



The Indianapolis Times

FORECAST: Fair and considerably colder tonight, lowest temperature 10 to 15 degrees; tomorrow, increasing cloudiness, snow by Sunday.

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FINAL
HOME

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Tarkington Writes and Erases on Newest Novel of Indianapolis



1. Booth Tarkington talks about Indianapolis.
2. At work, he writes about it.

Old Drawing Board Aids In Meridian St. Workshop

Story Laid in City but Applies to Any Midwest Town.
Author Reveals in 'Time Out' From Work.

By JOE COLLIER

Booth Tarkington's workshop is on the top floor of his home at 4270 N. Meridian St., and in that workshop right now is the latest novel of Indianapolis. The novel is two-thirds finished.

The workshop is spacious and lined with books. In an alcove is a desk, a drawing board, a waste basket made of an elephant's foot, and a sofa.

On the drawing board, which is coming apart, are several sheets of a heavy yellow art paper. At the side of the board on a desk are a dozen sharpened pencils with erasers.

At the drawing board is Miss Elizabeth Trotter, and on the sofa is Booth Tarkington. On one sheet of the paper are the words:

"... and if I didn't want to go down with him I'd have to join him in juggling other clients' securities to the amount of that \$22,000 so that Sarah'd be satisfied. Of course I couldn't do it... and that's why Harry..."

Have Own Technique

It is about 9:30 a. m. and Mr. Tarkington and Miss Trotter have just taken their places in the workshop. Miss Trotter quiet and motionless at the drawing board and Mr. Tarkington on the sofa lighting a long cigarette.

Mr. Tarkington has well in mind now what distance they must cover in the novel today, and they have until about 1 p. m. to work. He is picking up the threads of the story.

Very, very slowly he speaks— maybe not more than a word a minute—but his sentences are built of sentences. Miss Trotter occasionally nods back to him. When he changes his mind, she erases a word or a phrase from that thick yellow paper.

Mr. Tarkington and Miss Trotter have, through years of work, built a remarkable technique. He usually does not have to ask her to read back to him—she senses the need for it.

Outlines Day's Work

While he is choosing a word, she sits quietly—sometimes a half hour at a time. Any noise or motion distracts him. No interruption of any kind is allowed.

At the beginning of every day Mr. Tarkington finds that dictation comes very slowly, indeed. As the morning proceeds, he gets more and more used to it. By quitting time just when he is pretty well "oled" it's time to quit.

At quitting time, Miss Trotter leaves the day's work on the drawing board which Mr. Tarkington's father gave him 55 years ago. Mr. (Continued on Page Four)

NATIONAL DEFENSE BILL PASSES HOUSE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12 (U. P.)—The House today passed and sent to the Senate the first appropriation bill of the session—\$264,611,252 for national defense.

IT LEFT JOE COLD

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Jan. 12 (U. P.)—Joe Hinkle, 14, reported to police today that he had been slugged last night and robbed of his ear muffs.

MINE TOLL 25; MAY REACH 91

Men Didn't Have a Chance
To Move From Tracks,
State Inspector Says.

BARTLEY, W. Va., Jan. 12 (U. P.)—Mining engineers and spectators agreed today that the "third right" in a coal mine explosion here were in all probability dead, after the bodies of 25 other miners had been recovered by rescue crews.

The bodies of 21 victims of Wednesday's explosion were taken from the chamber known as the "third right" early today. Four bodies were taken from the mine yesterday. Some were mangled beyond recognition.

A State mine inspector, E. L. Chatfield, said it was the opinion of mining men that the explosion was of such violence that the miners "didn't have a chance to move from their tracks."

Rails Twisted Like Paper

As evidence of the terrific blast, he pointed out that car rails had been twisted like paper and a coal loading machine, weighing between two and three tons, had been blown 60 feet off its tracks.

Mr. Chatfield also suggested that the "after-damp" which followed the explosion left the three entries where the men were entombed yesterday.

After searching the "third right" for bodies, the rescue workers proceeded to an entry known as "fourth left." It was expected that they would have to work into the night to reach the 20 men trapped there.

Mr. Chatfield said an inquest would be ordered today or tomorrow. The cause of the explosion has not been determined.

Identification of the victims re- (Continued on Page Three)

'DARTO' (OR BINGO) STILL ON 'BAN LIST'

Police Hold One, Claim 200
Were Playing.

Bingo, even in disguise, still is banned here, police warned today following a raid last night on a "darto" game in an amusement hall in the 3500 block E. Washington St.

