

The "Vanity Case" holds a mystery. Can you unlock it? Follow the gripping story appearing daily on the Comic Page.

## MARKET IN STREET IS GIVEN TEST

Thoroughfare Between Alabama and Delaware Blocked Off.

## STALLS DOWN CENTER

Garrett Charges Commissioner With Not Aiding.

Patrons of the city market today swarmed over Market St. to make their purchases, but found nearly all the sidewalk and street stands on Alabama, Washington and Delaware St. sides of courthouse missing.

Today was the first test of the city's recent attempt to solve the market problem through blocking of Market St. between Alabama and Delaware Sts., and its conversion into an open market.

With two long rows of stalls in the center of the street, ample room for passage of pedestrians was afforded. The automobile congestion seemed considerably relieved. Attempts to park in the block now closed occasioned many traffic jams in the past.

However, Market Master Earl Garrett charged county commissioners with failure to cooperate in the move to rid the city of the insanitary condition because they have permitted five standholders to take positions at the west entrance of the courthouse on Delaware St.

"It's an outrage," Garrett exclaimed. "These standholders are chiefly those I forced from the market because they violated rules and were objectionable."

Garrett said that he days of choice corner locations for the politically powerful are over. He will establish aisles, seven feet wide, at intervals of twenty-eight feet, thereby making nearly all stands corner stalls.

Producers from the country were allowed to park their trucks all about the courthouse, but had finished their business before 8 a. m.

At the end of the day the street will be flushed with a fire hose and thoroughly cleaned, Garrett said.

The transformation of market stalls caused a little confusion early in the day, but the change was made with a relatively small amount of trouble.

The regulations will prevail on Tuesday, Thursdays and Saturdays, the regular market days.

## INDIANA BOXER DIES AFTER BOUT

Muncie Fight Fatal to Hartford City Youth.

**MUNCIE, Ind., Aug. 31.**—Leo (Bill) Landis, 22, of Hartford City, an amateur boxer, died early today from a concussion of the brain suffered in a fight with Frank Crouse, Muncie, last night.

Landis was knocked out in the first half minute of their scheduled six-round bout. The two fighters started their battle with a rush and followed up with terrific slugging. The fight was stopped by the referee when Landis was knocked down. He was quickly revived, but appeared in a dazed condition. He was rushed to a local hospital, where he died.

Crouse is a brother of Clyde (Buck) Crouse, Chicago White Sox catcher. Coroner Frank T. Kilgore is investigating.

## BOAT BURNS; TWO DIE

**NEW YORK, Aug. 31.**—Mr. and Mrs. Osmond Stobeland were burned to death early today when fire destroyed their houseboat in the Harlem River.

## NEW AIR ROUTE

**WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.**—An air mail route from Seattle, Wash., to Los Angeles, Cal., will start operation Sept. 15. Postmaster General New announced today.

**STATE TO GET GROCERY BIDS**

Bids will be received Sept. 15 by the State purchasing board on groceries and laundry supplies needed for the different State institutions during the next quarter year. Twenty-one institutions are served by the purchasing committee.

## SERVICE

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## 'POISON SQUADS' OF WOMEN USED TO AID WATSON

Interview With Mrs. Wheatcraft in Baltimore Sun Discloses How Gossip Was Spread Throughout State in Primary.

How a "poison squad" of five women in each county, under the direct command of Mrs. Vivian T. Wheatcraft, now promoted from Indiana politics to a national field for the fall campaign, secured the nomination of Senator Watson is told in an interview with Mrs. Wheatcraft in the Baltimore Sun.

A staff correspondent for that newspaper came to Indianapolis just before Mrs. Wheatcraft, as a result of many bitter secret fights within the Republican organization, departed for a wider field of political endeavor as an associate of Representative Will Wood of the congressional committee.

### "Whispering Women"

In that interview is related the secret of government by gossip, the poison squad of women in each county who were her followers and to whom she sent the whispered word that went out to the women.

