



# The Indianapolis Times

HOME

Fair with possibly frost tonight; Friday, fair and warmer.

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## BOY, 5, BARES BRUTAL SIEGE; PARENTS HELD

Serious Illness Result of 2 Weeks' Punishment in Home.

### STOLE BREAD, BUTTER

Tied to Ceiling by Wrists, Lad Fed Only Twice, to Break 'Habits.'

By United Press

CLEVELAND, O., May 7.—Physicians at Lakeside hospital here today were attending a 6-year-old boy, whose police claim, escaped from his home after being locked in the bathroom almost without food for more than two weeks.

The boy is in a serious condition with tuberculosis-peritonitis, caused by undernourishment, physicians said.

Police arrested the boy's father, James Robinson Sr., and later captured his stepmother, who had fled. The boy was subjected to inhuman and fiendish treatment during the fourteen-day period, according to officers, because he stole "bread and butter." He repeatedly was suspended by his wrists to light fixtures in the bathroom, they said.

Authorities said that the child escaped by prying the bathroom window open while his parents were away from home. He told his story of imprisonment and hunger to neighbors, and collapsed, police said.

### Escaped Through Window

Hospital physicians said the boy was conscious and able to give a description of his imprisonment. According to his story, there was little food in the house and his parents were depriving him of his share so that his 4-year-old brother Arthur could have plenty. James said he climbed to the cupboard and took "the bread and butter." Discovering that the food was gone, his stepmother told his father, James said.

Angered by his deed, Robinson Sr. tied him up in the bathroom where he remained for more than two weeks, it was said. A few days ago he jumped from the bathroom window and ran to the home of a neighbor, with the story that his "mama was mean to me." Later he returned.

### Prosecution Started

Physicians said the boy was fed prune juice and water twice a day during his imprisonment, but that when he cried "too hard" his parents gave him rye bread.

According to Mrs. Robinson admitted that the boy was tied, but declared it was done to "break bad habits." The boy's wrists were reported badly bruised from the ropes which bound him.

Word of the boy's plight was received at police headquarters from an anonymous telephone call. Emma Schuller, policewoman, went to the house and found the child, thin and starved.

"Please take me away from here, my mama is mean to me," the boy begged. "I was stealing bread and butter and she punishes me."

Police said the parents would be prosecuted by juvenile court authorities.

## RESCUE CHILD IN WELL

Hundreds Participate in Tunneling Underground Pass to Ledge.

By United Press

GENEVA, Neb., May 7.—Carol Brower, 18-month-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Brower, imprisoned twenty-two feet underground in a narrow well for four hours, was rescued by hundreds of neighbors.

The child was rescued late last night after the neighbors sunk a shaft parallel to the abandoned well and cut a cross tunnel to the narrow ledge where she was perched just above the stagnant water.

## HIKE PAY IN TIN MILLS

Youngstown (O.) Industries to Boost Wages in May, June.

By United Press

YOUNGSTOWN, O., May 7.—Sheet and tin mill workers in the steel industry will receive a wage increase during May and June for the first time in nearly two years. Wages of these employees are computed by the average selling prices of sheets, in the two preceding months.

The average selling price in March and April was 2.65 cents a pound or 15 per cent above base and 1 1/2 per cent above the last sheet sale examination.

## Japan Village Fire Routs 3,500

By United Press

YAMANKA, Japan, May 7.—About 3,500 residents of Yamanka were homeless today after fire had destroyed more than half of the city. Three persons were killed and 100 others seriously injured in the blaze.

## Circus Facts

Here are the facts you want to know about Sells Floto circus here today for two performances:

Date—Today.  
Location—Keystone avenue grounds.  
Performances—2 and 5 p.m.  
Doors Open—1 and 7 p.m.  
Previous Stand—Terre Haute.  
Departure—About 2 a.m.  
Railroad—Pennsylvania.  
Following Stand—Richmond.  
City Ticket Sale—Claypool Hotel Drug Store.

## MARY EATS LITTLE LAMB!

'Our Gang's' Sweetheart Must Reduce



Jean Darling

By Times Special

MT. CLEMENS, Mich., May 7.—Mary with her little lamb garbed in snowy fleece may do for the nurseries of Mister and Missus Average Folk, but to Jean Darling, 8, blonde sweetheart of the "Our Gang" comedies, that lamb-kin of Mary's is an ogre. For that lamb is nothing but a thin chop to Jean, served daily so she can reduce weight, and retain her sweet form, and keep the spotlight in "the talkies."

