

INDIANAPOLIS, TUESDAY, NOV. 27, 1928

Full Leased Wire Service of  
the United Press Association

## VESTRIS DOOM DUE TO SINGLE CAUSE--GREED

Whole Answer to Tragedy  
Is Owners' Desire to Fill  
Purses.

### QUIZ REVEALS TRUTHS

Chief Officer of Vessel Tells  
Exactly Why Craft  
Sank.

Charles Johnson Post, well-known  
marine expert, author and investigator,  
continues with this issue his authori-  
tative series of articles on the Vestris  
disaster.

**BY CHARLES JOHNSON POST**  
(Copyright, 1928, by the New York Tele-  
gram Company)

Well, the well has closed. A week  
ago I started to try to develop the  
real causes for the scandalous sink-  
ing of the Vestris. Every child on  
board was drowned and only eight  
women saved.

I stated then that the true and  
fundamental cause of the disaster  
was in the sinking of the Vestris  
itself, and that the fouling of life-  
boat gear, the leaky lifeboats, and  
all the rest of this utter moraliza-  
tion of life-saving equipment was  
entirely secondary.

And, in most dramatic form, all  
this was confirmed by the testi-  
mony of the chief officer of the  
Vestris himself, Frank W. Johnson.  
He was asked: "In your opinion,  
was the sea at any time such as to  
endanger a well-found vessel of the  
size of your vessel?"

And he replied: "No!"

Whole Case in Nuts

This was the question asked by  
Captain E. P. Jessop, United States  
navy, retired. It is the whole case  
in a nutshell.

You are going to hear a lot about  
"sensationalism" and "sensational"  
newspapers—but I ask you is Cap-  
tain Jessop, United States navy, a  
sensationalist? Was the chief of-  
ficer of the Vestris looking for a  
newspaper "sensational?"

Why, every sea-faring man  
knows that Johnson's job—like one  
of every other seaman—is depend-  
ent upon ship owners and the loyal-  
ty with which he can make a good  
impression upon them. That is  
what makes for all these shufflings  
and dodgings.

Do not forget this crucial ques-  
tion put by Captain Jessop and  
its answer when the red her-  
nings are being dragged across the  
trail and you are urged to remember  
human frailties or lifeboats  
that are "naturally" expected to  
leak—which was what another Ves-  
tris officer wrote to me.

Shock to Ship Owners

What the United States is doing  
with regard to the Vestris is along  
lines that are causing the indig-  
nant flush of holy anger—and  
maybe a little fear—to rise to the  
surface of ship owners.

For one thing we are hoping, as  
a tribute to the memory of the  
drowned children and women of the  
Vestris—the only tribute that  
is really worthwhile—to find the  
fundamental cause of this out-  
rageous disaster instead of frit-  
tering away some trivial energies  
on the helpless officers and crew.

But this is not according to cus-  
tom; it is not according to those  
"traditions of the sea" that have  
been made by ship owners and up-  
held by them in the interest of  
their own pocketbooks.

It is time that a certain con-  
scienceless breed of ship owner be  
dragged out to stand forth in the  
true light of his own parsimonies.  
There are fine ship owners—let  
them come forward and help in  
this delousing of the sea.

What is the matter with the  
Lampert & Holt line presenting  
United States District Attorney  
Tuttle with some of these facts  
and reliable information, instead  
of shuffling and evasive officers  
and a quibbling marine superin-  
tendent?

Seek to Save Officers

Why this contemptuous sneer of  
a federal investigation of the United  
States?

Or of the United States steamboat  
inspection service?

Well, maybe I can suggest an  
answer.

It is because the United States  
officials are breaking the traditions  
of the sea that would pile the blame  
on the officers and crew who have  
to work sinkable ships, that these  
crews have to take out or lose the  
only job they know.

The sensationalism of the press is  
because newspaper readers and the  
American public are refusing to ac-  
cept those traditions of the sea  
which send women and children  
and husbands and fathers to their  
drowning (as on the Vestris), to  
preserve the pockets of that type of  
conscienceless shipowners who run  
sinkable ships in passenger trade.

## 4 ESCAPE CAR INJURIES

Auto Crashes Into B. & O. Train;  
Driver Is Arrested.

