

Keeping Watch Over Feeble-Minded Proves A Dreary Job

Locking and Unlocking Of Doors Chief Chore During 14-Hour Tour

Ft. Wayne Inmates Appear Well-Fed; Repeat 'Lord's Prayer' Before Meals

(Third of a Series)

By DAVID WATSON

IT TOOK me a moment to realize where I was. My room was dark and it was dark outside.

I awoke when the nightwatchman shook my shoulder. It was 5 a. m.

I was starting my first dull day as an attendant in the Ft. Wayne School for Feeble-Minded Youth to investigate reports to The Times of poor institutional conditions.

When the nightwatchman had roused me, I stumbled in the dark to the wall switch. The light which hung by its cord from the ceiling glowed.

Now I had but half an hour to wash, shave, dress and unlock my division's dormitory door.

This was to be but the first of a stultifying routine of locking, unlocking, locking, unlocking doors for the next 14 hours.

I HAD two rooms, the smallest of which had a dresser with two drawers and a wash basin, a clothes rack, pot, bucket and a straight chair. The other contained a comfortable double bed, two dressers, bed stand and two rocking chairs.

There was no water, no bath, no lavatory. I had to go from the third floor to the basement for water or to bathe.

After unlocking the dormitory door, I did the same for the bake shop workers' quarters. Then I went to the basement to unlock day room doors and open the boiler house workers' door.

When everyone was out of the dorms, except night workers and cleaners, I locked the doors again. Some days I ate at 5:20 a. m. and, after a cigarette, returned to the dorms at 5:55 a. m. to re-lease cleaning crews, relock the doors and send the boys to day rooms.

AT SIX the supervisor unlocked the exit door and I took workers to the hospital. Returning to my division, I unlocked the door to the store order. I followed the example of other attendants and barked, "Keep quiet," and walked among them to see they did.

At 6:15 a small bell rang and I lined up my patients to take them to the dining room. Two by two they filed out, and I checked attendance as they went.

In the dining room, they took their places and stood until absolute silence prevailed. No talking was allowed except to ask for more food or permission to go to the bathroom.

A bell rang, and the din was deafening as the patients pulled back their chairs to sit. Again there was silence and the bell rang. The inmates bowed their heads and repeated the Lord's Prayer.

Then they ate. It was my duty to care for three tables of 12. As fast as a bowl was emptied, I took it to the rear of the room where a supervisor ladled more food into it. I cut bread with a hand-operated slicer in the scullery.

THIS is a typical breakfast: Corn flakes, raisins, milk, coffee, bread and water.

As each finished his meal, he pushed his plate to the center of the table. One boy stacked them up, another cleaned the table and the silverware was passed to boys at the end of the tables. Again the bell rang and all stood up. Another ring and a division filed out. One division went with each ring. The patients then were taken to the day rooms and given time to use the bathroom.

At 6:45 a. m. the divisions again lined up, the exit door was

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Lightest Vote In 12 Years Expected Here

Registrations Falling Below 1940-44 Totals

By NOBLE REED

Early estimates indicated today that the turn-out at the polls here Nov. 2 may be the lightest in any Presidential election in 12 years.

Registration of voters during the drive here for the past six weeks fell short of the 1940 and 1944 voting lists by many thousands.

Following the close of registration this week, the Marion County Registration Board announced the number of eligible voters for the Nov. 2 election at 269,994 compared to a questionable 310,000 in 1940 and 300,000 in the poll books in 1944.

Thousands Ineligible

However, registration officials and leaders of both Republican and Democratic parties agreed that the 1940 and 1944 totals were not accurate and that many thousands on the books then were later found to be ineligible for one reason or another.

Despite the possible inaccuracies of the previous lists, political leaders are unanimous in their opinion that the total vote this year will not far exceed 200,000 out of the 270,000 voters registered.

In 1940 the total vote here was 247,619, an all-time high in any Presidential election and in 1944 the ballots numbered 233,837.

Deadline in Voting Seen

Candidates in both parties are not counting on as large a vote this year as in 1944. The drop in registrations brought conflicting speculations as to its possible reflection of voting trends this year.

The Democrats said the shortage was in the failure of the Republican organization to get their voters registered due to GOP inactivity.

The Republicans explained that the drop in registrations was the result of a lack of interest among thousands of "disgusted Democrats" who do not intend to come out and vote for their ticket.

