

CHILD WELFARE WORK IN STATE WINS U. S. PRAISE

County System of Caring
for Dependents, However,
Is Criticized.

Times Washington Bureau.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—Indiana's system of taking care of dependent children through the child welfare department of the State board of charities is given high praise in a current bulletin of the children's bureau, Department of Labor.

But the Indiana county system of children's boards and homes is severely criticized. One of the features of the State welfare department which is praised is its activity in placing children in homes, and thereby decreasing the number in county homes.

The county home system which prevails in Indiana, Ohio and Connecticut has never been satisfactory in any of these three States," the statement said.

Indiana is also named as one of the twelve States which have no State children's home society.

"Ohio, Indiana and Connecticut county children's homes were supposed to be placing-out agencies," the bulletin says, "but the tendency has always been to accumulate the children in county homes and to minimize the placing-out work."

"Indiana has for many years had county boards of children's guardians which had a certain degree of responsibility for the care of the neglected and dependent children of the county."

Placing of children in family homes, after careful investigation and under careful supervision is recommended by the bureau.

CHURCH TO BE REPAIRED

Seventh Day Adventists Seek \$5,000—
Explosion Damaged Structure.

A drive will be started soon for a \$5,000 fund to repair the Seventh Day Adventist Church, Laurel and Orange sts., damaged in an explosion last Thursday, it has been announced by the Rev. H. A. Lukens, pastor. James Wheeler, church missionary leader, will be in charge.

GROWTH OF LODGE TOLD

Odd Fellows Order Holds Service on
107th Anniversary.

Growth of the Odd Fellows Lodge since its introduction in America 107 years ago, was told by the Rev. Fred A. Line, Central Universalist Church pastor, at anniversary services Sunday. Odd Fellows and Rebekahs attended in a body.

The Reverend Line, past noble grand and past chief patriarch of the order, said membership today is 2,674,456.

HOME MISSIONS TOPIC

National Manager Will Speak at
District Meeting.

Mrs. Daniel Stecker of Wilmette, Ill., national manager of Methodist Home Missionary work, will speak on Wednesday morning before the Women's Home Missionary Society of the Indianapolis district, at the Central Avenue M. E. Church.

Mrs. J. A. Shafer, president, will be in charge. Dr. Harry Andrews King, superintendent of the Indianapolis district, will lead the morning devotional service and Mrs. O. W. Pifer the afternoon.

LEAGUE WILL MEET

Young Methodists to Hold Rally on
Wednesday Night.

Fifty chapters of the Indianapolis district, Epworth League, representing 2,000 young Methodists, will hold a rally on Wednesday night at St. Paul's M. E. Church.

The Rev. Elmer Jones, pastor, will lead devotional services. De Pauw University trio will provide music. A silver cup will be awarded the chapter with the largest attendance.

WILL TALK ON CONGO

The Christian conquest in the Belgian Congo, Africa, will be described Thursday at Central Avenue M. E. Church by Mrs. John M. Springer, Methodist missionary, at a meeting of Women's Foreign Missionary Society of Indianapolis district of the Methodist church.

The unit having the largest number of representatives in proportion to membership will receive a \$15 prize.

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New Legion State Adjutant



John H. Klinger

The newly elected American Legion State adjutant is John H. Klinger. He succeeds Frank H. Henley, who resigned March 1 to accept the appointment as secretary of the Indiana World War Memorial Commission.

Prior to his election as adjutant Klinger was Legion State organization officer. Henley was presented by Legionnaires with a diamond ring and a past commander's badge, with four bars, representing his four years' service.

OIL OFFICERS COMING

Standard Heads Will Inspect Stations Here.

Eight officials of the Standard Oil Company (Indiana) will visit Indianapolis, Thursday and Friday, to inspect the company's stations, John C. Marshall, branch manager, announced today.

In the party will be Robert W. Stewart, directors' chairman; Dr. W. M. Burton, president; C. G. Seibert, secretary-treasurer; E. J. Bullock, director of purchases; T. J. Thompson, general sales manager; John D. Clark, vice president, and Amos Ball assistant manager.

SHE WANTED TO GET IN

Police Told Woman Smashed Two
Doors Trying to Enter Home.

"If at first you don't succeed, try again," probably was the thought of a woman who early Sunday attempted to enter the home of L. C. School, 22 W. Twentieth St. School said the woman knocked on the front door, broke the glass and then went to the rear door, where she followed the same procedure. He said she appeared to be under the influence of liquor and cut her hand when she smashed the glass. A woman's hat was the only clew, police said.

Zip, Famous Freak of Circus, Is Dead

Famed 'What Is It?' Introduced to Wondering Public 70
Years Ago by P. T. Barnum, Succumbs.

By Gene Cohn
NEA Service Writer

NEW YORK, April 26.—It hadn't occurred to the tent show folk that a "What-Is-It?" could die just like other humans in whose veins runs blood.

