The Indianapolis Times

FORECAST: Fair tonight and tomorrow; not much change in temperature.

SCRIPPS—HOWARD

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FINAL—STOCK
EXTRA
PRICE THREE CEN

SPENCER TO PROBE 'BLACK LEGION

DR. TOWNSEND, 2 AIDS CITED FOR CONTEMPT

House Acts Against OARP Leader for Defiance of Probe.

STANDING VOTE TAKEN

Citation Authorizes Federal Court Prosecution of 3 OARP Leaders.

By United Press

WASHINGTON, May 28.—Politically harassed but zealous of its dignity, the House today ended a week of bickering over the defiance of Dr. Francis E. Townsend by citing the pension leader and two aids on charges of contempt.

The House voted the citation by a 271-to-41 standing vote.

Efforts by Rep. Joseph Monaghan (D., Mont), vociferous Townsend supporter, to force a roll call failed when he was unable to muster sufficient support to require a roll call.

The citation, authorizing a Federal court prosecution of Townsend and his lieutenants, was the answer of the House to the defiant refusal of the trio to recognize the power of the House old-age pensions investigating committee.

Those cited, in addition to Dr. Townsend, were the Rev. Clinton L. Wunder of New York and John B. Kiefer, Chicago, both directors of Old-Age Revolving Pensions, Ltd., directing organization of the Townsend movement.

First in 23 Years

It was the first such action in the House in 23 years.

Under terms of the citation, the case goes to the office of the United States District Attorney's office for trial in the District of Columbia Supreme Court. To try the three, it will be necessary to obtain a grand jury indictment.

Conviction carries a fine ranging from $100 to $1000 and a jail sentence of from one month to a year or both.

Townsend threw the committee into confusion last Thursday, when, charging "unfairness and unfriendliness," he stalked from the room with a threat to "rot in jail" before returning for questioning even though under subpena.

Wunder and Kiefer, under subpena, also refused to appear on orders from the 70-year-old retired physician.

Committee Chairman Jasper C. Bell (D., Mo.) threatened to take similar action against other Townsend leaders if they fail to answer subpenas when hearings resume next week.

TOWNSEND IS 'AMUSED' BY HOUSE PROCEEDING

Charges Congress Afraid to Conduct Hearing on Own Floor.

By United Press

BALTIMORE, May 28.—Dr. Francis E. Townsend, commenting on his citation for contempt by the House, charged today that Congress is "Afraid to bring me before the bar of the House for an open discussion of the merits of this notorious case."

Townsend declared himself "amused" by the contempt proceedings and especially by the fact that the House failed to cite Sheridan Downey, his attorney, for contempt.

HOUSE WARNED NOT TO DELAY COAL BILL

Committee Reports Industry Faces "Chaotic Conditions."

By United Press

WASHINGTON, May 28.—In a report to the House today urging action on the Guffey Coal Act substitute, the House Ways and Means Committee warned that unless the legislation is enacted the soft coal industry faces "chaotic conditions."

The bill probably will be brought up in the House early next week. The rules committee is expected to give right of way to the bill at a hearing later this week.

It provides for Federal regulation and price fixing in the industry, but lacks the labor control provisions of the original act, held unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

4 WOMEN, 2 CHILDREN DIE AT RAIL CROSSING

Auto Party on Way to Decorate Graves When Hit by Train.

By United Press

CALUMET CITY, Ill., May 28.—Four women and two children on their way to decorate graves in a cemetery were killed today when a speeding passenger train struck their automobile at a Calumet City crossing.

Bodies were strewn along the right of way for 1000 feet.

The dead: Mary Trempzynski, 24, driver; Regina Luczyk, 24; Mrs. Eleano Kunka, 29; Daniel Kunka, 3, son of Mrs. Kunka; Lillian Cicky, 24, and Patsy Fleming, 2.

The train was northbound from Logansport, Ind.

Fair, Warmer

Indianapolis Motor Speedway officials, who have been dreading rain on Memorial Day since 1911, apparently are to get another break from the weather man this year.

