

## AIR LINES CAN PROSPER, SAYS RICKENBACKER

Ace Predicts Profits for Systems If Freed of Politics.

This is the third of three interviews with Colonel Eddie Rickenbacker, in which America's most famous war ace presents the air mail contractors' side of the present controversy with the government. After the private contracts were cancelled and the army ordered to carry the mail, The Times and the Scripps-Howard Newspapers 1 and 2 and Col. Rickenbacker to present the arguments for the operators.

BY GEORGE DAWES  
Times Special Writer

Air transportation, given a fair opportunity and not burdened with political control, would return a profit on operations within a maximum of three years, Colonel Eddie Rickenbacker declared today. "I know what I'm talking about," he insisted. "It is not guess work, optimism or bluff. All we ask is the same chance the railroads were given. That and freedom from political control."

He paused, smiled and then added: "Politicians and airplanes do not mix well."

Aviation once meant flaming death, spitting bullets and daily gambles with life to America's ace of aces. Now it is a problem of cold figures, charts and reports. The strong, sun-browned hands that aimed the guns which downed twenty-five German planes moved swiftly through a stack of reports on his desk. He lifted a paper, studied it, then spoke slowly.

Says Cost Has Been Cut

"The cost to the government of carrying the air mail has gone down," he said. "The revenue has increased. The gap between income and expenditure has thus been sharply reduced. It is inevitable that aviation, given a fair chance, will soon return a profit."

Colonel Rickenbacker, vice-president of North American Aviation Corporation, the General Motors subsidiary that owns control of three great air lines, carefully chose his words as he commented upon previous government operation of transportation systems.

"The government, you know, has not done so well in the transportation field," he said. "After the war, it was mighty glad to relinquish control of the railroads. The shipping board now is trying to get out of the steamship business. I don't know why I should expect any better luck with the transportation of air mail."

Industry Needs Revenue

An air transport system, he pointed out, must have revenue from every possible source, the same as railroads or shipping.

"A rail company would have a difficult struggle if it had to exist solely on the revenue from passengers, or freight, or mail," he said. "Why, then, expect the younger and relatively weaker air transport system to exist without the aid of the mail payments?"

"We must not make believe; we must face the realities. If the government permanently assigns the mail job to the army, our air transportation system will be wrecked. A few lines might struggle along for a brief time, with infrequent schedules and almost prohibitive rates. Hundreds of millions of dollars invested in air line securities would be swept away. Hundreds of men, who have risked their lives to pioneer a new industry, would lose their jobs."

Shows Decrease in Payments

Rickenbacker produced a table showing the decrease in annual payment by the postoffice department for every mile flown with mail in the United States. The table, by fiscal years, follows:

1929	\$1,000,000	1932	62
1930	98	1933	54
1931	95	1934	38

During the same period, he said, the annual mileage increased from 10,212,511 to almost 36,000,000. With the assistance of technical experts, Colonel Rickenbacker has prepared a proposal, "How the transportation of air mail can be made to return a profit to the government and the air transport industry." It is a long, detailed study, bristling with columns of figures and estimates.

Opposed to "Stigma"

It recommends, first, the elimination of the stigma of "subsidy" in referring to air mail appropriations, charging that "it is unjustly assumed that the air mail operators are being subsidized, whereas it is the general public which is being subsidized in view of the fact that without passenger and express revenue, the so-called air mail subsidy would not equal the cost of the transportation of the present volume of air mail over the vast mileage and the number of schedules and at present speeds."

Colonel Rickenbacker recommends reduction of air mail rates to stimulate use of the service. The letter rate, he believes, should be given an ounce a postcard 2 cents and a lettergram, a single sheet that folds into an envelope, 3 cents.

Also, he recommends "a method of payment that will penalize those not carrying profitable loads and reward the others."

The schedule of minimum rates he recommends would begin with 40 cents an airplane mile this year and gradually be reduced until the rate would be only 25 cents at the end of five years.

Sees Profit in Postoffice

"I estimate conservatively that the postoffice department would be making an annual profit of more than \$2,000,000 at the end of the third year and a profit of almost \$5,500,000 in the fifth year," he said.