Four women escaped injury Mon-  
day night when the automobile in  
which they were riding crashed into  
the side of a Baltimore & Ohio train  
at West Washington street and the  
Belt railroad. The car was damaged  
severely. Miss Vera Harris, 27, of  
1139 North Meridian street, the  
driver, was arrested on charges of  
failing to obey a stop signal and al-  
lowing four persons to ride in her  
coupe.

The other occupants of the ma-  
chine were Miss Ruth Beatty, Pi-  
net court, Mrs. S. L. Ross, 919 North  
Pennsylvania street, and Miss Eve-  
lyn McGaughey, 1139 North Meri-  
dian street. Miss McGaughey suf-  
fered slight scratches and bruises.

## Woof! Don't Leggo!



"The girl with the million-dollar legs" is the introduction given to Lucy Doraine, above, former German movie star who has come to Holly-  
wood to appear in American films. She was engaged in "Adoration," a  
picture in which Billie Dove was starred.

## KLAN'S FOE STILL PROSECUTOR AFTER ELECTION RECOUNT

### PLAN BUILDING PROGRAM

City Health Board to Discuss New  
Hospital Structures.

City health board will meet  
Wednesday at 8 p. m., to consider  
contracts for preliminary plans for  
the city hospital building program,  
Dr. Herman G. Morgan, secretary,  
said today.

A bond issue of \$60,000 was sold  
some time ago to finance the draw-  
ing of plans.

### NOVEL STIRS STORM

Peruvians Are Angry Over  
Pulitzer Prize Book.

**By Times Special**  
NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—Thornton  
Wildes, winner of the latest Pulitzer  
prize for novels, seems to have  
kicked over a Peruvian hornet's nest  
with his novel, "The Bridge of San  
Luis Rey."

Although few readers of the Wil-  
der story appreciated the fact, the  
novel's heroine, the Perichole, and  
her lover, The Viceroy, Don Andres,  
are real and cherished figures of  
Peruvian history.

Now, according to an article ap-  
pearing in the current Golden Book  
magazine, the Peruvian press has  
raised such a clamor against what it  
terms the "false local color" of Wil-  
der's novel that the national gov-  
ernment and the city of Lima have  
joined in producing a motion picture  
designed to retell the story and pre-  
sent social conditions of the Lima  
of that period in what is represented  
as a more accurate and fairer ver-  
sion than that of the Wilder story.

Legion Plans Skating Ponds  
**By United Press**  
VALPARAISO, Ind., Nov. 27.—"In  
Peace as in War, We Serve" is the  
motto of the Charles Pratt post of  
the American Legion. The latest of  
the many activities of the post in its  
effort to be of benefit to the com-  
munity is a proposal to establish  
two ice skating ponds for boys and  
girls. The ponds are to be located in  
the north and east sections of the  
city. Property owners have donated  
land and volunteers will assist in  
building dams.

Report Shows Manpower Is Below  
150,000 in Nation.

**By United Press**  
WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—The  
United States army has been re-  
duced to fewer than 150,000 men,  
the annual report of Major General  
Lutz Wahl, adjutant general, showed  
today. On June 30, 1928, the actual  
strength of the army, including 699  
army nurses and 878 West Point  
cadets, amounted to 136,115 individ-  
uals. Of these 12,112 were officers  
and 121,185 were enlisted men.

Killed in Son's Auto

**By Times Special**  
ATLANTA, Ind., Nov. 27.—Walter  
Robbins, 44, died today as the re-  
sult of the auto driven by  
his son, Estel, turning over three  
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## STORM HEWS PATH OF RUIN OVER EUROPE

Death List Is Expected to  
Mount Far Beyond  
100 Mark.

### TOLL AT SEA IS HEAVY

Scores of Vessels Sound  
S O S; Floods Add to  
Horror.

**By United Press**  
LONDON, Nov. 27.—Havoc and  
death spread in the British Isles  
and Europe today as terrific gales  
hammered inland.

Latest reports gave 129 known  
dead and it was possible that the  
list might be largely increased.  
Damage ran into millions.

Eolland reported twenty-five  
known dead. In England twenty-  
four lost their lives and fourteen  
were drowned when the steamer  
Cesarre went down off Algeria in  
the Mediterranean.

**Fear Many Lost at Sea**  
Many more were feared lost in  
the long roll of wrecked and mis-  
sing ships—among them thirty-eight  
men known to be on four missing  
vessels.