Cubans Threaten Strike

HAVANA, Oct. 7 (UP)—Employees of the central office of the Cuban Federation of Labor threatened to go on strike today unless they were paid their September salaries within 48 hours.

Divorce Suits Filed

Norma Jean vs. Willis A. Thompson; Mildred M. vs. Nathan G. White; Edith vs. Thomas A. Theard; Mary A. vs. Edward D. Lucas; Louise vs. George F. W. W. vs. Lloyd vs. Evelyn Stephenson; Ethel J. vs. Harry McIntire.

BIRTHS—

At St. Vincent's—Boys: Othello, Pauline, Stroud, Helen, Louise, Payne, Roy, Marybeth, Ernest, Fred, Evelyn, Dennis, Edward, Elizabeth, Barbara, Ralph, Ruth, Burns, William, Nancy, Harris, John, Edith, Putney, George, Florence, Cobb, Donald, Virginia, Hughes, Carl, Natalie, Gilton, Maynard, Peggy, Houston, Everett, Ruby, Constock, Thomas, Josephine, Schoettel, Donald, Julia, Leavitt.

At St. Francis—John, Maynell, Nelson, Sherman, Maxine, Hyman, Alan, General—Frank, Nannie, Randall, Cleve, Loreta, Bottoms.

At Coleman—Leonard, Eileen, Shaffer, Maurice, Rabelita, Clark, Irving, Patricia, Lindeman, Clifford, Elizabeth, Winget, At Methodist—Howard, Gertrude, Fancher, Claude, Rosina, Moore, Reynolds, Ethel, Somers, Gerald, Judith, Lantz, Benjamin, Elsie, Vaughn, Thomas, Mary, Jean, Mary, Herman, Betty, Manager, Mary, Mary, Peckey, Robert, Wanda, Martha, Marshall, Leonard, Lucille, Teepee, Robert, Marion, Smith.

At St. Vincent's—Oliver, Wanda, Arnett, J. L. Vera, West.

At St. Francis—Leslie, Dorothy, Johnson, Robert, Mary, Stewart, Fred, Mary, Adams.

At General—Alonso, Zona, Mae, Bowling, Max, Helen, Stanley.

At Coleman—Louie, Lemmie, Cateliner.



TALK ABOUT HIGH PRICES—Housewives who complain about \$1 steaks should have been at the Marott Hotel last night, when the championship 4-H steer, which sold for \$6370 was served as roast beef. Pictured after eating the \$6.50 a pound beef are G. L. Noble, director of the national committee of 4-H Clubs; Gene Grubbs, Covington, who raised the champion steer, and A. V. Burch, state auditor, who bought the steer and threw the roast beef dinner.

Don't Let Smoke Fool You, It Was 'Gold Beef' Banquet

4-H Boy Who Raised Gold-Plated Roast Joins Diners as Guest of Buyer of Prize Animal

By HAROLD HARTLEY

When you eat roast beef at \$6.50 a pound, you can almost taste the gold in it.

And that isn't so bad when it's someone else's gold, like State Auditor A. V. Burch's. He bought it, and on the hoof at that, which would make the meat counter price, if you could buy it, look something like \$10 a pound. Last night in the ballroom of the Marott Hotel there were about 300 clearing their plates of the last shred of Mr. Burch's \$6.50 per pound prize roast beef.

It did taste different. Tender? Almost dissolved in your mouth before you chewed it. And as juicy as an overripe peach. As sweet, too.

It happened this way. Mr. Burch of the Burch Plow Co., a contractor, was the guest of honor at the State Fair when the grand champion baby beef was on the block. The \$6370 prize was paid to him, and he had bought quite a chunk of beef.

So last night Mr. Burch entertained 4-H Club leaders of Indiana, county agents, the State Fair Board, packers, stockyard officials, politicians, Chamber of Commerce officials, hotel—and convention men—in fact, everyone who had anything remotely to do with the handling of beef, or raising it, or serving it, or even eating it.

Club Director Talks

Seventeen-year-old Gene Grubbs from Covington, Franklin County, the 4-H Club member who raised the gold-plated beef was at the head table, showing no little feeling over eating his prize beef. So was his father, Alex, a perfect type of Hoosier farmer, well-tanned in a blue serge with sky-blue eyes.

Guy H. Noble, managing director of the National Committee on Boys and Girls Clubs, gave the address of the evening on "4-H Clubs Are Growing Up."