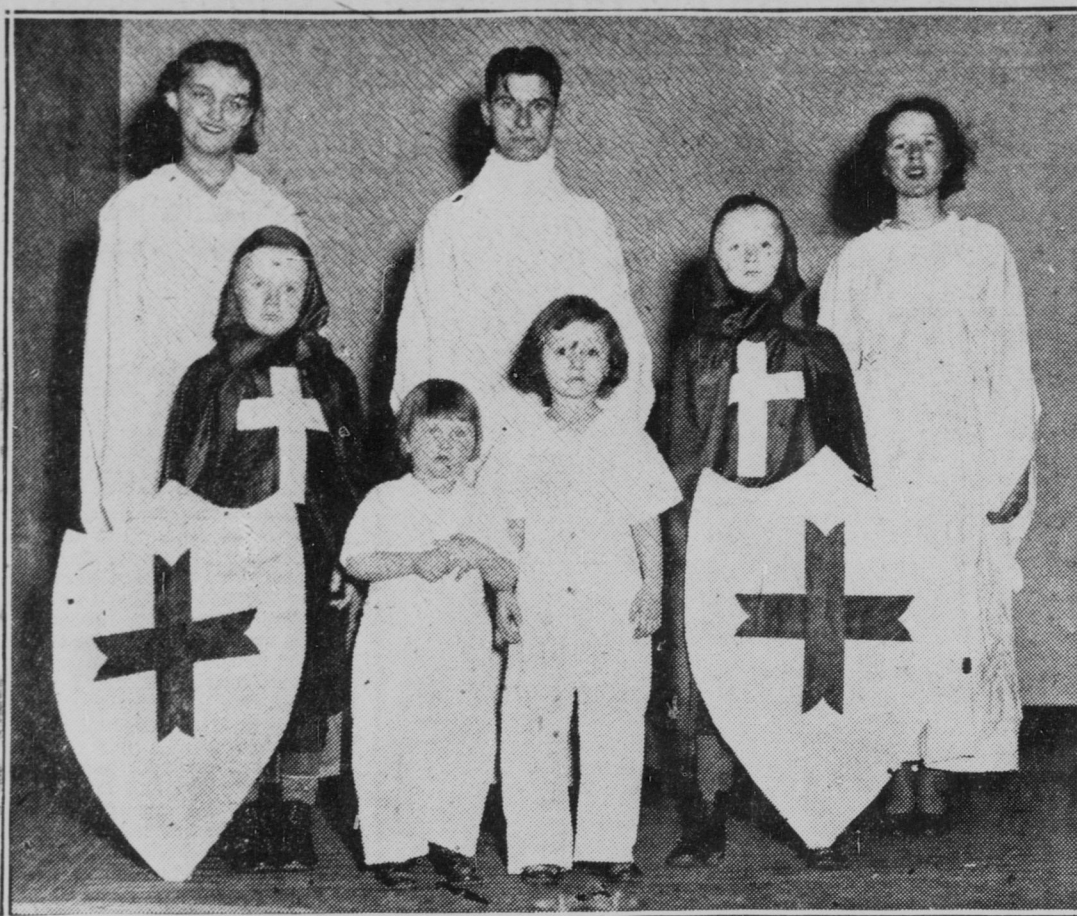
Operators of the long, heavy lines can make a profit for the government almost immediately. The lines that extend into sparsely settled areas, where the mail loads are light, must be aided for a few years.

"The government should tackle this air mail problem in a sensible, business-like way with no disregard of politics. Operators of the busy lines should be paid a low rate per pound mile. They are willing to work for that low rate today, too."

Colonel Rickenbacker finds one bright ray of sunshine in the present army operation of the mail.

"It may result in having a lot of obsolete, dangerous equipment washed out," he said. "The army is loaded up with junk planes. The way things were going it had no chance to get rid of the obsolete equipment. If the boys wreck some planes, then congress may give them the money to buy some badly needed new ones."

## MARION COUNTY W. C. T. U. TO OBSERVE 60TH ANNIVERSARY



Celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the Marion County W. C. T. U. will be observed with a luncheon meeting Friday at the North M. E. church. Appearing in a pageant in honor of the anniversary are, front row, left to right, Chester Cones Jr., Rosalind Bunce, Patricia Ann Templeton, Robert Frank Cones Jr.; (back row, left to right) Charlotte Richey, George Sharpe and Rosalind Cook.

## FIRST LADY INSPECTS PUERTO RICO PRISON

Mrs. Roosevelt Astonished by Good Conditions at Institution.