The revelation of a system of "government by gossip" as organized by the woman leader for Watson, as contained in the Baltimore Sun, says:

"In delving into the reason why Indiana, a great and populous State, managed to elect a Republican primary scandal such as involved her next door neighbor, Illinois, and her Eastern sister, Pennsylvania, it is discovered that that astute and veteran politician, United States Senator James E. Watson, solved his campaign financial problem in most adroit fashion by substituting the female ballot for the dollar.

"Senator Watson gave the women of Indiana something to play with. He made politics an interesting game and a pleasurable thing to them. And all it cost him were a few kind words and some stray dollars of expense money.

Watson Spent Only \$21,969.17.

"How successfully he employed the female factor in politics is shown by the fact that he won the primary nomination for the seat he now holds, on May 4 last, by the expenditure of only \$21,969.17. And how efficient he found his substitute for the dollar is evidenced by the fact that of the 250,000 votes he garnered, some 150,000, or 60 per cent, are claimed to have been cast by women.

"His lead over his opponent was 125,000, so the indorsement of him by the Klan and labor organizations may be set down as an almost negligible factor. And, incidentally, he carried to victory along with him his confere, Senator Arthur R. Robinson, with a cost to that candidate for the short term seat of only \$10,496.62.

Won Campaign On Gossip

"This remarkable feat was accomplished through investment in the services of a clever woman politician and organizer, Mrs. Vivian Tracy Wheatcraft, who, in turn, utilized a medium that came easy to her scores of skirted lieutenants—gossip. In fact, as the story of the campaign told by Mrs. Wheatcraft is boiled down, it shows that Senator Watson's candidacy was won on gossip.

"I have them drilled all right," Mrs. Wheatcraft explained, referring to her woman aids scattered throughout the State. "I have a little black book that nobody gets to but me. In that I've got what I call my poison squad—five women in each county. When I want to start something, I tip off the poison squad. Inside of twelve hours it's buttered all over the State."

"Mrs. Wheatcraft was reminded of the "Whispering Women of the Plave," whose defeatist propaganda crushed the Italian war strategy in 1917.

### Victory by Gossip

"That's the secret," she laughed. "Victory by gossip."

"Mrs. Wheatcraft's welcome to every one is a cheering, warmful thing. Although her hair is slightly graying and she is said to be in her early forties, she has the figure, the vitality and carriage of a girl of 19. She is so pretty that one wonders at her success with her sisters, but so charming one no longer wonders. So far her rewards for political service have been meager, but she is under no misapprehension regarding the worth of her work to the Senator and to the party.

### Taught Women How to Vote

"I built up the women of this State for him," she said. "I went through the ninety-two counties and put a solid organization of my own women everywhere. I taught the women how to vote."

"The fame of Mrs. Wheatcraft's ability as a leader and organizer has carried far and the G. O. P. congressional committee has drafted her for service in Maine. She is on her way there now to spread her teachings and methods and her gossip, so it is a safe bet the "whispering women of Maine" will be heard from in the election in November."

### Quit G. O. P. Committee Post

"It is true that the political enemies of Senator Watson have been trying to make some capital out of the fact that Mrs. Wheatcraft worked in the interest of his campaign while still vice chairman of the Republican State central committee, a violation in spirit of the State corrupt practices act. But there was no violation of the letter of the law.

"Mrs. Wheatcraft, although she had spent several months in organizing the women of the State for Senator Watson, was careful to re-

(Turn to Page 7)

## BUILDING FIGURE IN AUGUST GREATEST

Permit Total for Month Leads All Others of This Year—Record Set in Week Ending Last Saturday.

Building activities in Indianapolis in August were greater than any other month during the present year, according to the report of City Building Commissioner Bert J. Westover to the board of safety today.

### COOLIDGE IS CONFIDENT

Not Worried Over Wobbling on World Court.

