. Unsigned requests cannot be answered. Unsigned requests cannot be answered.

What is the correct way to pronounce the word Lyric? Ly-rik—short sound of i; accent on first syllable.

To which State does the Wabash River belong?

That part which flows in Indiana belongs to this State. If a river divides two States each owns to the middle of the river bed, except where the Government gave a State title to a river before the adjoining territory became a State.

Did Harold Lloyd really climb the building in "Safety Last?" Ask Harold Lloyd, Hollywood, Calif.

How did the celebration of May Day originate?

There is no reason for believing that the celebration of May Day is a survival of the rites which were offered on May 1 to the Roman deity, Mala, goddess of Spring and Fertility. The actual basis of May Day seems to have been the Roman Flora, celebrated April 28 to May 3, and instituted at Rome in the year 238 B. C., on account of a bad harvest. Flora, to whom the feast was consecrated, was also Goddess of Fertility as well as of flowers. She is generally represented as wearing a wreath of flowers.

Is there any verse in the Bible that states illegitimate children will be damned?

No; but in the twenty third verse of the second chapter of Deuteronomy it says they shall not be admitted to the "Congregation." The explanation of "congregation" given by a Bible commentary is that it meant either admission to office or public honors in church or state, or in case of foreigners, incorporation with the nation by marriage.

Why are leases limited to nine-nine years; why not an even hundred years?

The limit of ninety-nine years in a lease would seem to be connected with a somewhat arbitrary estimate of 100 years as the probable extreme duration of the life of man. Leases for years are in their attributes, evolution and history, a sort of middle term between an estate for life and a tenancy at will. For this reason a period a little short of the duration of the life of man was devised, so that the lessor might reasonably build or lay out money on the property.

What is an internal combustion engine?

One which obtains its power by the combustion or explosion of fuel in the cylinder. The gas employed may be a fixed gas, or the vapor produced from ether, alcohol, gasoline, petroleum oil, naphtha, etc. These engines are divided into three classes. (1) Gas engines, those in which fixed gases, such as producer gas, are used—usually stationary. (2) Oil engines, those using oil, either in the form of a spray or the vapor of oil, or when the oil is heated—usually stationary. (3) Gasoline engines in which the vapor of gasoline or other volatile liquids used in automobiles, launches, etc. In these three classes of engines the air and gases in the cylinder are compressed and then exploded by a direct flame, (old style) a hot tube, or an electric spark, the cylinder being either air or water cooled.

Gossip, though, was spreading. The officials at last took notice.

The judge of the juvenile court, it happened, once was one of Aunt Mimi's employers. He arranged to have "Sidney Lanier," as Aunt Mimi had christened the boy, taken in the Waldo Burton Memorial Hall of the Carrollton Avenue Orphan Boys' Home.

What is the fortieth wedding anniversary?

The ruby wedding.

Nobody's told him yet that Aunt Mimi is dead. She died a few weeks after he was taken away from her.

Peace is the masterpiece of reason.

Johann Muller.

Faint heart ne'er won fria lady, but many a fat-head has.

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