Hollywood "highnesses" called Jean and her mother aside last week and said, "You're too fat." "She weighs only 65 pounds," scoffed "Ma" Darling. "Sixty-five pounds — pounds. Sweat it off. Run it off. Starve it off," ordered the "highnesses" of the films.

AND so Jean's here taking the mineral baths and sweating while the "highnesses" are back in Hollywood perspiring as Jean's golden salary keeps on and on.

But it's tough on Jean, this losing weight, and tough on Mary's lamb.

"She just dotes on wheat cakes,"

maple syrup and candy," mourned her mother.

"Yes, and all I can have is a la-m-b chop," cries the "Gang" honey.

"But you've lost three pounds in three days. Think of it! Three!" exclaimed the mother.

"But," interrupted Jean, "I'm tired of lamb chops."

And with that her mother launched into that "once-upon-a-time there were Three Bears," which has nothing at all to do with Mary's lamb, Jean's weight losing, or cruel film magnates.

## CROP REDUCTION PLEA IS VOICED

Business Chiefs Told Farm Production Too High.

By United Press

WASHINGTON, May 7.—The world-wide agricultural depression can be relieved only by reducing production, especially in view of Russia's mounting output of wheat, the International Chamber of Commerce was told today by foreign and American authorities.

H. L. Russell, former dean of the Wisconsin College of Agriculture, told the delegates the increasing factor of Soviet competition can not be ignored. "No region in the world is fraught with such potentialities as to commercial expansion as is to be found in that land which carries the emblem of the sickle and the hammer," he said.

Russell said he believed American farmers would have to cut their wheat production eventually to meet only domestic needs. Alfred Falter, chairman of the Polish delegation also urged curtailment of agricultural production. He said protective tariffs only have aggravated the crisis, by increasing production.

## FOUR FIREMEN ARE AWARDED PROMOTIONS

Quartet Is Named to Force by City's Safety Board.

The safety board today announced four fire department promotions and four new appointments following conference late Wednesday with Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan and Chief Harry E. Vosell.

New appointments, named to fill vacancies, are William Rindfleisch, 861 Pleasant Run drive; Thomas R. Mooney, 1210 North Pennsylvania street; William R. White, 5130 Elberberger drive, and Joseph Henn, 812 North Pine street, all Democrats.

## ESTATE FIGHT OPENS

Brooks Will Case Likely to Last a Month.

Argument in the fight of two charity organizations for \$200,000 of the estate left by Bartholomew D. Brooks began today in probate court.

After two days of questioning jurors, attorneys late Wednesday agreed upon twelve men to hear the case, which is expected to last a month.

Possibility that the evidence in the case will hinge on the question of sanity of Mr. Brooks when he made his last will, March 24, 1930, was revealed today.

The charity organizations are seeking to set aside the latter will in favor of another, dated June 22, 1920.

## 'FIRST LADY' AT 12

Cermak's Granddaughter Is Boss

By United Press

MAY 7.—Chicago's new "First Lady" is Mayor Anton J. Cermak's blond, 12-year-old granddaughter, Vivien Graham, who doesn't like candy and wants to be an actress.

Cermak, who swept William Hale Thompson out of office, says he chose her to be his hostess for four reasons—first, because she has been his companion since babyhood, and second, third and fourth, because he has a hard time making a choice between any aunts, so he took her. Vivien told the United Press in an exclusive interview.

Vivien won't be 13 until next week, but she already is a veteran campaigner and hostess. She made many speeches, both from the platform and over the radio, when her grandfather was campaigning.

At the recent inaugural ceremonies, Senator James Hamilton Lewis was scheduled to introduce the new mayor. At the last minute the suave senator found he couldn't attend. Vivien took his place and while not as much at ease before a battery of microphones as the veteran orator would have been, told the country for ten minutes

over a national hookup what a great man her grandfather was.

Equally at ease, she snipped the ribbon that dedicated a new airline, although she admitted later that she was "scared to death of airplanes."