He told guests that Indiana has the highest rating of the 12 Central States in 4-H Club work with 66,000 members and ranks 11th in the country, and that 71 from Indiana have received national honors.

And after that everyone went home with the lingering memory of what \$6.50 per pound roast beef tastes like.

James, Phyllis, Lorman, Clarence, Margaret, Alvin.

At Methodist—Orland, Cornelia, Purv, Lloyd, Marcella, Tupper, Clarence, Mary, Shumaker, John, Frances, Wilson.

DEATHS

John L. Lettingwell, 76, at 2037 N. Temple, coronary occlusion.

Ernest Eugene Walker, 52, at L. U. Medical Center, portal cirrhosis.

Mary C. Owens, 69, at 3440 Carrollton, coronary occlusion.

Thomas Radmore, 67, at General, pneumonia.

Albert Sparring, 69, at Methodist, myocardial infarction.

Police Order Curb On Use of Siren

Ambulance Accident Brings Crackdown

Police Chief Edward Rouls today ordered a crackdown on use of sirens and red lights on non-emergency runs after a private ambulance was struck as it ran a red light in downtown Indianapolis last night.

The Kerr Ambulance Service car, driven by Frank R. Goodridge, 1760 N. Rural St., was using siren and red light—police said, although it was not on an emergency run.

The ambulance went through a red light at Pennsylvania and St. Clair Sts., and was struck by a car driven by Walter Caste, 3202 Hovey St. It overturned and slid some 100 feet, police said. They charged the driver with unauthorized use of red light and siren, disobeying an automatic signal and reckless driving.

Both drivers and an ambulance passenger, Robert Wade, 1901 N. Meridian St., escaped injury.

Not Classified as Emergency

Police quoted the ambulance driver as saying he was answering an emergency call to EN Lilly Co. Police added, however, that investigation showed he had been called there to pick up some medicine. Chief Rouls said the call could not be classified as an emergency run.

The police chief said both wreckers and private ambulances have been allowed to use sirens and lights for "real emergency calls." He said, however, that "indiscriminate use" brought about an order for all wreckers to be stripped of the lights and sirens and for arrest of all drivers found using the equipment for non-emergency runs.

"We allow private ambulances to have sirens and lights as protection in case of a disaster or bad accident," he said, "but we will not have them driving recklessly and endangering lives for non-emergency calls."

Local Girls Pledged To Group at DePauw

Seven Indianapolis students have been pledged to the Women's Recreation Association at DePauw University. The organization sponsors an annual sports program.

The Indianapolis pledges are Marian Miner, 5141 Park Ave.; Miss Frances Matkin, 4605 Broadway; Miss Marilyn Weigand, 2740 Kessler Blvd.; Miss Mary Jane Jeffrey, 4414 Broadway; Miss Marian Goldthwaite, 210 Berkeley Road; Miss Katherine Ziegelmueler, 5202 W. 16th St., and Miss Marian Thompson, 3828 Carrollton Ave.



CRACK-UP—This private ambulance was struck by another car and overturned as it ran a redlight at Pennsylvania and St. Clair Sts., with sirens screaming yesterday. Police arrested the driver, charging use of siren on a non-emergency run.

Accuse Democrats Of 'Whisper Drive'

Charges that the Democrats shall be marked by free and are engaging in a vicious open discussion of candidates and "whispering campaign," were issues and not clouded by a mass made today by "C" holders, of dissemination of phony fabrications of the Republican "cations."

Candidates Committee.

Mr. Holder declined to indicate what specific campaign tactics of the Democrats he referred to as a "plague of whispered rumors." "However," he said, "our polls show victory for the whole Republican ticket by a wide margin. We, therefore, are not scared."

School 45 to Mark Golden Anniversary

A golden anniversary jubilee, marking 50 years growth of the William Watson Women's School No. 45, will be held on the night of Nov. 10 in the school. The celebration will give parents an opportunity to see exhibits of children's work. Former teachers, patrons and graduates of the school are invited by the Parent-Teachers Association.

Principal Who Served Year Abroad to Talk

Miss Wallace Montague, principal of School No. 45, who spent a year as an exchange teacher in England, will speak before the Exchange Club of Indianapolis Friday noon in the Chateau Room of the Claypool Hotel.

Miss Montague recently returned from exchange duty in English schools.

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