

—Dietz on Science— SUPERSTITIONS ON MOON ARE ALL DISPROVED

Many Survive Despite Ab-
solute Proof of
Fallacy.

BY DAVID DIETZ
Scripps-Howard Science Editor

Lunar superstitions—still believed today in some quarters—connect the phases of the moon with the weather, with the growth of crops, with good and bad fortune and with good and bad health.

Needless to say, none of these superstitions have any basis in fact. Yet many of them survive.

A common superstition about the moon which illustrates why such beliefs survive is the one which holds that the full moon drives the clouds out of the sky.

Now an examination of weather records will show that it is cloudy at the time of full moon just as often as it is clear.

Superstition Is Foolish

But the point is that most people pay little attention to the phases of the moon and hence only realize that the moon is full when they see the full moon in the sky.

When the moon is full and the sky is clear they see the moon. When the moon is full and the sky is cloudy, they do not see the moon and, consequently, do not realize that the moon is full. Hence the superstition persists that the full moon drives the clouds out of the sky.

A little thought will serve to show how foolish the superstition is. The moon is 240,000 miles away. Clouds are in our own atmosphere. Moreover, on any given night, it will be clear in some localities and cloudy in others. The moon can not be responsible for both conditions.

Consulted for Crops

A generation or so ago it was common in rural communities to consult the almanac before planting crops. The phases of the moon were believed to have great influence upon their growth.

An old English writer advises (in his original spelling):

"Sow peason and beans, in the wane of the moone,
Who soweth them sooner, he soweth too soon,
That they with the planet may rest and arise,
And flourish, with bearing most plentiful wise."

As these lines indicate, lunar superstitions are very old. Plutarch writes:

"The moon sheweth her power most evidently even in those bodies, which have neither sense nor lively breath; for carpenters reject the timbers of trees fallen in the full moon, as being soft and tender, subject also to the worm and putrefaction, and that quickly, by reason of excessive moisture; husbandmen, likewise, make haste to gather up their wheat and other grain from the thrashing floor in the wane of the moon and toward the end of the month."

Another old poem states:

"When the moon is at the full,
Mushrooms you may freely pull;
But when the moon is on the wane,
Wait ere you thin to pluck again."

It would seem, however, that the ability to tell a mushroom from a toadstool would be more important in picking mushrooms.

SPLIT CHARITY DRIVES

Community Fund, Red Cross to Separate Money Raising.

Separate drives for funds will be conducted by the Community Fund and the Red Cross, according to announcement by officials of the two organizations today.

In previous years the drives had been united. Reason for the separate drives lies in the fact that the Red Cross is a national organization operating through local chapters, required to meet definite national and international obligations. The agreement to discontinue a united drive was made on a friendly basis, according to William Fortune, chairman of the Indianapolis chapter of the American Red Cross, and Arthur V. Brown, president of the Indianapolis Community Fund.

A BOOK A DAY

BY BRUCE CAITON

THERE is something immensely encouraging and reassuring about such a book as "Certain Samaritans," by Esther Pohl Lovejoy, a new and enlarged edition of which just has been published.

This book tells the story of the American Women's Hospitals—that organization of women doctors who went overseas during the war under Red Cross supervision, started out by caring for wounded soldiers and wound up by going all over the near east and combating famine, plague and a dozen other evils all the ways from Albania to Armenia.

"Wound up," perhaps, isn't quite the expression—for some of these women still are at it. But anyway, it is a fine record of magnificent service; and, as I say, it is a reassuring sort of book.

We hear a lot these days about the big rewards that must be hung up in order to inspire people to do their best work. Industry must offer its million-dollar bonuses, bankers must draw up their preferred lists, self-interest must be catered to all the time, or the world's work won't get done. What's that? Read what Dr. Lovejoy says:

"This service has not been a bed of roses. Sometimes it has been a bed of straw in a box car, a rug on the deck of a sailing smack, or a cot in a typhus camp. Our hospitalers have endured discomforts, survived diseases and manifold dangers, but they have lived abundantly. . . . They never can be poor, though they die in the almshouse; the place would be enriched by their presence."