In an unofficial forecast, J. H. Armington, United States meteorologist, today said:

"The indications, from present pressure conditions, lead me to believe now that there will be no great weather change by race day. It should be fair."

Predicting fair weather and no temperature change for tonight and tomorrow, Mr. Armington said the maximum temperature this afternoon should be around 80 degrees. It may be a little warmer than that on race day, he indicated.

The 33-car field for Saturday's 500-mile race will be named at 4 today when the bar falls on the last of the qualification trials. Ten chargers are expected to report at the starting line in an eleventh-hour attempt to oust some of the cars which have passed requirements.

Speed and gasoline tests will be conducted for three hours starting at 1. Thirty-two cars have qualified since the trials opened May 16, but it was believed that two cars which posted averages of 109 miles an hour will not be able to hold their places when the final lists are made today.

Fred Frame, 1932 winner, is expected to make another attempt to qualify today.

BULLETIN

Zeke Meyers, driving an eight-cylinder Studebaker at an average speed of 111.476 miles an hour, this afternoon became the thirty-third driver to gain a position in Saturday's lineup at the Speedway. Myers' son Charles was riding with him. They are from Germantown, Pa.

HEAD OF G-MEN DRAWS CENSURE

Parole Conference Chief Resents Criticism of Probation.

BY SAM TYNDALL

J. Edgar Hoover, Federal Bureau of Investigation director, was criticised today by George T. Scully, Central States Probation and Parole Conference president, for alleged "derogatory statements" against the parole system attributed to the chief of the G-Men.

Mr. Scully criticised Mr. Hoover in an interview with The Indianapolis Times and said he would repeat his remarks before the convention of the parole organization here this afternoon.

A recommendation that the criticisms be embodied in a resolution to be placed before the conference at the business meeting this afternoon is to be made, he said.

Such a resolution would follow one passed by the National Conference of Social Work at Atlantic City last Wednesday.

"I hesitate in my condemnation," Mr. Scully said, "of a public official, who, through highly personal ulterior motives, takes advantage of the position and power vested in him by the government, to condemn unjustly a system of which he must know the value.

"I call this to the attention of

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IL DUCE ACTS TO END FRICTION WITH BRITAIN

Dr. Grandi Confers With Eden on Reconciliation.