Police and a deputy prosecutor who raided the hall said more than 200 persons were participating. They said patrons purchased a silver-plated spoon as they entered, exchanged the spoon for cards bearing numbers—similar to those used in bingo.

Then, persons in the audience threw darts at a numbered card, and from this point on the disguise ended, it was reported.

The officers arrested Marcus Nickle, 32, of Ravenswood, who they said was in charge. He is accused of operating a lottery and gift enterprise. Nickle, reported to be a precinct committee man, was to appear in Municipal Court this afternoon.

Farley to Back McNutt, McHale Hints—Lightly

'Genial Jim' Reported Disgusted as Palace Guards' Trot
Out Jackson as Man-of-the-month.

By DANIEL M. KIDNEY
Times Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12—That Postmaster General James Farley ultimately will support General Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt for the Democratic Presidential nomination was predicted by Frank M. McHale, Mr. McNutt's campaign manager, who left here for political conferences in New York City today.

Although the McHale prediction was made lightly, the trend of events appears to be bringing peace in the long feud between Mr. Farley and Mr. McNutt.

"Tommy the Cork" Corcoran and his cabal of so-called "palace guards" have trotted out the newly appointed Attorney General, Robert H. Jackson, as their "man-of-the-month" for President, much to the general's disgust.

The fight between Mr. Jackson and his Eastern campaign manager, Oscar R. Ewing, is on record as saying that he is welcome to it.

Mr. McHale, who is expected to return here for the Democratic National Committee meeting Feb. 5, He is the National Committeeman from Indiana.

The fight of Indianapolis City officials against payment of the gross income tax will be taken up by the Indiana Municipal League, it was learned today.

League officials plan to meet here in two weeks to determine a policy on gross tax payments by member municipalities. Mayor Vincent Youkey of Crown Point, league executive secretary, will appear here next week to make arrangements for the session.

Meanwhile, Indianapolis City officials injected a new angle into the dispute. They said they believed that an attempt by the Gross Tax Division to force a slowdown in the court on municipal liability for the tax would be the signal for a general revolt by retailers. Numerous retail organizations in the State have fought the tax for years and have threatened a tax strike on several occasions.

At the same time, responsible administration officials here said they were determined to demand the elimination of all language referring to municipal liability in the Gross Tax law at the next session of the legislature.

Major Reginald H. Sullivan and Corporation Counsel Edward H. Knight said they did not believe the law could be applied to Indianapolis. Hence the City is not going to pay the tax, they said.

City Controller James E. Deery said it would be better for the tax division "to let sleeping dogs lie." If they try to make us pay, he said, "Our position will lead enforcement to retail organizations which have opposed the tax on constitutional grounds."

Mr. Deery said he believed that other Hoosier cities will join Indianapolis in the fight when the municipal league meets to formulate a policy.

Gilbert K. Hewitt, State Gross Income Tax Director, said that the division would proceed with tax collections as usual and would expect municipalities to pay. Any action the division might take in the event municipalities do not pay will be decided after the Jan. 31 deadline he said.

Although municipalities under

Air Service Is Partially Resumed Here After 'Zero-Zero' Day Fighting Fog

Transport plane service in and out of Indianapolis was resumed partially today after all skyliners were "fog-locked" at the Municipal Airport yesterday.

The ceiling yesterday was "zero-zero" and the dense fog extended upward about 3500 feet.

But today, the ceiling was 400 feet, high enough to permit take-offs and landings when directed by instruments from the radio control tower. Visibility of a mile was reported.

One of two TWA planes, grounded at the Airport since Wednesday night, took off at 3 a. m. today for the West. Airport officials reported that at that hour, skies were clear in 48 hours. The other plane may take off for the East later today.

WAR STALLED BY COLD; STALEMATE MAY BRING NEW LINEUP OF POWERS

MERCURY DUE FOR DIP TO 10 OR 15 TONIGHT

Colder Weather to Check
Flood Peril; Slush Adds
Driving Hazards.

LOCAL TEMPERATURES

6 a. m.	10 a. m.	3 p. m.
6	31	30
7 a. m.	32	29
8 a. m.	31	32
9 a. m.	30	30

An icy blast sweeping on Indiana from the far northwest was expected to send the mercury down to 10 or 15 degrees tonight.

The sub-freezing weather will relieve, or at least postpone, the possibility of floods in the state. Meteorologist J. H. Armington said.

