



The Indianapolis Times

FINAL
HOME

FORECAST: Cloudy tonight, low 37. Warmer tomorrow, scattered showers, high 60.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

Engrossed—In His Soup



Heartache... It's liable to turn into heartburn as jilted "Mr. Inside Indianapolis" gives up the quest for a new girl friend in the Ayres Tea Room and turns his full attention to "zooup." Model Barbara Witham, lovely and about to be engaged (darn it), can't help the columnist forget the loss of his one and only. (Read the details on Page 9).

Blind Mother Gives Birth To Triplets; Two Survive

Salesman Father Also Sightless; Child and Boy Given Chance To Live

A blind couple, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Stamper, 241 W. Morris st., last night in General Hospital became the parents of triplets, a boy and two girls, one of whom died at birth.

The mother was in fair condition today, according to Dr. John H. Perry Jr., resident physician in attendance. The two remaining children, both in incubators, were described as "critical" because of their size, but the doctor said he believed they would live. They both have normal sight.

Launch Battle Over Natural Gas

Supplying Firms Hint City Acted 'Too Late'

By DAN KIDNEY
Times Staff Writer
WASHINGTON, Mar. 7.—Indianapolis began its battle to bring natural gas into the city before the Federal Power Commission today in an atmosphere which might be described in the old phrase of "too little and too late."

The companies upon which the city would have to depend to supply the gas are all on hand with batteries of attorneys and witnesses to show that their present supply is "too little" to add Indianapolis to the customer list.

One of them, Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Co., pointed out that the city's proposal is "too late" and will have to wait until increased supplies are available. Seiter First Witness

Representing the city and the Citizens Gas and Coke Utility, which is seeking to build the pipeline into Indianapolis and carry on its operation there as part of its present business, are Attorneys Patrick Smith and Perry E. O'Neal.

They started with Victor G. Seiter, Citizens Gas Co. controller, as first witness. He described the trusteeship setup in Citizens Gas and developed the case for introduction of natural gas now.

This would have to be supplied by Panhandle, Texas Gas Trans-

(Continued on Page 2—Col. 2)

British Steel Output Up

LONDON, Mar. 7 (UP)—Britain's steel output for February, estimated at an annual rate, set an all time high of 16,176,000 tons per year, it was announced today.

STOCK EXCHANGE MERGER

PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 7 (UP)—The stock exchanges of Philadelphia and Baltimore merged today and began operations on the trading floor here as the Philadelphia-Baltimore Stock Exchange.

On Inside

Ruse showdown with West seen in shift of officials

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Odom Bucks Storm on Hop Over Pacific

Passes Half-Way Mark on Honolulu To U. S. Flight

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 7 (UP)—Flier William P. Odom, out to fly a light plane non-stop from Honolulu to New York, burst through a storm front half-way across the Pacific today and picked up a 25-45 mile an hour tailwind.

The Civil Aeronautics Administration monitor station here picked up a message from the 29-year-old flier at 9:33 a. m. (Indianapolis time) in which Mr. Odom said he was "through the worst part of the storm."

The CAA said Mr. Odom should have clear sailing the rest of the way across the Pacific on his projected 5300 mile flight in his single engine monoplane.

First Attempt Fails

This flight contrasted with Mr. Odom's try at the record last January. Storm fronts and icing conditions forced him down at Oakland, Cal., after he set a new international distance record for light planes at 2400 miles.

He took off from Hickam Field in his Beechcraft "Waikiki" at 1:04 a. m. (Indianapolis time).

Shortly before reaching the half-way point over the ocean, Mr. Odom's escort, a U. S. Air Force B-17, turned back for Honolulu.

He was slightly ahead of schedule, cruising at 150 miles an hour.

Light showers were falling as he struck out alone across the Pacific. When he was 693 miles from Oahu, he rode through a small storm. Throughout the night, Mr. Odom and his B-17 escort rode through alternating patches of clouds and brilliant moonlight.

"I'm feeling great and I'm in good shape," he messaged. "There is nothing to do but listen to the quiver of this little engine."

Although he earlier reported his position as slightly off course, he said his new compass "was paying off."

"I'm nowhere near as tired as the last time I tried this," he said.

Mr. Odom carried 288 gallons of gasoline, 19 more than on his last attempt, when he was forced to land at Oakland airport.

He estimated he would make his first landfall near San Francisco about 4:30 p. m. (Indianapolis time) today and with good luck would set down at Teterboro (N. J.) airport about 9 a. m. (Indianapolis time) tomorrow, making a total of 34 hours for the trip.

The Life of Riley Isn't Anything To Dream About

IF A QUIZ program calls Mr. and Mrs. Charles Riley, 1331 Crut St., some time this week, there'll probably be a pretty cool reaction. The Rileys have had their fill of telephone calls.