Vivien wants to have a party May 15 when she enters her teens, but she's afraid she can't spare the time.

"Grandfather will need me," she said, "and anyway, a kid party seems pretty tame now."

"I want grandfather to go down in history," she said. "I want him to be the greatest mayor Chicago ever had. I want folks all over the world to know about him and remember him always."

## ARBITRATION REQUESTED ON PAY SLASHES

Contractors Offer Plan to Unions, in Effort to End Strike.

### MUCH WORK IS HALTED

Decision Before May 21 Is Sought; 'Selfishness' Is Charged.

Members of the executive committee of the Marion County Building Trades Council had before them today the proposal of the Associated Construction Employers for arbitration of the 20 per cent wage cut demanded by the employers' group.

Employers' plan calls for an arbitration board to be composed of two men selected by the United States department of labor, who shall have no interest in any phase of the construction industry; two to be selected by the Indianapolis trades unions; two by the construction employers and one to be agreed upon by the other six.

### Decision by May 21

Rules governing the arbitration as set out in the employers' proposal declare that the board shall render its decision in writing on or before May 21; that employers and employees shall be bound by wage scale decisions of this board, effective as of May 15, 1931, for one year thereafter, and that the employers agree to pay the 1930 scale, which now is in force, and the workers agree to accept it, pending decision of the arbitration board.

The employers' statement answers the charges of the craftsmen that the contractors based their bids on the old scale and by cutting the wages 20 per cent will make an additional profit.

### Unions Called 'Selfish'

"As an answer to this charge," said the statement, "the construction employers are willing to agree that all contracts entered into after April 24, 1931, in which the contractor would derive a profit for himself, shall be completed by the contractors on the basis of the 1930 scale."

In commenting on the 20 per cent reduction proposal and the unfavorable attitude with which it was received, the employers declared:

"The charge is made to keep the wages within reasonable bounds has been defeated by the selfishness of the unions, by owners who had buildings to complete and forced the contractors to meet union demands; by the apathy of the public, and by the interference of certain newspapers, unwilling to present the facts."

### Work at Standstill

Fifty per cent of the construction work in Marion county has come to a halt as a result of the Associated Employers' demand for a 20 per cent wage cut, it is estimated. Work on millions of dollars' worth of property is being delayed.

Another trade union, the cement finishers, has refused to accept the proposed wage cut.

"At our meeting Wednesday night, we took a vote on the reduction and it was turned down flatly," declared Thomas W. Dexter, secretary of the local.

## 'SNOOPER' CASE KILLED

Game Watched by Cops, Judge Lets Alleged 'Keeper' Go Free.

Despite testimony of Captain Otto Ray and a patrolman that they watched a domino-poker game in progress thirty minutes from over a transom, Municipal Judge Clifford R. Cameron today freed Herbert Stokes on a charge of keeping a gaming house. Stokes operates a poolroom at 2806 East Washington street in which the gambling is alleged to have taken place.

Seven men held, whom Captain Ray said were gambling, swore in court that they were not. With the state's evidence was produced several weeks ago Judge Cameron reprimanded Ray for "snooping" tactics in obtaining evidence.

## COLLEGIANS WILL TOIL

U. of Michigan to Drop Loafing and Bluffing Students.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., May 7.—A plan which would make it impossible for a student to loaf or bluff his way through the University of Michigan, will be presented to the university board of regents for approval May 28, it was learned today.

The plan, a radical departure in university administration, would provide that liberal arts students who fail to maintain an average of C in all studies shall be dismissed automatically from the university after the first two years.

## 'COLD WAVE' BREAK IS FORECAST SOON

Break in the unseasonably cold weather that struck Indianapolis Wednesday night is predicted within the next twenty-four hours by the weather bureau.

Dropping from the 60's to 37 early today, the mercury was 19 degrees below normal and came within a degree of reaching the record low of 36, set in 1891.

## STATE REDISTRICTING ACT OMTS WOODRUFF PLACE; LAW MAY BE RULED OUT

'OLD AGE' COSTING HIM JUST \$7,800



Captain Frank Aldrich and the book which he says can't lie!

'Young' Fireman Retired, as Board Won't Believe Family Bible.