**PAUL SMITH'S, N. Y., Aug. 31.**—Despite the warring of some Senators on the world court, President Coolidge is confident that there will be no withdrawal of the offer of American adherence, the presidential spokesman said here today commenting on the announcements of Senators Gooding of Idaho and Trammell of Florida that they are no longer in favor of joining the court and will seek to have the offer withdrawn.

### WOMAN BOMBER FREED

**CHICAGO, Aug. 31.**—Because she was suffering from a heart attack, Lena Schrock Rice, woman leader of a bombing gang that was broken up by the police several months ago, was at liberty today on bond. She is awaiting trial.

### FERGUSON'S ALIBI

**AUSTIN, Texas, Aug. 31.**—The "lumber crowd," the "oil companies' money" and the Ku-Klux Klan "the crowd that gave Dan Moody his majority," former Governor James E. Ferguson declared in a formal statement today, commenting on the defeat of his wife, Governor Miriam A. Ferguson, in the recent Texas Democratic primary.

## EARTHQUAKE KILLS MANY IN AZORES

City of Horta, Capital of Oze Island, Reported in Ruins.

## DISPATCH FROM CONSUL

Washington Told All Americans Believed Safe.

**HORTA, Azores Islands, Aug. 31.**—A violent earthquake shook Horta at 9 a. m. today.

Many lives were lost. The city is in ruins.

**LISBON, Aug. 31.**—The Portuguese government was notified today that a "terrible earthquake" had shaken the Azores Islands. Details were unknown.

**WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.**—The earthquake which has rocked the Azores was the severest in the history of the islands, with heavy loss of property and life, the American consul at Horta, Fayal, Azores, reported to the State Department today.

The consular report said: "Severest earthquake in history of Azores. Houses down and all houses suffered. Impossible to estimate loss of property and life. All Americans are believed to be safe.

"All residents are prepared to live out of doors." The American Red Cross has offered help to the Azores if needed, in a message to the American consul through the State Department. No definite plans will be made for relief from here, however, until the consul calls for assistance, it was said.

Horta is the capital of the island of Fayal in the Azores group, about eight hundred miles off the Portuguese coast. It was a well-built town, irregularly laid out. The last figures placed its population at 6,731.

Fayal is the westernmost island of the center group of the Azores Islands. It is a volcanic island and reached an elevation of over three thousand feet. Its area is approximately sixty-five square miles, while the population of the island is about twenty-five thousand. Agriculture is the chief industry.

### ATHENS IS SHAKEN

Several Houses Crumble—Other Cities Report Damage.

**ATHENS, Aug. 31.**—Several houses crumbled when Athens was the center of an earthquake disturbance last evening. Other cities, such as Sparta and Leonidio, reported some damage.

### CENTERED IN AEGEAN SEA

No Damage Is Reported to Italian Observatories.

**ROME, Aug. 31.**—Reports from all Italian observatories today confirmed the belief that the center of Monday's earthquake was in the Aegean Sea midway between Greece and Asia Minor. It was the third violent earthquake which had shaken the eastern Mediterranean in the past six months.

The second of the quakes was particularly damaging to the island of Rhodes, where several hundred houses tumbled down and several persons were killed.

Monday's quake was more or less evident along the Adriatic seaboard from Ancona to Taranto as well as through Sicily. No damage was reported.

### JAPS ARE NERVOUS

Quakes Shake Tokio and Surrounding Country.

**TOKIO, Aug. 31.**—Earthquakes of more than ordinary violence have shaken Tokio and the surrounding country several times in the past fortnight, creating uneasiness in the public mind as the third anniversary of the devastating shock of Sept. 1, 1923, approached.

### Old Sol Cheerful as August Departs

August today bowed itself out in Indianapolis with the sun shining brightly, as if to make amends for the many rainy days which marked the month.

The United States Weather Bureau records show total rainfall for August was 4.97 inches, while the normal fall is only 3.33 inches. Rain fell on fifteen days during the month. Normal is nine days.