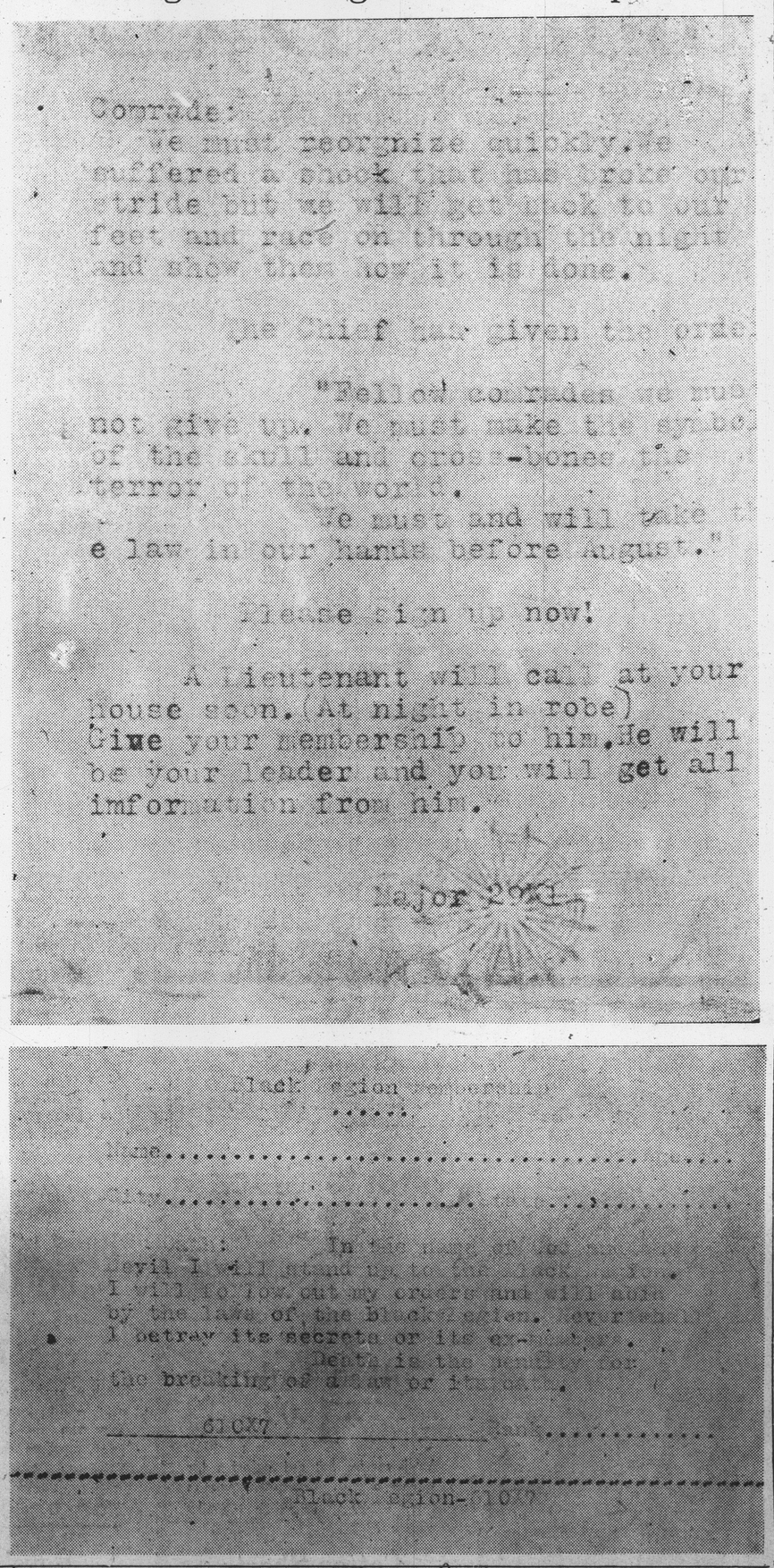
By United Press

LONDON, May 28.—Premier Benito Mussolini moved vigorously today to terminate Anglo-Italian friction and inaugurate a generation of "Roman peace" which he recognizes is necessary for constructive, profitable enjoyment of Italy's conquest of Ethiopia.

Under instructions from Il Duce, Dr. Dino Grandi, Italian ambassador, visited Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, to renew Italina efforts for reconciliation, with Great Britain.

Grandi's visit to the foreign office followed immediately upon Mussolini's own bid for friendship with Great Britain voiced yesterday in a Rome interview with the London Daily Telegraph's correspondent.

'Black Legion' Messages Found at Apartments



Comrade:

We must recognize quickly we suffered a shock that may take our pride but we will get back to our feet and race on through the night and show them how it is done.

The Chief has given the order.

"Tell comrades we must not give up. We must make the symbol of the skull and cross-bones the terror of the world.

We must and will make the law in our hands before August."

Please sign up now!

A lieutenant will call at your house soon. (At night in robe) Give your membership to him. He will be your leader and you will get all information from him.

Major 2001

Black Legion

Name .....

City .....

In the name of the Devil I will stand up to the oath I will follow my orders and will abide by the laws of the Black Legion. Never shall I betray its secrets or its ex-members. Death is the penalty for the breaking of a law or its oath.

611X7

Black Legion-611X7

URGES SPECIAL LIST FOR YOUNG JOBLESS

NYA Official Makes Plea at Employment Parley.

Segregation of inexperienced young people seeking jobs through employment bureaus, and a plea for less rigid classification of workers in certain types of employment were urged today by Roswell Ward, field man for the National Youth Administration.