A tree surgeon called yesterday and insisted that Mr. Riley had wanted several willow trees removed from the yard to the rear of his home. Mr. Riley finally convinced the man there had been an error.

Men of the North American Transfer Co. knocked at the door this morning and told Mrs. Riley: "We've come to move your furniture." They even produced an address which a prankster had given when he requested their services.

Police were investigating, but neither Mr. Riley nor Mrs. Riley could think of any person who might have made the calls.

Amateurs Here to Get National Network Chance

Times and WISH Sponsor Broadcast

By ART WRIGHT
The Times and radio station WISH have made it possible for Indianapolis to be spotlighted on a coast-to-coast radio broadcast of Ted Mack and the Original Amateur Hour Apr. 6.

The hour-long broadcast show a one-and-one-half hour plus will be presented in the Fairgrounds Coliseum.

The public will have an opportunity to see the show as it is sent out over the air to 173 radio stations and 12 million listeners from coast to coast. Proceeds from the popular admission prices will go to a worthy local charity which will be named within a few days.

A tribute to the historical and cultural significance of Indianapolis will be paid by Ted Mack, successor to the late Major Bowes, founder of the 15-year-old show.

Local amateur entertainers will appear on the broadcast. Auditions will be conducted by radio station WISH and applications will be accepted by the station until noon Mar. 18. If you are a harmonica-playing corporation president or a 12-year-old mandolinist you don't have to be shy. Your kind of act already has gone over big with those who listen to the Original Amateur Hour each Wednesday night.

Gas Stove Flareup Burns Girl, 15

The "try, try again" adage didn't work for Audrey Jean Thompson, 15, of 325 N. Jefferson Ave., as she tried to light a gas stove yesterday.

When the first match didn't work Audrey left the gas on and tried a second match. The accumulated gas flamed up burning the girl around the face and hands. She was treated in General Hospital.

Demand For Sales Tax Deadlocks Bonus Bill

Little Ernie Misses His Dog Poochie



Ernest Durrett is an Indianapolis traffic victim. His legs have been suspended like this since Feb. 13.

4-Year-Old Traffic Victim Faces Long Stay in General Hospital Bed

By VICTOR PETERSON
FOUR-YEAR-OLD Ernest Durrett misses Poochie, his mongrel pup.

He mumbles a lot about the black and white dog to the nurses at General Hospital. The two were great companions. Poochie is just one reason Ernie wants to go home to 1145 S. Kenwood Ave. But Ernie isn't going home for a long time.

His thin little legs are bandaged from his feet to his hips. All day and all night he lies in bed on his back, his legs held high above head level in traction.

Ernie is an Indianapolis traffic victim. Just another among thousands. Whether the accident was Ernie's or the driver's fault doesn't get the youngster home a bit sooner.

Either Ernie or the driver made a mistake. . . a mistake so often repeated in Indianapolis that the city has one of the worst traffic records in the nation.

Ernie was a happy little kid, always playing around the house and signing. Poochie never left his side.

Then came that tragic night, Feb. 13. It was dusk when Mrs. Durrett asked her 13-year-old daughter, Ruby Lee, to go to the drug store. Ernie wanted to go along.

Just two blocks from home, at Morris and Meridian Sts., Ernie and Ruby Lee were trapped in the middle of the street when the light changed.

Ruby Lee felt Ernie's little hand slip from her fingers as the terrified youngster broke for safety. There was that all too familiar sickening thud. Ernie's little body lay crumpled unnaturally on the pavement.

Ernie was brought into General Hospital, his right leg broken above the knee. Doctors haven't been able to set the break. That's why Ernie lies in traction, tension on the mangled leg.

There is tension on the other leg, too. By placing both legs in traction the doctors someday hope to let Ernie get around like any normal youngster . . . without a limp.

It's a more quiet house at 1145 S. Kenwood Ave. without Ernie. It's loneliness quietness for Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Durrett even though there are four other children about the house.

They are worried about Ernie. They also are worried about the expense. They don't know how they can meet the bills. A coal hauler, Mr. Durrett makes about \$35 a week. Mrs. Durrett takes in washing. She adds about nine dollars a week to the family income.

And Poochie doesn't play anymore. He lies all day by the stove.

13 ESKIMOS RESCUED
WINNIPEG, Mar. 7 (UP)—From frozen Chesterfield inlet in the Far North a rescue plane brought 13 Eskimos today—latest victims in an epidemic which has forced the government to quarantine 40,000 square miles of Eskimo country.

Times Cameraman With Indians

Times Photographer John Spickelmire is in New Orleans with the Indianapolis Indians as they open their spring training.