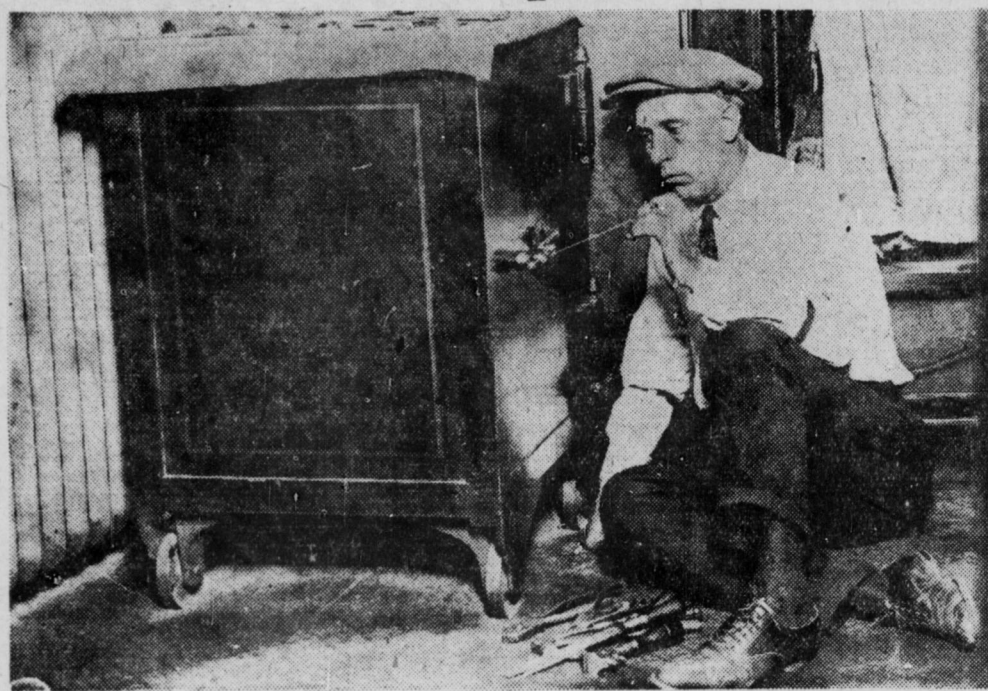
The past week was favorable for farmers. Meteorologist Arrington said. There has been an abundance of sunshine to dry out the soaked fields.

Temperature this morning was 65, one degree below normal. Unsettled weather may come by Wednesday afternoon, Arrington said.

### FORD'S ROAD KICKS

**WASHINGTON, Aug. 31.**—The Detroit, Toledo & Ironroad Road, owned by Henry Ford, protested today against the I. C. C. valuation of its property, asserting the railroad is worth twice as much as the commission held.

## Amateurs Fail; Expert Finishes Job



It took a real safe expert about two hours to open the safe at the Bamboo Inn, on Monument Circle, today, after amateur yeggs had battered the combination Monday night. Joseph B. Elliott, of the Bachelor Safe Company, is shown working on the door of the safe, which the intruders had been unable to open. All the money, more than \$600, was found safe, inside. It will cost about \$35 to fix a new combination on the safe, Elliott said.

## SHORTRIDGE MOVE COST TAXPAYERS OF CITY \$50,000

Budget Shows Majority's Abandonment of Plans Expensive.

Maneuvers of the school board majority faction this spring, when futile attempts were made to relocate the new Shortridge High School and the plans were changed, will cost the taxpayers of this city \$50,000, the proposed budget disclosed today.

The new school budget, before President Theodore F. Vonnegut and Charles W. Kern, of the majority faction carried additional appropriation of \$50,000 for the proposed bond issue for Shortridge. The board promised that the cost of erecting the new Shortridge would total only \$1,000,000. The bond issue, now, will aggregate \$1,050,000.

