

Jan. 6, 1936

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

It Seems to Me
by
HEYWOOD BROUN

MIAMI, Fla., Jan. 5.—The race horse is the most beautiful animal as yet involved by nature, but also one of the dumbest. I speak not in the bitter spirit of a confirmed loser, but wholly in the dispassionate manner of a scientific observer. For more than a week now I have been trying to check up on Darwin by field work in the laboratory known as the Tropical Park race track.

My studies have been intensive and have ranged from natural history to higher mathematics. When the next convention of savants assembles I purpose to read a paper which will prove that there is nothing in Mr. Darwin's theory of natural selection. And if you follow the tipsters you do even worse. Still less is there any proof around a race track of the survival of the fittest. Horses which seldom win a race persist in competition even longer than their more gifted rivals who get retired to the stud.

It is by no means fantastic to suggest that the sport of kings should also be the stamping ground of the scientific minded. The heredity of horses is more carefully observed and recorded than that of any other form of animal life. I haven't the slightest idea of what my grandfather could do at six furlongs and even less am I acquainted with the staying powers of my great-grandmother. But the meanest plater at the track can trace his ancestry back through many generations and prove beyond a doubt that somewhere in the line there was a touch of greatness.

Too Much for Salisbury

MANY a trainer who can not spell very well still knows that there was once upon a time a monk named Mendel who worked things out with tulips which have some bearing on the odds offered on the current crop of 2-year-olds at Tropical. Not every one will agree with me that the race horse is both beautiful and dumb. Around some stables legends arise about steeds which understand the nature of the game and grow brokenhearted under the ignominy of being beaten by two lengths. But it is my impression that these myths tend to mushroom into absurdity. For instance a gray horse named Salisbury pranced out on the track a day or so ago and most palpably turned his head and gave a long look at the board which prominently displays the approximate odds.

I am quite ready to admit that the horse seemed to be studying the prices intently, but I could not agree with my companion who remarked, "Don't bet on him. He's seen that he is only 3 to 1 and he won't extend himself at any such figure." It is quite true that Salisbury, who figured swoll on form, ran a dull and listless race as if waiting for some better afternoon in which to score a killing. That I consider sheer coincidence. In fact I bet on Salisbury in spite of the sneering glance he gave to the mutual ratings. It is my determination to go about my task here in a true research spirit and to have nothing to do with hunches, hot-pins, tips and all the hogboggins of the superstitious.

The Horses Are Dumb

AT the moment I am approaching the problem from a mathematical rather than a zoological point of view. Under the Broun system, which consists in taking a ticket on every horse entered in the race you are bound to pick the winner. The only flaw in the theory is that on occasions there is no profit in the victory. However, by the use of the method I did, on one occasion, win a daily double which netted \$267 and those who first laughed at my style of play are now asking for instructions in its intricacies.

But in these operations the wisdom has been mine and not that of the horses. I am peculiarly impressed with the fact that they are still far down on a lower rung of Mr. Darwin's ladder.

A gray macaw, John Tio, the wonder bird, can outlast the lot of them. John is a performer at Earl Carroll's night club on Palm Island. He can even outlast most of Mr. Carroll's show girls. Indeed this bird can imitate Eddie Cantor, a barking dog, a police whistle and a drill sergeant, though not all at the same time, of course. It has been suggested to John's trainer that the police whistle stunt might well be dropped. The first night the bird did that five patrons jumped out the window.

Possibly the most amazing part of John Tio's performance is the fact that he has been trained by a Filipino who talks about like Wallace Irvin's Japanese schoolboy and yet the net results comes from the bird's throat in pure English dialect. John F. Hyland could do no better. It is quite marvelous, but if I were Mr. Carroll I would be fearful that John's mighty demonstration might have a bad psychic effect on the lovely ladies of the ensemble. The danger lies in the fact that John Tio, with his articulateness, seems to have only one word with which to reply to direct questions. And that word is "sure." A girl who is about to face a long Miami season ought to know more than that.

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Today's Science

BY DAVID DIETZ

THE \$1000 prize awarded annually at the convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science for "an outstanding paper" has just been given to Dr. Vern O. Knudsen of the University of California at Los Angeles, for his paper on "The Absorption of Sound in Gases."

This paper was delivered by Dr. Knudsen on Dec. 29, during the course of the association convention in Pittsburgh as part of a symposium upon acoustics.

This was the twelfth time that the \$1000 prize was awarded. The donor is still hiding behind the screen of anonymity. Because of the difficulty of evaluation the importance of a paper in pottery, for example, against one in astronomy, the committee is not required to pick "the best paper," but merely "a noteworthy paper." Naturally, there is some attempt to pick the paper which a majority might consider the most important.