"Youth will be served," echo the makers of adages and prize fight records, but in case of Fire Captain Frank Aldrich, 1139 College avenue, "youth" cost \$7,800 just because the Indianapolis safety board didn't believe the Bible.

Aldrich, placed on a pension this week by the board at the age of "70," settles in a chair at his home and protests being pensioned, with the words, "It's plain politics and they wouldn't believe the Bible. See, here's my birth record in our family Bible. Read it! Doesn't it say I'm 65 years old?"

It did. It said in faded ink that James Frank Aldrich was born May 1, 1866.

Set Birth Back But fire department records say he was born in 1891. They make him 70 years old and automatically pension him on \$75 instead of the \$205 monthly he has been receiving as captain at Fire Station 2, Sixteenth street and Roosevelt avenue.

Aldrich tried to convince the board that the family Bible was the last word and testament as to his age.

"Why, I gave that age when I went on the department thirty-six years ago, to be consistent. You see, I began firing a locomotive for the Pennsylvania railroad when I was 17. I had to set my birth date back five years to get a job. Well, I kept on using that for my birth date," he explains.

### 'It's a Tough Break'

"It's a tough break for a man to get. I've always been well. I've worked in every district in the city. I've got five good years left in me and if I didn't I'd have quit a long time ago. But I'm a Republican. That's why they did it."

"Not believing my father's handwriting in the Bible" and he patted the book in disgust.

"Oh! I'll not fight for those five years," said the "smoke-eater." "I don't know what I'm going to do. Something, I guess."

## GANDHI IDEALS ARE LAUDED BY BISHOP

Report on progress of the native Korean Methodist church, sponsored by Methodist Episcopal and Southern Methodist Episcopal churches in the United States.

Episcopal assignments for the fall conferences will be announced Monday morning by the plan committee.

Members of the board of bishops were guests of trustees and Superintendent George M. Smith of Methodist hospital at a dinner in the nurses home Wednesday night.

Dr. Smith traced growth of the hospital from 1909, when 799 patients were admitted, to 1930, when the number had grown to 14,143.

Some elements of Christianity are being injected into Hinduism by Gandhi, Bishop McConnell believes. Although Gandhi never will be a Christian, his example of the living of unselfish ideals is helping to uplift Hinduism, the bishop said.

Prior to the talk, Dr. J. H. Morgan of Dickinson college, of Carlisle, Pa., was elected to succeed Mr. J. Piller, deceased, as president of the University Senate, Methodist agency for standards in Methodist universities and colleges. C. F. Ross will be dean of trustees.

This afternoon, Bishops Herbert Welch, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Thomas Nicholson, Detroit, and James C. Baker of Seoul were to present their

Attorney Meyer Takes First Step to Save Vote Right for 1,216 Citizens.

### JOKER FOUND IN BILL

Town Not Placed in Either Eleventh or Twelfth Congress Unit.

BY BEN STERN

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Action which may end in the declaration that the 1931 congressional reapportionment act is unconstitutional and necessitate a special session of the legislature was begun today by Howard Meyer, attorney for the town of Woodruff Place. Meyer charged that 1,216 persons living there have been disenfranchised by the redistricting law.

As a first step in the action, Meyer today sent a letter to state election commissioners, W. W. Spencer and Fred C. Gause, asking for their interpretation of the redistricting law and setting forth his basis for the belief that it is unconstitutional.

The "joker" in the bill, which was a compromise measure hastily thrown together in the closing hours of the legislature under the urging of Henry Marshall, Lafayette publisher and mentor of Governor Harry G. Leslie, and R. Earl Peters, Democratic state chairman, lies in the manner of dividing Marion county into the Eleventh and Twelfth districts.

### Cites Two Sections

Pointing out that Woodruff Place is an incorporated town within the city of Indianapolis, Meyer cites Sections 13 and 14 of the new act, which, because of an injunction suit questioning legality of House Bill 6, has not been published or promulgated.

Section 13 declares: "The counties of Madison, Hancock and the townships of Marion county named Lawrence, Warren, Franklin and Perry, and the First, Ninth and Tenth wards of the city of Indianapolis, as now constituted and established with the land unincorporated lying east and south of the before mentioned wards in Marion county, shall constitute the Eleventh congressional district of the state of Indiana."