By United Press  
ST. GERMAN, Puerto Rico, March 13.—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, touring Puerto Rico to learn living conditions at first hand, has found them unexpectedly good.

On a visit yesterday to what had been described as the worst spot in Puerto Rico, the National Women's Prison at Arecibo, she was astonished to find conditions good.

The hospital was clean and the women able to sit up were working at lace making. Other prisoners were lined up for her, wearing blue wrappers, in a big room in which they sew by day and sleep at night.

## COMMUNICATIONS BILL ATTACKED BY GIFFORD

Measure Would Disrupt Business, Says A. T. & T. Head.

By United Press  
WASHINGTON, March 13.—Walter S. Gifford, president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, today charged that the communications regulation bill of Senator Clarence Dill (Dem., Wash.) would disorganize the telephone business, imperil its efficiency and jeopardize the investment of 681,000 stockholders.

Testifying before the senate interstate commerce committee, Mr. Gifford argued that any communications legislation should be restricted to that called for by President Roosevelt.

Mr. Gifford interpreted the President's recent message as suggesting merely a transfer to a new commission of the powers over communications now exercised by the interstate commerce and federal radio commissions.

## EYE BLOWN OUT, BOY CYCLES HOME 2 MILES

Iowa Lad Injured When Railroad Torpedo Explodes.

By United Press  
COUNCIL BLUFFS, Ia., March 13.—When a railroad torpedo with which he was playing exploded, blowing out one eye, 15-year-old Clarence Tyler leaped astride his bicycle and pedaled two miles to his home. At a hospital physicians said they believed they could save the other eye.

## Despondent Man Kills Self

By United Press  
LOGANSPORT, Ind., March 13.—Carl C. Taylor, 34, died in a hospital here of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in the head after being brought here from Monticello, where the shooting occurred. He was said to have been despondent over his wife's intention to seek a divorce.

## Eastern Star to Honor Worthy Grand Matron

Namoi Chapter No. 131 Will Entertain Friday for Mrs. Malcolm.

Namoi chapter No. 131, Order of Eastern Star, will entertain Mrs. Rose L. Malcolm, worthy grand matron of the Indiana grand chapter, Friday night in the Masonic temple, North and Illinois streets. Dinner will precede the meeting in the dining room. Reservations should be made before Wednesday noon.

Mrs. Millie Gilmore, chairman of the arrangements committee, has arranged the dining room seating to form a triangle. The tables will be decorated with spring flowers and colors appropriate to the occasion.

Miss Frances Luke, accompanied by Mrs. Mamie Passmore, will sing a number arranged in honor of the grand matron. Mrs. Passmore also has written words of greeting which will be given in song. Additional entertainment will be presented through the courtesy of a downtown music house.

Other members of the committee are Mrs. Jessie Craig, Mrs. Rachel Hammerschlag, Miss M. Belle Cope, Harry Byrke, Mrs. Cora Welland, Mrs. Goldie Gorden, Mrs. Kathryn Bortfield, Mrs. Kathryn Amburster and Mrs. Passmore.

Music in the chapter room will be in charge of Mrs. Passmore, assisted by Miss Alice Otto, Mrs. Mabel Hughes and A. D. George, soloists. A quartet composed of Mrs. Elizabeth Magson, Mrs. Craig, Mr. George and Walter Mottinger, a member of Queen Esther chapter, will sing.

Eastern Star degrees will be conferred at 8 o'clock by Mrs. Gertrude Gray, worthy matron, and William R. Gray, worthy patron, assisted by Mrs. Leona Byrke, associate matron; Frank Duncan, associate patron; Mrs. Nellie K. Stammel, secretary; Mrs. Goldie Gorden, treasurer; Mrs. Mae Wright, conductress; Mrs. Genevieve Bard, associate conductress; Mrs. Cora Naugle, chaplain; Mrs. Mollie Spear, marshal; Mrs. Passmore, organist; Miss Charlene Ray, Adah; Mrs. Kathryn Bortfield, Ruth; Mrs. Mary Hoffmeyer, Esther; Mrs. Anna Lydick, Martha; Mrs. Nora Moore, Electa; Mrs. Bessie Wikoff, warder; Mrs. Florence Carr, sentinel.

There will be a dinner at 6 to-night in the Athenaeum, followed by a joint meeting with the Indianapolis Medical Society. Speakers tonight will be Dr. Max Thorek, Chicago, and Dr. John Stanley Coulter, associate professor of physical therapy at the Northwestern university medical school, Dr. C. B. Smith will be chairman.