During the convention there was much speculation as to whether the prize might go to Prof. Albert Einstein, who addressed the convention upon a new proof of his theory of the equivalence of mass and energy, his theory that matter consists of bottled energy. Certainly there was no question about his presence attracting the most attention at the convention.

MONG other papers which attracted considerable attention at the convention was one by Dr. T. H. Johnson of the Bartol Research Foundation of the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia. Dr. Johnson reported upon a three-month study of cosmic rays in Mexico.

Dr. Johnson, who had previously discovered that the intensity of cosmic rays was greater from the West than the East, by the recording of 10,000,000 individual cosmic rays in Mexico established also the fact that the intensity of the rays was greater from the South than the North.

This Dr. Johnson believes, confirms the fact that the rays reaching the cosmic ray detectors are charged particles.

ANOTHER important paper was that presented by Dr. Oscar Riddle and his associates of the Carnegie Institution of Washington that prolactin, a hormone secreted by the pituitary gland, attached to the brain, awoke the maternal instinct in chickens.

Injects of this hormone caused chickens to begin to cluck and soon to incubate or nest. Two roosters, given injections, were made to cluck but would show no interest in nests or eggs.

Still other important papers included those of Dr. T. S. Painter of the University of Texas and Dr. C. R. Bridges of the Carnegie Institution of Washington upon the work which made the genes, the carriers of heredity in the chromosomes of the living cell, visible under the microscope for the first time in history.



Bruno Richard Hauptmann . . . Grim and Stoical.

BY SUTHERLAND DENLINGER
Times Special Writer

AS Bruno Richard Hauptmann stands trial for the murder of Charles Augustus Lindbergh Jr. in Hunterdon County Court-house the defense is prepared to deny every pertinent allegation made against him by the State of New Jersey.

It will contend that Hauptmann is not guilty and in proof of this probably will produce witnesses, controverting evidence of the prosecution, to show that:

The defendant was not seen near the Lindbergh home before the kidnaping.

William Dills Whitehead, William Diehl and George E. J. Lenz, neighbors of Millard Whitehead, will be called to testify that his reputation for veracity and honesty is bad and that defense thus is expected to attack the credibility of the witness expected to swear he saw Hauptmann in the vicinity of the Lindbergh home.

Hauptmann was not in the baby's room.

Handwriting experts will testify their belief that Hauptmann wrote none of the ransom notes.

Hauptmann will testify that he did not leave the ransom note found in the baby's room and he and his wife will swear to an alibi which places him in New York at the time of the kidnaping.

He will swear that customarily he met his wife each Tuesday night at the Bruno restaurant where she was employed and took her home. He will swear that he was interested in the Lindbergh case.

He will say he believed he was entitled to use some of it if Fisch owed him \$7500.

He will say that the reason the telephone number of Dr. Condon was found penciled on a panel in his home was merely because he was interested in the Lindbergh case.

Mrs. Hauptmann will testify that she knew nothing of Hauptmann's possession of the money.

Hauptmann's conduct has not been that of a guilty man.

Hauptmann by nature and habit is close-mouthed, quiet and has few or no bad habits, witnesses will be called to declare. They will be called to testify that he is devoted to his wife and infant son, respected by friends and that his past life does not provide ground for the belief that he was capable of the kidnaping plot.

Hauptmann was a poor man after the ransom was paid.

Witnesses will declare that as late as Oct. 17, 1932, Hauptmann owed \$60 as the result of an automobile accident and was slow to pay—it at a time when the State contends he had \$50,000.

The reported identifications of the defendant were not fair.

The defense will present testimony that soon after the crime it was reported that footprints of three persons were found.

Other witnesses will testify that shoes such as Hauptmann has worn are identical in size and type with the thousands of others which might have left footprints on Soudland Mountain.

Hauptmann did not write the ransom notes.

Defense experts will testify that for every letter in the ransom notes which resembles Hauptmann's writing there is one or more not resembling it.

They will swear that racial characteristics in writing are common to many persons.

Hauptmann did not negotiate for the ransom money.

The defendant will testify that the voice identified as his by Col. Lindbergh was not his, that Isidor Fisch, from whom he will say he got the ransom money, had a Teutonic voice and that Fisch suffered from tuberculosis, the disease producing a cough such as Col. Lindbergh is expected to say he heard come from the throat of the ransom negotiator.

Hauptmann did not have \$50,000 in his possession.

Hauptmann will testify that he received from Fisch the furrier, who since has died in Germany, a box which he later learned contained ransom money. He will produce records to show he did not have anywhere near \$50,000 and that he and his wife had bank accounts and other articles of value, including mortgages, before the ransom money was paid. He will testify that he and Fisch made considerable profit trading in furs—some furs were found in his home—and that he did not bank the money.