America never should cease to be proud of the work done by these women. This book gives you an impressive survey of their splendid record.

Macmillan is the publisher, and the price is \$3.50.

READY FOR SPEEDBOAT TROPHY DASH



Gar Wood, Harmsworth trophy champion, is shown, right, as he greets Detroit Hubert Scott-Paine, British invader who will seek the cup in a series of races in the St. Clair river, beginning Sept. 2.

Radio Dial Twisters

—5:30 P. M.—
WBC—Lum and Abner to WEAF—
WEAF—(720)—Concert orchestra.
WGN—(720)—World's Fair Guide.
WIB—(670)—Bernie's orchestra.
WMC—(650)—Tanzan.
—5:45 P. M.—
KDKA—(980)—Pathé News.
KFW—(720)—Globe Trotter.
WBZ—Boake Carter, news.
NBC—The Goldbergs.
NBC—Tune Detective to WJZ.
WMB—(620)—Air Adven-
tures.
—6 P. M.—
CYW—(120)—Congress orchestra.
WBZ—Rudy City review.
WGN—(720)—Palmer ensemble.
NBC—Captain Diamond's orchestra to WJZ.
WLS—(670)—College Inn orchestra.
WMB—(650)—Tanzan.
—6:15 P. M.—
WBBM—(720)—Sports review.
WBZ—(720)—Musical Mem-
ories.
—6:30 P. M.—
KFW—(1020)—"Business Events" orchestra.
WBZ—(720)—Globe Trotter.
WIB—(720)—Tent Gentry's orchestra.
WMC—(650)—Kemp's orchestra.
WBZ—John Fogarty and WJZ—
Phantom Strings to WEAF.
—6:45 P. M.—
WBZ—(720)—Ted Lewis' orchestra.
WGN—(720)—Palmer ensemble.
—7 P. M.—
KFW—(1020)—Oriental Vill-
age orchestra.
WBZ—Mark Newson, George Wiesen, quartet and orchestra.
WIB—(720)—"Hamp" orchestra.
NBC—Show Boat to WEAF.
WGN—(720)—Opportunity orchestra.
NBC—Death Valley days to WJZ.
—7:15 P. M.—
WBZ—(720)—Sports: Fish-
er's orchestra.
WBZ—(720)—Orchestra pro-
gram.
WMC—Amos 'n' Andy to WENR.
—7:30 P. M.—
WBZ—(720)—Sports: Fish-
er's orchestra.
WBZ—(720)—Talk on summer stars.
WMB—(650)—Old Heidelberg.
WMB—(650)—Army orchestra.
—7:45 P. M.—
WBZ—(720)—Sports: Fish-
er's orchestra.
WBZ—(720)—"Weaf" orchestra.
—7:55 P. M.—
WBZ—(720)—Y. M. C. A. band and orchestra to WEAF.
—8:15 P. M.—
WBZ—(720)—Geron's orchestra.
—8:30 P. M.—
WBZ—Ted Husing and Leon Belasco orchestra.
WBZ—Water carnival to WJZ.
—8:45 P. M.—
KDKA—(980)—"Petts" orchestra.
KFW—(1020)—Three strings.
WBZ—(720)—Concert orchestra.
WBZ—(720)—Ted Lewis and orchestra.
—9 P. M.—
WBZ—(720)—"Weaf" orchestra.
WBZ—(720)—Talk on summer stars.
WBZ—(720)—Army orchestra.
—9:30 P. M.—
WBZ—(720)—Sports: Fish-
er's orchestra.
WBZ—(720)—"Weaf" orchestra.
WBZ—(720)—"Midnight" town.
WBZ—(720)—Around the town.

FORD PAY DECLARED ABOVE NRA MINIMUM

Forty-Hour Week Pioneered by Company, Says Manager.