## CITY OWNERSHIP OF UTILITIES IS TOPIC

Civic League to Discuss Proposals Tomorrow.

Present status of the proposed purchase of the Citizens Gas Company and the Indianapolis Water Company by the city will be discussed tomorrow night at the meeting of the central committee of the South Side Civic League.

The committee will meet at 8 at 1214 Prospect street.

Though the proposal was sponsored by the Indianapolis Federation of Civic Clubs, the central committee of the south side club has opposed any action being taken in the matter of the Indianapolis Water Company, termed by Walter C. Roethermel, president, as a "political shakedown."

A nominating committee, to be appointed tomorrow night by Mr. Roethermel, will report at the April meeting, when officers will be elected. The fire prevention meeting, arranged by a committee having as honorary members Fire Chief Harry Voshell and Bernard Lynch, fire prevention chief, will be held the first week in April.

## CONFESSES FILLMORE STATE BANK ROBBERY

Roachdale Man Awaits Sentence; Alleged Aid to Be Tried.

By United Press  
GREENCASTLE, Ind., March 13.—William E. Fine, 28, Roachdale, confessed robber of the Fillmore State bank Oct. 25, awaited sentencing in Putnam county jail here today as authorities planned a jury trial March 16 for Mrs. Fern Allen Gooch, 25, Bainbridge, held on a similar charge.

Fine pleaded guilty to the robbery charge when arraigned before Judge Wilbur S. Donner late yesterday. Mrs. Gooch pleaded not guilty. Her bond was set at \$3,000. The couple was returned here Sunday after being arrested in Nashville, Tenn.

The Fillmore bank was robbed of \$1,127 by a man and a woman who kidnapped Amos Hunter, bank cashier, and forced him to accompany them a short distance.

## DOCTORS' MEETING SET

200 Mid-West Physicians to Assemble Here Today.

More than 200 physicians throughout the midwest will convene here today at a meeting of the midwestern section of the American Congress of Physical Therapy. Sessions will be held at the Indiana university medical school auditorium and at the Athenaeum. The night meeting will be held jointly with the Indianapolis Medical Society.

## THREE ARE BEHEADED

Medieval Battleax Used to Kill Young German Trio.

By United Press  
KARLSRUHE, Germany, March 13.—Three men were beheaded by means of a medieval battleax today at Ploetzensee prison, near Berlin.

Richard Bahr, 24, a Communist, was executed for setting fire to a score of barns and farmhouses. Friedrich Mann, 30, and Alfred Schulz, 30, were executed for the murder of a taxicab driver.

## City Man, 77, Ends Life

A quantity of lye solution taken in a suicide attempt Saturday night proved fatal to James McAllister, 77, of 350 West Washington street. He died last night in the city hospital.

## Junior Bible Class Meets

Tom Mumford has been elected president of the Junior Bible class of the Church of the Advent, 3243 North Meridian street.

## Physical Therapy Group Opens Meetings Here

Midwestern Doctors Attend Clinics at Indiana U., City Hospitals.

Clinics in the physical therapy departments of the Indiana university hospitals and the city hospital opened the spring session of the American Congress of Physical Therapy this morning.

A demonstration clinic on cancer of the hand led by Dr. E. N. Kime, will feature this afternoon's session in the Indiana university medical school auditorium. Six papers will be read by physicians. Dr. Disraeli Kobak, assistant pro-

## LARRABEE AND BOEHNE SEEK RENOMINATION

Democratic Congressmen File Intentions at Statehouse.

Congressmen William H. Larrabee, New Palestine, and John W. Boehne Jr., Evansville, filed for renomination with the secretary of state yesterday. Both are Democrats.

George W. DeMoss, Greenwood, filed for the Republican nomination for congress from the Seventh district.

Candidates filing for Marion county offices included:

George A. Henry, 58 East Regent street, judge of superior court three, Republican; William D. Bain, 4232 Rookwood avenue, judge of superior court two, Republican; William J. Layton, 410 Harlan street, state representative, Democrat, and Chester W. Cones, 1945 North Dearborn street, state representative, Republican.

## Urges G. O. P. Vote

Urging members of the Irvington Republican Club to vote the straight Republican ticket, "even if a candidate should be sponsored by George V. Coffin," Ralph Scott, Republican chairman of Hancock county, attacked the administration's gold policy and the "two per cent club" organized to raise a Democratic campaign fund.