The storm had abated in Great  
Britain and reports from Switzer-  
land indicated that its force was  
being felt in central Europe.

The disruption of mountain rail-  
road traffic in the vicinity of Vil-  
lar was reported from Switzerland  
because of uprooted trees and tele-  
graph poles swept down for miles  
by the high winds.

Shipping was hard hit.  
Scores of vessels had called for  
help during the height of the storm  
and many craft were wrecked. Medi-  
terranean boats continued to feel  
the force of the storm. There was  
a large loss of life at sea.

**Dikes Are Shattered**  
Broken dykes and overflowing  
rivers brought dangerous flood con-  
ditions in Scotland, Wales and the  
low European coastal areas.

In Belgium, troops were rushed  
to Calloo, near Antwerp, where  
dykes burst in the Mechlin region.  
Antwerp reported it was the worst  
storm in thirty years, with shipping  
and railway traffic tied up and  
power lines and communications  
badly damaged.

Rivers in western Germany were  
rising dangerously as heavy rains  
swelled the streams. The upper  
Rhine had risen twenty-nine inches  
in twenty-four hours at Cologne.

Airplanes and lifeboats made dra-  
matic but futile attempts to re-  
cue the crew of the steamer Sa-  
lento, stranded on the Dutch coast.  
One lifeboat capsized and a mem-  
ber of its crew drowned. Three  
bodies were washed ashore from the  
Salento, and it was feared that  
others apparently still alive in the  
captain's cabin soon would perish.

All ships were closed in Ostend  
as the gales blew sea water over the  
dyke toward the town. Flood and  
wind damage was severe throughout  
Belgium.

**HOOVER WRITES HOOSIER**

Wabash Man's Vote Prediction Sur-  
prises President-Elect.

**By Times Special**  
WABASH, Ind., Nov. 27.—Doc  
Craft, local real estate dealer, be-  
sides winning a \$1 bet on an elec-  
tion has a letter from Herbert  
Hoover, President-elect, written at  
Stanford university, California, af-  
ter Craft had written him about the  
wager.

Craft said Smith would not get  
68 electoral votes, making a bet to  
that effect with Charles Vincent.  
The Smith vote was 67. Hoover's  
letter to Craft follows:

"I have received your kind mes-  
sage of Nov. 10. I am glad for your  
expression of confidence and sur-  
prised at the accuracy of your pre-  
diction."

**Killed in Son's Auto**

**By Times Special**  
ATLANTA, Ind., Nov. 27.—Walter  
Robbins, 44, died today as the re-  
sult of the auto driven by  
his son, Estel, turning over three  
miles north of Newton late Mon-  
day afternoon. Although the car turned  
over three times, the son was un-  
hurt. The dead man leaves his  
widow and seven children.

**James Pearson Rites**  
SET FOR WEDNESDAY

Business Man Dies Monday Night  
After Short Illness.

Funeral services for James M.  
Pearson, 46, of 4330 Park avenue,  
who died early Monday at the  
Methodist hospital after a short ill-  
ness, will be held at the home at 2  
p. m. Wednesday.

Mr. Pearson was national sales  
supervisor of the C. Schmidt Manu-  
facturing Company of Cincinnati.  
He formerly was a bond salesman  
and came to the city here and  
Sunday editor and financial editor  
of the Indianapolis Star.

Surviving are the widow, a daugh-  
ter, Suzanne; a sister, Mrs. George  
Miller, Ft. Scott, Kan., his birth-  
place, and three brothers, E. L.  
Pearson, El Paso, Tex.; J. W. Pear-  
son, Evansville, and Charles Pear-  
son, Denver, Colo.

Mr. Pearson was a member of the  
Meridian Street M. E. church,  
Mystic Tie lodge, F. and A. M., and  
the Columbia club.

## John Barrymore Again Chooses to Marry; Three Romances in Career

All Wives Celebrated as  
Beauties, All Connected  
With Stage.

**BY HORTENSE SAUNDERS**  
NEA Service Writer

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—The ro-  
mance of America's great lover  
of the screen, John Barrymore, and  
Dolores Costello, brings him for the  
third time before the public in the  
role of bridegroom and recalls cer-  
tain points of similarity to his other  
adventures in matrimony.