Mr. Armington predicted snow by tomorrow night or Sunday.

Cold to Check Flood

The colder weather will check the runoff of water from the snow which has been melting in the last two days, he said.

Reports from various parts of the state indicate streams, particularly in the southern half of the state, are rising slowly, but still are below normal because of the small precipitation in recent months.

Mr. Armington said the water level probably would continue rising slowly for several days.

Meanwhile, traffic conditions in Indianapolis remained hazardous.

Yesterday's high temperature of 40 degrees resulted in a thick layer of slush on the streets which made driving perilous.

Streets Glazed

Early today, the temperature fell slightly below freezing, leaving a dangerous glaze on streets and sidewalks.

Nearly 300 employees of the City Street Department continued their task of keeping sewer inlets open and removing piles of snow from the streets.

Mr. Armington said the cold wave now covered North Dakota and Minnesota, reaching northwestern Iowa today. The coldest section was northern Minnesota where temperatures of 10 below were reported.

Slight moderation is expected before the cold reaches here, he said.

CONFER ON SYSTEM TO CLEAN UP SNOW

Citizen Delegation and Mayor Talk.

A delegation of Citizens' Safety Committee members conferred with Mayor Reginald H. Sullivan today on methods of clearing city streets after a heavy snowfall.

The delegation, headed by G. H. Poske of the American States Insurance Co., recommended that the City clear downtown intersections first, and then branch fanwise into the residential sections as quickly as possible.

Mr. Poske said he believed that the solution to the problem could be found without increasing the City's State Department budget. He said that the department would find a way of utilizing its present facilities effectively in removing snow and slush.

Another meeting with the Mayor and Streets Commissioner Wilbur Winship will be held next week.

MOTHER DIED AT 115, DAUGHTER AT 110

PATERSON, N. J., Jan. 12 (U. P.)—Mrs. Doris Matis died today without realizing her fondest hope to live longer than her mother had. She was only 110.

On her birthday last June 13 Mrs. Matis, who came to this country from Austria in 1879, said that her mother was 115 when she died. Her father was 108.

(Continued on Page Four)

Sothen Scar Ann Selects Her Own For Operation and It's a Crescent.

By LOUIS F. KEEMBLE
United Press Sports Editor

The weather may cast the deciding vote in the war in Europe.

Intense cold holds the continent in an icy grip from the Baltic to the Black Sea. It is impeding military activity, transport, and the movement of vital supplies, especially to blockaded Germany.

The result may be that extension of the war will have to be postponed until spring at least.

Whether Germany will launch an aerial blitzkrieg on England is being debated, but Allied tacticians seem to think such an attack can be beaten off, and in any event would not of itself win the war.

If the stalemate continues until the spring, much can happen in the meantime. Diplomats are busy and a new alignment of the powers is not impossible.

Diplomats Active

Today's developments included:

1. London diplomatic sources heard reports of a quarrel between Italy and Germany over Germany's action in holding up Italian shipments of war materials to Finland.

2. Yugoslavia was reported without confirmation to have agreed to passage of Italian troops through its territory to aid Hungary if necessary against possible Soviet attack.

3. Spain was reported sending Finland large quantities of war materials to Spain by the Italian expeditionary force—and possibly supplemented recently by new shipments.

4. Spanish Gen. Francisco Franco was reported to have offered to collaborate with His Holiness Pope Pius XII in any peace move and against any Communist threat in Europe.

5. King Carol of Rumania, and Regent Prince Paul of Yugoslavia were reported to have conferred at the frontier yesterday in connection with the forthcoming meeting of the Balkan entente, which is expected to consider means of strengthening Balkan neutrality and defenses against the spread of Bolshevism.

Italy, Balkans Hold Key

Italy and the Balkans are key powers in the situation. Italy, which united with Germany in an anti-Communist alliance, was shocked when Adolf Hitler suddenly united with Moscow.

Count Ciano, the Foreign Minister, revealed that shock in his recent speech, when he said Italy was taken completely by surprise. Italy was then anti-Communist and it is difficult for her to continue as an ally of Berlin while Berlin is co-operating actively with Russia.

The latest strain between Berlin and Rome is attributed to Italy's determination to aid invaded Finland. Germany is perhaps at heart sympathetic to Finland and more than willing to see them defeated by Soviet advance into Scandinavia, because Russian domination there might be a serious menace to the Reich in the future.

Nazis Must Be Careful

Nevertheless, Germany