"This is the first time since the Civil war that the American dollar hasn't been worth 100 cents in any country of the world," Mr. Scott said. He stated that while the present administration was issuing \$2,000,000,000 in bonds redeemable in gold, it was preparing a bill making the possession of gold a crime.

Commenting on the "two per cent club," Mr. Scott said, "If these employees can afford to sacrifice 2 per cent of their wages, they should take it off the pay roll. I object to paying taxes for use as Democratic campaign funds."

## Seeks Constable Post

Arthur M. Bowman today announced his candidacy for center township constable subject to the Republican primaries. He previously served in that capacity from 1922 to 1926. Mr. Bowman also has served as an investigator for the Eberhart, O'Neil and National detective agencies.

Mr. Bowman, an Indianapolis resident for the past twenty-five years, resides at 925 Park avenue. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

## Candidate for Justice

James R. Battey, Negro lawyer with offices at 229 1/2 Indiana avenue, today announced his candidacy for justice of the peace of Center township in the coming primaries. He is a former president of the Marion County Lawyers' Club and a graduate of the Central Law school, Louisville. He lives at the Dunbar apartments.

## G. O. P. Group to Meet

Meeting of ward executive committees of the Young Republican League of Marion county will be held Monday night at 401 Meyer-Kiser building, it was announced last night at a conference of ward chairmen.

The committees are composed of the league's precinct chairmen and vice-chairmen. Precinct executive committees will meet the following week. Joseph E. Hartman, county chairman, presided last night.

## Governor Is Attacked

Attacking Governor Paul V. McNutt and County Commissioners Ernest C. Ambuhl, 3530 Kenwood avenue, for G. O. P. city councilman from the First district, and Arthur C. Patz, 626 Parkway, for the Democratic nomination from the Fifth district.

Mr. Ambuhl has been active in Republican politics for twenty years. He is secretary of the Indianapolis Poultry, Butter and Egg Association. He was born in Indianapolis, June 15, 1892, and is a member of Sahara Grotto, North Park Masonic lodge and secretary of the Indianapolis Swiss Society.

Mr. Patz is a south side business man with a plumbing firm at 507 Prospect street. He is president of the South Side Turners and a member of the Atheneum, a Mason and a member of the German Evangelical church.

## FOUR PERISH IN BLAZE AT CITY HOME



An early morning fire today claimed the lives of four members of a family of seven, Mrs. Edna Finch, 28, of 1005 Rowena street, and three children perishing in their burning home. Surviving (upper) were the husband and father, Kenneth Finch; Mrs. Jennie Covey, mother of Mrs. Finch, and Alice Jo Finch, 11 months, who was rescued.

The intense heat of the flames twisted the bed (lower) in which one of the doomed children was sleeping.

deputy sheriffs assigned to guard the desperado either were grossly inefficient or were bribed. But, in my opinion, John Dillinger is no greater menace to our people than the crooked and corrupt banker."

Mr. Morgan promised that if he is elected prosecutor he will prove to local depositors that corrupt bank officials will be punished the same as other crooks.

## Member Drive to Open

A membership campaign will be opened tonight at a meeting of the Ninth Ward Young Republican Club in the Dearborn hotel, 3208 East Michigan street. A special invitation to women to attend the meeting has been extended by Mrs. Florence Holland, ward vice-chairman.

## Seek Council Posts

City council candidates took their hats in the political ring with hourly regularity.

Two new candidates for nomination by their parties today were Ernest C. Ambuhl, 3530 Kenwood avenue, for G. O. P. city councilman from the First district, and Arthur C. Patz, 626 Parkway, for the Democratic nomination from the Fifth district.

Mr. Ambuhl has been active in Republican politics for twenty years. He is secretary of the Indianapolis Poultry, Butter and Egg Association. He was born in Indianapolis, June 15, 1892, and is a member of Sahara Grotto, North Park Masonic lodge and secretary of the Indianapolis Swiss Society.

Mr. Patz is a south side business man with a plumbing firm at 507 Prospect street. He is president of the South Side Turners and a member of the Atheneum, a Mason and a member of the German Evangelical church.

## Runs for Constable

Floyd Tibbets, 442 North Linwood avenue, announced yesterday his candidacy for constable on the Democratic ticket for Center township.