Commenting on the NRA code as it affects automobile manufacturers and dealers, R. A. Hayes, manager of the Indianapolis branch of the Ford Motor Company, had the following to say today concerning the hour and wage scale of Ford employees:

"Working under terms of the national recovery act requires no change in hours or wages at the Indianapolis Ford plant. As a matter of fact, the Ford Motor Company years ago, pioneered the forty-hour week, and has worked under it continuously ever since.

"The rate of wages was increased so as to pay as much in five days as formerly was paid in six. All workers at the Ford plants receive well in advance of the NRA minimum."

1916 CHEVROLET STILL GOING AT GOOD CLIP

Texas Couple Are Proud of Their Royal Mail Roadster.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Finner of San Antonio, driving a veteran 1916 Royal Mail Chevrolet roadster, visited the Hare Chevrolet Motor Company this week.

Upon checking this four-cylinder old-timer, Manager Buddy Jones found that a wash-and-grease job was the only service he conscientiously could recommend for this "granddaddy" of the highways, which has 308,000 miles to its credit, and has been in every state in the Union except the Dakotas.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Finnerity are proud of their old "Chevy," and boast that they have yet to have an accident. They contend that they would not be in the market for a new car before 1945.

Carl Taber Is Promoted

Appointment of Carl Taber as used car manager is announced by Bohannon & Morrison, Plymouth and DeSoto dealers, 514 North Capitol avenue. Taber has made an excellent sales record, making thirty-two used car sales in July.

Bad Skin Caused by Sleepy Capillaries

There are one-half million tiny, delicate capillaries on the skin, set deep in your face. If these capillaries get tired and slow down in their work, your skin becomes pale and dark, the pores close up and you have wrinkles, blackheads, pimples and other blemishes. Stimulate these capillaries and they will work 3 times as fast. Use "Lively Skin" soap and soap and heating, try "Skin" under the fair-pink guarantee to satisfy completely. It disappears in a day or two. It is good and good for you. The supply can last ten to a day at Hooke's, Hager, W. Va., and all good drug stores.

Fishing the Air

Mcart's "Concerto for Flute and Harp" will be played by Florence Wickham, harpist and Arturo Lara, flutist, as a highlight of the concert footlights program at 8:30 p. m. over WFBM and an NBC network.

"Lilie Lila," one of Guy de Maupassant's lesser known short stories, special program for radio dramatization by Fernand France, will continue. The director will be the Dramatic Guild presentation Thursday from 8:30 to 9 p. m. over WFBM and the Columbia chain.

HIGH SPOTS OF THURSDAY NIGHT'S PROGRAMS

4:45—NBC—(WJZ)—Tune—Detective-Sigmund Spaeth.

6:00—NBC—(WEAF)—Valley's orchestra.

6:15—Rhythm Rascals.

6:30—WBZ—(720)—McNally.

7:00—Mark Warnow orchestra (CBS).

7:15—Al Feeney sports talk.

8:00—Willard Robison and orchestra.

8:30—Gladys Rice with concert orchestra.

8:45—Phil Regan (CBS).

9:00—NRA program (CBS).

9:30—Casa Loma orchestra (CBS).

10:30—Johnny Hamp orchestra (CBS).

11:15—Balled Boys.

12:15—Old World Themes.

12:30—Dinner dances.

12:45—Dancing Sisters.

1:15—Real Soldiers of Fortune.

1:30—Evening Moods.

1:45—Indianapolis vs. Kansas City base-
ball.

1:55—Lum & Abner (NBC).

2:15—Harry Bassett (NBC).

2:30—Same, continued.

2:45—Steiner's mandolin sextet.

3:00—Charlie De Saute's orchestra.

3:15—Sign off.

WBZ—(720)—Cincinnati.

WBZ—(720)—"Weaf" orchestra.

WBZ—(720)—Death Valley Days.

WBZ—(720)—"Weaf" orchestra.

WBZ—(72