You see, Zip had been a freak for seventy years—but, well, he was human after all. Zip died Sunday.

But, then, Zip has always inspired this confusion in those who knew him best. Where did the freak leave off and the human begin?

The Barkers

The barkers in front of the side show have shouted:

"What is it? What is it? Man or monkey—the missing link?" they have chanted millions. Queen Victoria stopped to ponder, as did King Edward VII. Charles Dickens, smiling at the query put to him by the great Barnum, is said to have christened Zip.

The point is that hard-bolled showmen whose pores had fairly absorbed the tanbark, has accepted him as a freak, but as the years went on began to ponder, too. What was this strange little being with the egg-shaped head? They built legends about him. The topknot on Zip's egg-like head grew grayer, and began to whiten.

Things happened that were bound to be confusing—

Now Zip could inspire terror or rouse to hilarious mirth. Children in the gaping crowds would run and cry as Zip shrieked his inarticulate mumbblings, jumping up and down, baring his teeth and shaking the bearskin robe that covered his tiny brown form.... and, yet, the folk of the circus left him to play nursemaid to their children when they left the grounds. He was very fond of children.

But so is a dog, some said. Yes, there was something in this parallel.

A Hero

And there was the time down at Coney Island when Zip jumped into the surf and swam like a fish to rescue little Irene Reynolds. How to account for that! But so would a dog.

Then, there was the peculiar affection in which P. T. Barnum had held his freak.

Funny Zip died in a gray room at Bellevue Hospital just seventy years almost to the day that a drunken sailor, dragging a strange looking thing at the end of a rope, staggered up to Barnum and said he had a freak.

What Is It?

"What is it?" asked Barnum.

"Thash jus' the idea," said the sailor.

Whereupon Barnum set Zip up in his New York museum, gave him a hayloft to sleep in and admitted him to be one of his finest "curiosities."

Yet when Barnum died he left to the "What-Is-It?" a big strip of land on his Bound Brook, N. J., ranch. Here Zip would go in the winter season. The farm was looked after by a mulatto family named Johnson. Zip was given the inspiring name of William Henry Garfield Johnson. And since Zip was a "What-Is-It?" the court gave him a guardian.

At the death of Barnum this

guardianship fell to Captain O. K. White, veteran of the tanbark. That was in '91. White has been his manager and guardian ever since.

Meanwhile Zip had adopted the Johnston family as his own. There was a girl in the family and Zip looked upon her as a sister and supported her to the day of her death. Now, how to account for that?

Or for the friendship that grew between White and the "What-Is-It?" White, himself 76, had made a will leaving all to Zip and Zip's will, if such there be, probably leaves his estate to the man who taught him to utter the few words he can speak, to play the fiddle and do other stunts; the man who fed him and looked after him as one would a child—or, perhaps, a dog.

The Dean of Freaks

And there were displays of emotion. For instance, when Jo Jo, the dog-faced boy, died and Tom Thumb, a certain wild man of Borneo and a score of other freaks. Zip became a sense of this distinction. Then there was the time that Joe, the South Sea Islander, appeared with block-shaped head and walrus tusks on his robe. Zip was jealous and the two almost came to primitive battle. How could Zip know?

There were so many things upon which to build legend and myth.... these freaks sure are confusing, the showfolk admitted.

Meanwhile Zip was getting to be an old man.... something like 90. As though a "What-Is-It?" grew old. And yet, Zip was stricken, like any other human. Funny, his egg-shaped head lying on a white pillow; fever running through his brown body; doctors saying he would die.

Oh, well, that's the circus game—here today and gone tomorrow—freaks and humans alike.

But this Zip—he was different. He was a real "What-Is-It?"

What the devil was he, anyway?

NEW TURBINE MOTOR

Russian Student Designs Apparatus
in California.

By United Press

BERKELEY, Cal., April 26.—An internal combustion turbine engine which may be developed on a practical basis, has been designed by George Penkoff, Russian student in the mechanical laboratories of the University of California.