He formerly was in the trucking business. He is a graduate of Arsenal Technical high school and is unmarried.

## Law Enforcement Hit

Law enforcement in Indiana was condemned last night by Leland Morgan, candidate for prosecuting attorney on the Republican ticket, in a speech before the Golden Eagle Club at the V. F. W. hall, 143 East Ohio street, last night.

"The recent escape of John Dillinger from the Crown Point jail proved," said Mr. Morgan, "that the

## Nothing so good for Chapped Skin

Asks Regulation Aid  
Appeal for co-operation from all voters with those assisting in registration of voters was urged today by Edgar Hart, Republican county chairman.

Many instances have been reported where voters refused to sign the registration certificates and where admission to homes had been refused.

"While no blame can be attached to any person for caution in granting strangers admission to their homes yet it is imperative that every Marion county voter be registered," Mr. Hart said.

"Unless a voter is properly registered, he can not vote," he warned.

## Governor Will Speak

Governor Paul V. McNutt is scheduled to be the speaker tonight at the monthly dinner of the State House Women's Democratic Club in the Indianapolis Athletic Club. Frank Finney, commissioner of the state bureau of motor vehicles, will be the toastmaster.

## Democrats Hear Slifer

"Democracy" was the address given last night at the Lincoln by Dr. Walter L. Slifer, Butler university, at a meeting of the Cosmopolitan Democratic Club. One hundred and fifty persons attended the meeting.

New officers installed were Dr. Will H. Smith Jr., president; John

## HAMMER DEATH RECALLS CRIME 32 YEARS AGO

Murderers of 'Doc' Lung Discovered Here by Accident.

The murder of Willie Sing recalls another Chinese murder victim in Indianapolis, thirty-two years ago. "Doc" Lung, proprietor of a Chinese laundry on Indiana avenue, near Illinois street, was found in his laundry, his head severed with a meat cleaver.

Investigation then apparently revealed that, like the murder of Willie Sing, the crime was committed with robbery as a motive. Twenty-four Chinese, in Chicago and Indianapolis, were arrested, in an attempt to pin the murder on one of them. Solution of the crime, however, was not completed until six months later.

At that time, Captain William Bray of the detective bureau was questioning a Negro who had been arrested as a suspect in a grave robbers' gang. The Negro satisfactorily proved that he was not a member of the gang.

"Well," Captain Bray commented, jokingly, "if you're not guilty of robbing graves, I guess I'll have to hold you for the murder of 'Doc' Lung."

The Negro dropped to his knees and said, "I'm not guilty, captain, but I can give you the names of the two men who did kill him."

He gave the names of the two Negroes who killed Lung, and they were convicted later.

The murder of Doc Lung came after the Chinese had won between \$3,000 and \$4,000 in a fan tan game on Delaware street. The two Negroes who decapitated him in his laundry took as their loot the money won in the game.

## ACQUIT SCHOOL TEACHER

Carl Van Laningham Found Not Guilty of Assault.

Carl Van Laningham, Oaklandon school teacher, who was found guilty of assault and battery against a 12-year-old student, Roy Gratter, and fined \$10 and costs in municipal court in January, was last night acquitted of the charge, when a jury in the criminal court found him not guilty on appeal.

## \$75 Stolen From Home

Pushing a cardboard away from a broken glass in the front door, thieves entered the home of Mrs. William Meyer, 717 West Thirty-second street, last night. Articles valued at \$75 were stolen, Mrs. Meyer told police.

## Ice Breaks; Laborer Drowns

By United Press  
FOX RIVER GROVE, Ill., March 13.—A weak spot in the ice of Fox river broke, tumbling William Williams, 58, factory worker, into the icy water. Despite efforts of a dozen rescuers, he drowned.



"ODORA" Cedar Wardrobe Closet

\$1.29

With the patented "Cedarizer" that kills moths and their eggs! The cedarizer is covered with cellophane. They're damp-proof, dust-proof and insect-proof. 5 feet high, 15 inches wide and 20 inches deep. Holds 4 coats and 10 dresses. Out-of-town orders please add 25c for postage.

Odora Cedar Fold Chest

Safe because each chest is equipped with an exclusive (patented) cedarized retainer which continuously emits a pungent cedar vapor. Size 12x14x30.

55c

NOTIONS—Main Floor.

BLOCK'S