Mr. Ward spoke before the convention of the International Association of Public Employment Services in the Claypool.

The employment bureau field has a definite need for special employment workers to handle junior work placements, Mr. Ward said.

Miss Virginia C. Merritt, who led a panel discussion of employment services in placing applicants, declared too much emphasis now is

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FIORENZA CONVICTED; DEATH IS MANDATORY

Jury Out 19 Hours in New York Bathtub Murder Case.

By United Press

NEW YORK, May 28.—A "Blue Ribbon" jury today decreed death in the electric chair for John Fiorenza, 24-year-old upholsterer's apprentice, bathtub murderer of Mrs. Nancy Evans Titterton, short story writer.

The jury, out more than 19 hours, found the pale, curly haired youth guilty of murder in the first degree, a verdict which automatically carried the extreme penalty.

Fiorenza's face was expressionless as he heard the verdict.

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

By United Press

Stocks—Irregularly lower in light trading.

Bonds—Mixed and quiet.

Curb—Senior utilities gain sharply; others irregular.

Chicago—Stocks irregular; quiet.

Call Money—1 per cent.

Foreign Exchange—Sterling firm, French francs at gold point.

Cotton—Up 1 to 6 points.

Grains—Wheat, oats and rye higher; corn lower.

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JILTED SUITOR HURT IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Drives Car Into Fall Creek; Injured Critically.

A disappointed suitor with a flare for the melodramatic was injured critically early today when he drove his automobile into Fall Creek between Delaware and Talbot-sts.

Five minutes before the alleged suicide attempt a man called Frank R. Owen, police dispatcher on the telephone and said, "Tell Miss —— that I am dead. I am going to drive my car into Fall Creek."

Owen dispatched a cruiser to the scene. When police arrived they found a coupe on its side in the water. William Grow, 32, of 2020 E. 42d-st, who was driving in the neighborhood, had waded into the water and was attempting to rescue the man pinned inside.

Sergt. Arthur Huber and Patrolmen Tom Smith and Charles Doty jumped into the water and aided in pulling the man to shore. He was taken to City Hospital.

Police identified the man as Howard Priest, 24, of 2023 College-av. Officers said he would have drowned if a prompt rescue had not been made.

When interviewed by police the girl mentioned in the telephone call said she had known Priest for four months.

"He was a serious-minded fellow," she said, "and he wanted to get married. I told him there wasn't any use for him to come back here, but he showed up anyway.

300 Register for Parts in Times-Loew's Picture

More than 300 Indianapolis boys and girls have registered for tryouts in The Times-Loew's Theater all-local movie being cast by Leonard A. De Menna, director.

Although Mr. De Menna has produced such pictures in nearly every important city in the country, the record for applications so far is held by Indianapolis, he said today. Mr. De Menna was very enthusiastic over the response.

However, according to the director, there still is plenty of room for many more local actors and actresses. High school types are needed especially.

Among applicants yesterday were students from all Indianapolis high schools. One girl was a violinist in a cocktail lounge and another was a secretary in a doctor's office.

Mr. De Menna is interviewing ap-

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G-MEN BEING SENT HERE BY DETROIT AUTHORITIES TERRORIST NOTES FOUN

Fort Wayne Sheriff Probes Report Force Used to Get Recruits.

NAMED 'BLACK SNAKES'

Alleged Kidnaping of Two Men Investigated, Says Sheriff.

BULLETIN

Municipal Judge Dewey Myers of Indianapolis said today that citizens in northern Indiana were "up in arms" against the operations of the Black Legion.

"I have just returned from a three-day visit to the northern part of the state, and I know that the Black Legion has been operating there," Judge Myers said.

"The members are 'toughs,' and the authorities there are making an investigation to determine to what extent the organization is operating there.

"It is a terrible thing, and the good citizens of the northern part of the state are up in arms against the Black Legion. I am sure that the good citizens of Indianapolis and Marion County will be the same."