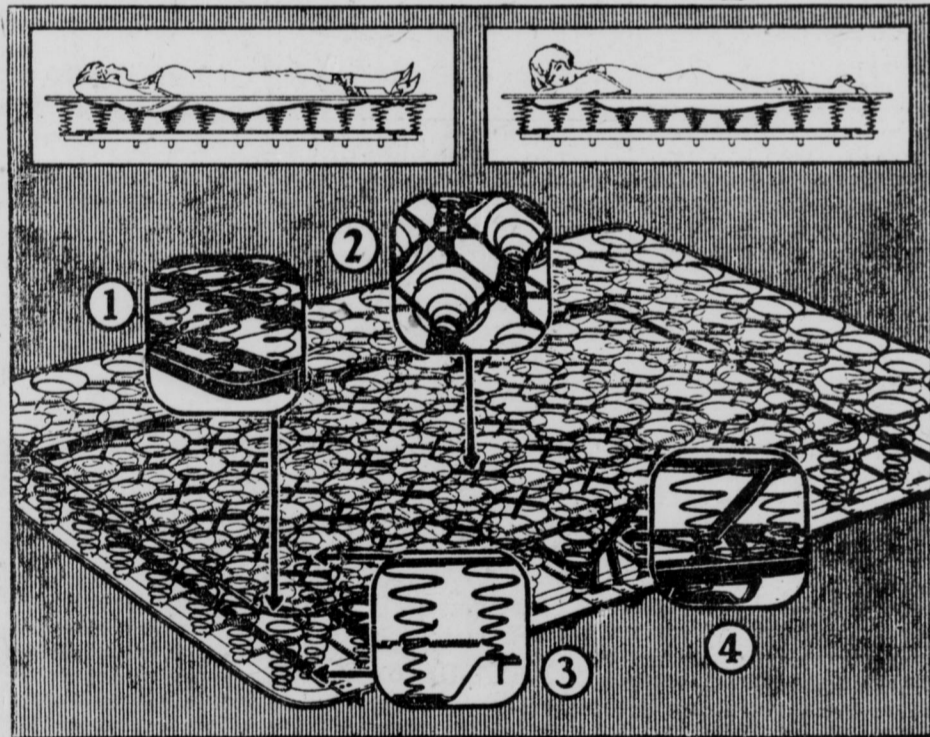
The apparatus consists of a combination of chambers in which charges are set off. Valves conduct the expanding gases to the revolving turbine unit, where they strike the vanes of the rotor.

Although in his experiments Penkoff used blasts from ordinary shot gun shells, he expects to substitute gasoline or some other fuel that would be commercially available.

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FOUR PERSONS BITTEN

Dogs Ordered Fenced Up for Observation.

Four dogs were penned up for observation today after four persons, three of whom were children, were bitten Saturday.

William Meyers Jr., 7, of 235 Penway St., was bitten on the right leg by a dog owned by Dr. F. V. Everman, 3652 N. Delaware St. Lenore Maier, 7, of 1848 Lexington Ave., was bitten by a dog owned by Mrs. Hanna Peacock, 1835 Lexington Ave.; Travis Polley, 15, of 3525 N. Rural St., was bitten by a dog owned by J. P. Van Camp, R. R. K, box 48, and a dog owned by Grover Lacey, 344 Taft St., bit

Frank Harryman, 1823 W. Morris St., on the right leg.

PROTEST ABANDONMENT

Commissioner Jones to Hear Midland Road Petition, May 3.

Public Service Commissioner Clyde H. Jones, who will hear the abandonment petition of the Central Indiana Railroad on May 3, has reserved the Senate Chamber for the hearing, he announced today. The Midland, as the road is known, filed its original abandonment petition with the interstate commerce commission, which referred the case to the State body. Considerable objection to the abandonment has arisen from business men and shipers along the line.

EMPLOYMENT IMPROVING

Road Building to Help Conditions in State.

By United Press
WASHINGTON, April 26.—A slight surplus of labor is reported from Indiana, the Department of Labor's monthly bulletin on employment conditions reported today. The huge road-building program and contracts for many large buildings are expected to improve conditions. All Indianapolis plants are running and improvement in employment is daily expected, the bulletin said. Practically all Evansville plants are running, but there is still a slight surplus of labor. Common laborers are leaving the Terre Haute dis-

trict for other points, there being a large surplus there.

MONAHAN IS ELECTED

Frank J. Monahan is new president of St. John's Boys' School Alumni, which met Sunday at St. John's Catholic Church.

Other new officers are Brother Hubert, vice president; Daniel Cangany, recording secretary, and John Faber, treasurer.

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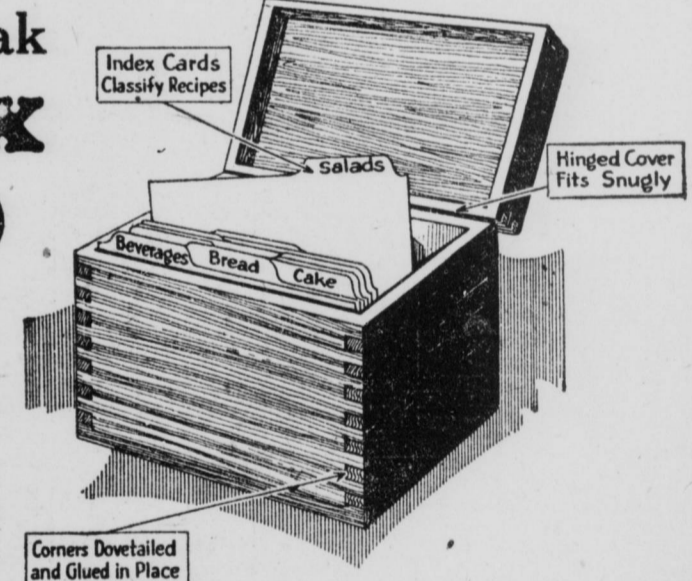
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