The amount was lost in architect's fees when the board abandoned plans, drawn under specification of the former board. This followed the majority members' attempt to relocate the school, first at Forty-Sixth St. and Central Ave., and later at Fortieth and Meridian Sts.

After battling the Indianapolis Public School Welfare Association, for almost four months, the board returned to the present site, Thirty-Fourth and Meridian Sts.

Construction is to start Oct. 1, on the new high school.

**Figures Not Given**

Business Director Ure M. Frazer, declined to make public any figures on the budget, except to state that the general appropriations, on which the levy will be based, total approximately \$7,000,000. It is said the tax levy will be estimated at about \$1.09.

Chamber of Commerce officials will review the budget soon.

Doubt was expressed as to whether a quorum would be present at the meeting tonight when the budget is to be presented. Charles E. Yale and Fred Bates Johnson, minority faction members, have not been in Indianapolis and Vonnegut, has been ill.

## New Son; Telegram Collect; Divorce

**MUSKOGEE, Mich., Aug. 31.**—Mr. Lester Cox was granted a divorce on grounds of cruelty here, after testifying that Cox refused to pay for a collect telegram in another city telling him of the birth of a son.

## SPAIN DENIES REVOLT

Surprise Expressed—Report All Is Tranquillity.

**MADRID, Aug. 31.**—Government circles express surprise at the reiterated reports in America that the revolution exists in Spain. Officials report complete tranquillity.

## JAP. BRITISH SHIPS FIRED ON

**SHANGHAI, Aug. 31.**—Delayed dispatches from Hankow report that Cantonese fired 1,000 shots at British and Japanese steamers there. No casualties were reported.

## Baby Saves Woman From Prison

Pleas of Ralph Spain, deputy attorney general, and Sergeant Barge today saved the mother of a 2-month-old baby from an Indiana Women's Prison sentence for alleged liquor law violation.

Municipal Judge Paul Wetter withheld judgement in the blind tiger case of Mrs. Katie Murphy, 40, of 948 W. Pearl St., arrested after Barge found one-half pint of liquor in a nest of pups at her home.

The court named Barge probation officer for the woman for six months.

## MOTHER OFFERS TO SERVE LIFE TERM

Destitute Woman Pleads for Right to Assume Murder Penalty Imposed on Son—Visits Prison.

Destitute and hungry, yet bolstered by the noble blood that courses her veins, Mrs. Mary Hiles of Zanesville, Ohio, has offered to take the place of her son, Charles Louis Hanson, a "lifer" in the Indiana State Prison, that he may go free.

Hanson, though only 24, has spent four years in prison for his part in the murder of Charles Johnson, a Plymouth (Ind.) taxicab driver. With him is John Bauer, alleged accomplice in the murder, also a "lifer."

Mrs. Hiles, who is 66, Monday before the State pardon board, pleaded for the right to take her son's place. Recently, she said, she was ejected from her home in Zanesville and committed to the almshouse. She refused to go to the almshouse, coming to Indianapolis instead, although the trip took her last cent, leaving nothing for food. She was found in

the Union Station by the Travelers' Aid Society, fed and referred to Dr. George S. Henninger, pardon board president.

After she was told there was nothing the board could do at this time, she declared she would visit her son at the prison. Asked what she would do for food, she replied that providence would take care of her.

"I am a second cousin of Gen. Robert E. Lee. My father would have been a lord, had he not left England to go to Australia," she declared, explaining that even hunger would not crush her pride.

Twice before Hanson has been refused clemency. In a letter to the pardon board Judge Reuben R. Carr, who presided at Hanson's trial, "clared the murder was cold-blooded and clemency for him would be a 'travesty of justice.'"

## MOTHER KILLS FOUR AND SELF

Husband Finds Bodies in Gas-Filled Home.

**SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 31.**—A mentally deranged mother today killed herself and four children with gas.

The dead: Mrs. Edna Fuller, 39; George, 10; Glenwood, 9; Norman, 4, and Ormiston, 2.

All were found dead when the father, a night watchman, returned from work.

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