By United Press

MICHIGAN CITY, Ind., May 28.—A convicted Indiana township official today revealed alleged terrorist activities of an organization known to him as the "Black Knights" which operated in Fort Wayne.

Lawrence F. Hoeltje, former Wayne Township assessor, blamed the "Black Knights" for his conviction on a charge of accepting bribes. He said he refused to carry on their demands and was "too scared" at the time of his trial to reveal their threats.

(Copyright, 1936, by The Indianapolis Times)

Times Special

FORT WAYNE, Ind., May 28.—Reports that "The Mystic Order of Black Snakes," an alleged Black Legion affiliate, used force to recruit its members and kidnaped two former county officials were being investigated today by Sheriff George W. Gillie of Allen County.

A former township assessor, Lawrence F. Hoeltje, and his chief deputy, Marion O. Miller, were seized and threatened by this band last fall, Sheriff Gillie said he was told.

Hoeltje now is serving a two-year term in the Indiana State Prison on bribery charges. He was convicted and sentenced in Allen Circuit Court last December.

Forced to Join, Charge

A WPA worker, whose name was withheld, told authorities he was forced to join the secret cult, and frequently was threatened because he failed to show "interest and loyalty."

Charges that "The Mystic Order of Black Snakes" had repeatedly attempted to sabotage the Workers' Alliance, union of WPA laborers, were made today by Hugo Rasmussen, Alliance state vice president.

Mr. Rasmussen said cult members had attended an Alliance meeting Jan. 24 in Fort Wayne and had tried to break it up by "heckling and demanding the floor."

Several of these men, all of whom were WPA workers, admitted membership in the Black Legion, Mr. Rasmussen said.

Leader Known, Says Sheriff

The kidnaping of Allen County officials, Sheriff Gillie said he was informed, occurred on a downtown Fort Wayne street. Four armed men ordered Hoeltje and Miller into an automobile, blindfolded them and took the victims to a lonely spot several miles from the city, it was said.

According to the story told the sheriff, 12 hooded men with loaded pistols sat upon a crescent throne, surrounded by a silent circle of black clad men.

After threatening bodily harm to the officials if they dismissed gang members employed in the assessor's office the alleged terrorists returned Hoeltje and Miller to Fort Wayne and released them, according to the sheriff's report.

Sheriff Gillie said he knew the identity of the gang leader, a former Monroe, Mich., resident.

LANDON'S PLATFORM TOMORROW in THE TIMES

Marion County Grand Jury investigation of alleged Black Legion activities in Indianapolis was pledged today by Prosecutor Herbert Spencer.

* * *

"G-men" are being sent here to investigate "Black Legion" notes uncovered by The Indianapolis Times, Prosecutor Duncan McCrea of Detroit announced.

* * *

Municipal Judge Dewey Myers, following a trip to northern Indiana, said the Black Legion is active there and that the "good citizens" of that section "are up in arms" against it.

* * *

Fort Wayne sheriff probes reported kidnaping of two men by "Mystic Order of Black Snakes."

* * *

Congressional investigation of the Black Legion and similar secret orders is requested by Senate resolution, following corresponding House resolution.

* * *

Ohio Senate defeats resolution to investigate state activities of Black Legion.

DETROIT POLICE LINKED TO BAND

60 or More Members Took Blood Oath, Is Report to Officials.

By United Press

DETROIT, May 28.—Five Detroit policemen were added today to the list of persons suspected of affiliation with the Black Legion and were ordered to appear before Police Commissioner Heinrich A. Pickert for questioning.

Authorities, awaiting the appointment of a one-man grand jury to begin its formal investigation of the Black Legion in Wayne County, disclosed they were inquiring into reports that 60 or more members of the police department had taken the blood oath and undergone initiation into the band.

Prosecutor Duncan C. McCrea said he had urged the co-operation of Pickert and other high police officials in ascertaining how many members of the force were affiliated with the vigilante band. The Wayne County official awaited a letter from Federal Bureau of Investigation officials at Detroit replying to his request for aid in the widespread inquiry.