Republicans Instructed To Tie Up Committee As Session Nears End

Democrats 'Shocked,' May Call On Schricker for Special Session

By ROBERT BLOEM
Another Assembly Story, Page 2

By LOUIS ARMSTRONG
Legislators were reported to have agreed today on a direct primary bill which had been thrown into a deadlock by conflict of Democrat and Republican theories.

A conference committee appointed to attempt a compromise on the bill was expected to report within a few hours.

Meanwhile, a deadlock over distribution of state aid to schools was yet to be ironed out. Conference, appointed to study the measure, did not meet this morning. They were scheduled to get together early this afternoon.

The deadlock over the primary bill resulted from party differences over registering party affiliations. Senate Republicans had amended the Democratic primary bill to require voters to register their party affiliation 35 days before election.

Oppose Amendment
Democrats were against this amendment.

The compromise reported reached would eliminate the registration prior to primary elections unless the voter wished to change his party ticket from the previous primary.

If the voters did desire to vote a different ticket they would be required to register their desire to change 30 days before the election.

The primary bill calls for statewide vote to nominate U. S. Senator and Governor. Winning candidates would be required to obtain 35 per cent of the votes cast.

Clark Springer, GOP committee state chairman, was ejected from the floor of the Senate this morning at the request of a Republican lawmaker. Mr. Springer was reported to have been on the floor attempting to defeat any compromise on the primary bill.

The defeat of the compromise would kill the bill.

After being asked to leave the floor, Mr. Springer took up headquarters in the Senate lounge as guest of Sen. Van Ness, Republican floor leader.

The state school aid bill calls for an expenditure of \$53 million a year to support teachers' minimum pay and school operating costs.

Since Senate amendments to the bill were not extensive, an agreement was expected.

Boy Leaves 'Sinful Home' For New Life in Boys Town

Mother's Conduct Forces Boy to Steal, But Juvenile Court Gives Him Chance

A boy who "went bad" because he was ashamed to stay in the house where his mother "lived in sin" today was given a chance for the Christian home he desired.

Fourteen-year-old Charles M. has been accepted in Father Flanagan's famous Boys Town near Omaha, Neb. Juvenile Court officials announced today.

"I think everyone who has been connected with this boy will be glad to learn he's being given the chance he wanted," Charles Boswell, chief probation officer, said.

The boy became a Juvenile Court case on Jan. 3 when his own mother turned him in as an escapee from Juvenile Center and for theft of a car and a grocery store break-in after his escape. It was then that Charles poured out the reason for his behavior.

His mother, he told the court, drank and lived with a series of "boy friends." He said he ran away and stole to eat once because "because I didn't want to stay where mother lived in sin" and that he had run away from the Center because he feared he would be sent home.

His mother and a man living in the home were arrested on charges of adultery. They were released without bond pending trial and fled the city. The pair has never been found.

Mr. Boswell said a review of the boy's life showed that he lived with grandparents and an uncle on a farm in West Virginia until he was 10 years old. Then

illness in the family caused him to be sent to his mother here.

The mother placed him in the Gibault Home because Mr. Boswell said she did not want the responsibility of caring for him. He was later sent home when she failed to keep up payments. Back here he ran away and stole from a grocery, was sent to the Center and escaped, then was turned in by his mother.

Court officials said school teachers at the Center described the boy as bright, anxious to help and "badly in need of affection."

Through recommendations from personnel at the Center and a Catholic priest who became interested in the Protestant boy, his acceptance at Boys Town was arranged.

"Here's a boy who needs only a good home and the right environment and who wants to do right," Mr. Boswell said. "And we have to go all the way to Omaha, Neb., to arrange it."

"Fortunately in this case we could. But we have hundreds of other cases, just as deserving, in Indianapolis." Boys Town can't take them all.

Britain Producing Explosive of A-Bomb

LONDON, Mar. 7 (UP)—A government announcement disclosed today that Britain now is producing plutonium, the explosive of the atomic bomb, at its atomic energy research station at Harwell.

Production is small, the announcement said, but "sufficient for investigating chemical engineering problems which will be met later in large scale handling of plutonium."

A Plucky Lad—

NEWBURFORD, Mass., Mar. 7 (UP)—With his own hands, 8-year-old Everett MacBurnie pulled a three-inch blade paring knife from his heart, then rose and staggered 45 yards to his doorway before he collapsed and died.

The boy, who fell on the knife while running yesterday, was carried into the house by his 17-year-old brother Richard and died before a doctor arrived.

NATIONALLY FAMOUS FOR FINE FOOD, FAMOUS FOR STEAK FOR 25 YEARS, Chatter's Restaurant, 145 S. Ohio St.