Section 14 declares: "All that part of Marion county except the following: The First, Ninth and Tenth wards of the city of Indianapolis, as now constituted and established with the land unincorporated lying east and south of the First, Ninth and Tenth wards in Marion county and the townships of Lawrence, Warren, Franklin, Perry in Marion county shall be and constitute the Twelfth congressional district of the state of Indiana."

### Woodruff Place Ignored

In neither one, nor in any other section is there any mention of Woodruff Place. "Therefore, by omission, the people of that town are disenfranchised," contends Meyer.

He points out that if the election commissioners rule that because Sec. 14 includes all Marion county not specifically mentioned in Sec. 13, Woodruff Place is placed in the Twelfth district, then the federal statutes are violated.

In support of this contention, Title 2, Sec. 3, of the federal code is cited. Discussing election of congressmen by districts this section specifically declares:

"In each state entitled under this apportionment to more than one representative, the representatives to congress shall be elected by districts composed of contiguous and compact territory."

### Violates Federal Statute

"If the election commissioners put Woodruff Place in the Twelfth district they will rule in contradiction to the federal statutes," Myers argues. "For Woodruff Place is separated from that district by the Third precinct of the Ninth ward, which is in the Eleventh district and therefore will be not in contiguous or compact territory."

Supporting the contention that Woodruff Place is a distinct town within the city of Indianapolis, Dr. Charles Leslie, director of the state legislative reference bureau, cited the Indianapolis municipal code, 1925, page 23, which specifically declares, after fixing the boundaries of the city of Indianapolis, that: "Nothing in this section shall be construed to operate as an annexation of the territory included within the town of Woodruff Place."

### Courts to Get Matter

Dr. Kettleborough also points out that the county commissioners, in Meyer believes, to write and pass a new reapportionment act.

In the belief of Dr. Kettleborough, the state can not elect the congressmen-at-large. The 1911 reapportionment act will not be in force, because the new congressional statute fixes Indiana's representation at twelve, whereas the former act provided for thirteen congressmen.

## \$5,000,000 FIRE RAZES ARMORY

Church and Houses Ruined by Flames in Buffalo.

By United Press

BUFFALO, N. Y., May 7.—Seventy-five firemen were overcome by smoke in fighting a \$5,000,000 fire, which, early today, destroyed a five-story graystone armory and a church in the Masten Hill section. Numerous houses in the area of the fire were damaged and 20,000 rounds of small ammunition, stored in the armory, was set off by the flames. Police kept the crowd as far away from the scene as possible because of the flying bullets, and no injuries, other than those suffered by firemen, were reported.

The armory, headquarters of the One hundred and sixth regiment, covered two city blocks, and the American Scandinavian church, which was destroyed, was five blocks from the massive, fort-like structure.

Aldrich tried to convince the board that the family Bible was the last word and testament as to his age.

## OHIO TO GET BURKE

'Killer' Will Face Second Murder Trial.

By United Press

TOLEDO, O., May 7.—Detectives James O'Reilly and George Timmerman were to go to Lansing, Mich., today with extradition papers for the return here of Fred Burke, Marquette prison inmate, under indictment for the alleged murder of a Toledo policeman.

Burke, serving a life sentence at Marquette for the killing of a Michigan state trooper, was promised release to Ohio authorities by Governor Wilbur M. Brucker, upon the assurance that he will be returned to Michigan if he is acquitted of the local murder charge.

## GET STIFF SENTENCES

Long Terms Meted Out to Three City Law Violators.

Heavy sentences were meted out to three law violators today by Criminal Judge Frank P. Baker.

Those sentenced: Macie Dortch, Negro, 29, of 2902 Pierson avenue in the Indiana state prison, and Clement Cummings, 18, and Evan King, 22, vehicle taking, each one to ten years in the Indiana state reformatory.

## LAND TAX BILL PASSED

British House Resolution Approved With Aid of Liberals.

By United Press

LONDON, May 7.—The land tax resolution, making effective one of the most controversial items of the Chancellor of the Exchequer Philip Snowden's budget, was passed by the house of commons last night, with the aid of the Liberal party.

The vote was 289 to 230.

David Lloyd George, the Liberal speaker, supported the tax on the ground that it is equitable among taxpayers.