Detective Chief Assigned

Pickert placed his chief of detectives, Henry A. Piel, in charge of the investigation of the department. Ironically, Piel has been active in the police quest for other members of the subversive organization in connection with the cold-blooded murder of Charles A. Poole, 32. Twelve members are held for kidnaping and murder in the case, while a thirteenth is in a hospital awaiting arraignment.

"We have no idea how active members of the police department are in the affairs of the Black Legion," Piel said. "This investigation may take some time to complete."

Piel characterized membership in the Black Legion as "a vicious influence on the morale of the department." He warned that officers who have knowledge of the Black Legion or its activities "had better tell about it at once."

Membership List Seized

It was disclosed that the police officers first were implicated in Black Legion activities when membership files of the Detroit headquarters were seized. Officials declined to say whether preliminary investigation had indicated more than five were active in the robed and hooded night riders.

McCrea, who asked the aid of the Federal government yesterday in his investigation of the Black Legion, said he had not yet received a reply from Atty. Gen. Homer S. Cummings at Washington. A letter sent by him by Harold H. Reincke, head of the Department of Justice operatives here, was not received. Reincke declined to say what his answer had been to McCrea's request for co-operation.

Messages Promise Will Be Made 'at Nig in Robe.'

LIKE MICHIGAN N

Indiana Infested With dent Members, Sa Detroit Prosecutor

(Copyright, 1936, by The I apolis Times)

A grand jury investig into alleged "Black Le activities in Marion C was promised by Prose Herbert Spencer follo disclosures today by Th dianapolis Times that ported "Black Legion" ments had been served o dianapolis citizens.

At the same time Du McCrea, Wayne C (Mich.) prosecutor, info of Indianapolis developm promised an immediate i tigation here by U States Department of J agents assigned to his for interstate duty in t vestigation.

Mayor Kern said the city everything in its power to the "Black Legion" from op here. Chief Morrissey and Otto Ray invited any one "Black Legion" information it to police authorities.

The local anti-Black Legi tivity was set off today with cation in The Times that tw of purported "Black Legion" had been delivered last ni apartment doors of near Nort apartment houses.

The notes promised the occ that representatives of "The Legion" would call "at nig robe" to accept their membe

Prosecutor McCrea, about centers the main probe of t ganization's known activitie The Indianapolis Times toda the notes bore marked cha istics of known Black Legion ments now in possession of I authorities.

"We know definitely," h "that Black Legion members pear at night in robes both cruit new members and to for linquent members to attend ings.

"Sound Authentic," He S

"The Indianapolis notes authentic to me, and I am Department of Justice agen signed to me by Atty. Gen. Cummings for this investigat immediately probe the India angle.

"I have already had severa fidential communications fro Indianapolis area, which lead believe that the Black Leg organized there and has responsible for at least one o

"There is no question in my or in the minds of my ass but that Indiana is infeste ardent Black Legion memb

The notes, found yesterda ernoon, each consisted of two of paper. One was a salmo bond paper, six by four On it was typewritten wha interpreted to be a memb blank. It read:

"Black Legion Membe There followed blank lines fo name, address, both city and

"Death Is Penalty"

Under that appeared:

"Oath:

"In the name of God an Devil I will stand up to the Legion. I will follow my orde will abid (misspelled) by the l the Black Legion. Never shall tray its secrets or its ex-mem

"Death is the penalty fo breaking of a law or its oath."

This was followed on one p the designation "611X7" and a

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CONGRESSIONAL PRO ASKED IN RESOLUT

By United Press

WASHINGTON, May 28.—A resolution providing for a co sional investigation of the Bla gion and "un-American acti of secret orders in general, w troduced in the Senate tod Senator Elmer Benson Minn.).

A similar resolution was duced yesterday in the Hou Rep. Samuel Dickstein (D., N.

By United Press

COLUMBUS, O., May 28. Ohio Senate today defeated a lution to investigate activities Black Legion in Ohio.