Hauptmann did not give up his job on the day the ransom was paid.

The defense will produce checks made out to Hauptmann by the Reliance Property Management, Inc.

The DEFENSE OF HAUPTMANN

"Oh, they looked fine. But I think dad is beginning to age a bit."

Fair Enough

by
WESTBROOK PEGLER

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 5.—The sessions of the United States Congress are opened with prayers by the official chaplains of whom there is one in the regular establishment of each house. These prayers are the official supplications of the United States Government. They are paid for by the taxpayers and published in the record which thus stands as legal proof that the legislative branch of the nation has not missed daily prayers. In the legal meaning of the term, "day" is a long, long time. Perhaps the statesmen have never missed their official prayers on any legislative day since the Government was founded. The record would show it and, in case of any dispute, the record would have to be accepted.

However, there is an interesting distinction between an official legislative day and an ordinary 24-hour day. An official day in the Senate or House of Representatives may last as long as a month, or conceivably a year, and frequently does last for many ordinary days. If the members decide not to adjourn at the end of the day's deliberations under divine guidance but take a recess instead, their next meeting is deemed to be merely a resumption of the last previous one. The original invocation is held to cover the requirements of the case. In this manner, the statesmen may prolong a day indefinitely and may claim with absolute parliamentary authority that they addressed themselves to their Creator this very day, though a week ago.



Westbrook Pegler

It's Not a Misprint

THE chaplain of the Senate is the Rev. Barney T. Phillips, D. D., Episcopalian. The chaplain of the lower House is the Rev. James Sherida Montgomery, D. D., Methodist. The pay for the position is \$1680 a year, now temporarily reduced to \$1540 but likely to be hiked up again in the course of the present session.

Still, the Law Journal points out, if it is proved he wrote the note left in the Lindbergh bedroom on the night of the crime, the State's only evidence, in terms of law, will be circumstantial.

The question of whether possession of a note implicates Hauptmann in murder undoubtedly will be argued in court.

Certain moot points which undoubtedly will be argued warrant mention in any consideration of the case. For example:

The baby was kidnapped in Hunterdon County and the body was found in Mercer County. To convict the defendant, the State must prove conclusively that the murder was committed in Hunterdon County, the place of trial.

New Jersey law, differing from New York law, does not specify kidnapping as a felony in the com-

mission of which a killing, whether accidental or not, automatically becomes first degree murder. The State, to convict, must prove the child died in Hunterdon County.

Since it is not alleged that any one witnessed either the kidnapping or the murder, the State's only evidence, in terms of law, will be circumstantial.

However, he is not charged with kidnapping; he is charged with murder.

The defense, obviously, will depend both upon points of law and demonstrable fact to save the defendant from the electric chair—then when it has questioned its last witness, disputed the last black allegation, it will ask the 12 jurors of Hunterdon County to render a verdict:

"Not guilty."

(The End)

I COVER THE WORLD

By William Philip Simms

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—To the American man-in-the-street few parleys since the Armistice have been more vital than that beginning today on the banks of the Tiber between the Italian Duke and Pierre Laval, French foreign minister.

The peace of Europe for the next decade is the two statesmen's objective. And if the peace of Europe can be guaranteed for the next 10 years, the effect upon the fortunes of this country admittedly will be enormous.

Signor Mussolini and Laval are meeting to talk over the European peace coalition which M. Laval's predecessor, Foreign Minister Barthou, was about to take up with Rome when he and King Alexander of Yugoslavia were murdered at Marseilles.

Germany is to be included in the combination if she will come in. It is believed here that the sudden extraordinary meeting of the Reich's entire political and military hierarchy at Berlin is not unassociated with what is taking place at Rome.

Reichsfuehrer Hitler and his Nazidom face one of the gravest decisions in German history. France and Italy are now close friends, Yugoslavia and these two countries are allies. Yet agreement among these snarling states, plus the Little Entente, Poland, Russia and the Baltic nations, is essential if the scheme is to work.

The chances are at least even that Nazi Germany will refuse to join, even if the others get together. The others will demand the independence of Austria as a minimum guarantee from Germany, and Germany may not care to give it.

Future events in the Pacific and the Far East also depend a great deal upon what happens across the Atlantic. Having scrapped the Naval Limitation Treaty and the Nine Power Pact, and withdrawn from the League of Nations, Nippon's policy will be shaped largely by events abroad.

Limitation and control of armament on land, sea and in the air, is likewise at stake. If peace can be assured for a protracted period to come, world confidence, on which international trade and prosperity turn, is confidently felt, will revive.

Failure would be a not very hopeful sign.

IF the Rome meeting succeeds, Germany will participate either in a Europe-wide peace move, else find herself encircled by a group of powers pledged to stop her if she attempts to cut her way out.

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