Dolores Costello is one of the most  
beautiful daughters of Hollywood to-  
day. But the second Mrs. Barry-  
more, a poet, actress and playwright  
as well as a society queen, had an  
international reputation as a beauty  
when he married her almost ten  
years ago. Paul Helleu, French  
artist, described her as the most  
beautiful woman in the United  
States.

And his first wife, Katharine Har-  
ris, whom he married in 1910, was  
one of the most lovely debutantes  
of the season, related on her  
mother's side to the Lydigs.

**Romances of Stage**

Each romance has had a back-  
ground of the stage. The first Mrs.  
Barrymore, though a society girl,  
had theatrical ambitions and she  
played with Barrymore in "Believe  
Me, Xantippe" and with Ethel Bar-  
rymore in "Deceit." She played  
with John when he made his first  
motion picture.

The second Mrs. Barrymore,  
known as a writer under the name  
of Michael Strange, has had a  
many-sided artistic career. As beau-  
tiful Blanche Oelrichs, she was the  
belle of Newport and New York.  
She divided her time between so-  
ciety and the arts as the wife of  
Leonard Thomas, her first husband,  
rich New York society man.

After her marriage to Barrymore,  
she became more interested in the  
stage and in writing, and less in  
society.

**Difficulties Overcome**

In spite of his reputation as a  
great lover, his secure position as  
the most popular leading man on  
the stage and screen, his extraor-  
dinary voice, and his profile second  
to none, Barrymore never has found  
his matrimonial conquests unat-  
tended by difficulties.

He married the first Mrs. Barry-  
more over the strenuous objections  
of her father, who considered her  
too young to marry. His second  
wife is said to have divorced her  
husband that she might marry Bar-  
rymore.

And the romance between him  
and the lovely Dolores is rumored  
to have caused so much friction be-  
tween her parents that they were  
divorced.

Though his first two wives have  
been society women, descended from  
old New York families, Dolores Cos-  
tello is a daughter of one of the  
first families of the films. Two  
decades ago Maurice Costello, her  
father, probably was the most  
adored man on the screen.

**Divorce Without Publicity**

Barrymore's devotion to the  
blonde Dolores has been known  
since they appeared in their first  
picture, "The Sea Beast." But al-  
most every one knew that she was  
married to Michael Strange.

The divorce was won in Paris by  
Mrs. Barrymore, without publicity,  
and came as a great surprise.

There is one daughter, Diana, by  
this second marriage.

**Against National Frats**

"I don't know whether social con-  
ditions are all that they are sup-  
posed to be or not, but I do know  
that I attended a social function  
of one of the literary clubs the other  
night where they did not dance  
and every one had a splendid time.  
The program was full and every one  
was busy every minute. These kinds  
of entertainments are more inspir-  
ing, beneficial and healthful than  
dancing, even leaving out the moral  
issue."

"This attitude of mine on dancing  
is upheld by every member of the  
faculty, but I will not make a prom-  
ise or pledge that there never will  
be dancing, because the board is  
my superior. The school is governed  
by this board and the church."

**Assurance Given Pastors**

Besides assuring the local Meth-  
odist pastors that social diversions  
at Evansville college will be in ac-  
cord with the strict Methodist prin-  
ciples, Dr. Harper discussed the frater-  
nity problem and athletics.

The college needs fraternities, but  
he is opposed to national frater-  
nities and favors local organiza-  
tions, he said.

He declared he favors intercol-  
legiate athletic contests.



All celebrated beauties and all actresses, these three women whom  
John Barrymore, upper left, chose to wed. Katharine Harris, his first  
wife, is shown in upper right; below are Michael Strange, left, and  
Dolores Costello.

## ASKS COLLEGE AID, CITING DANCE BAN; ADMITS 'NOT EVIL'

Evansville Educator Says  
He's Changed Mind on  
Card Playing.

A plea for support of Evansville  
college, because dancing is banned  
there, was before the Indianapolis  
Methodist Ministerial Association  
today.

Dr. Earl E. Harper made the plea  
at the weekly meeting of the asso-  
ciation Monday, at the Roberts Park  
Methodist Episcopal church.

Dr. Harper personally doesn't be-  
lieve dancing and card playing are  
"evil," he made clear, however.

Reared in the strict Methodist  
doctrine that card playing, theater  
going and dancing are all wrong, he  
has had a change of heart, Dr.  
Harper explained.

**Against National Frats**

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ditions are all that they