

Inside Indianapolis

By Ed Sovola

WHAT WOULD YOU say if someone told you there's a duck pond with 21 ducks on it a good stone's throw from the Circle? It's no gag, either. The pond is artificial, to be sure, but it's got everything a lucky duck needs for a happy existence for a limited length of time. Pond, ducks, water, the whole shooting (no hunting allowed) match, belongs to Sears Roebuck & Co. Surprised?

Russel Savage, store manager, knows how you feel. In his case, after he arrived at the local store last May, all mention of ducks and rumors of ducks were ignored. He thought he was getting the business.

Then one day high atop the Merchants Bank building in the company of Gene Vaughn, WFBM salesman, the latter, among other sights of the city, pointed out the Sears duck pond. Mr. Savage almost fell off the roof. At least he told me he did. Stories like that have a tendency to get better. I don't know, in a couple of years he may say he fell off the roof.

What a Guide

ALL THIS information comes through the courtesy of the store manager who was very happy to act as my guide to the duck pond. What a guide. He carried a pencil instead of a shotgun. And he wouldn't listen to my entreaties about borrowing a weapon from the sports department. "Let's just go up and take a look around," Mr. Savage kept saying. "In the fall of the year we have a duck chase but I can't allow hunting. Besides, they're out of season."



What gives? . . . These penthouse ducks, very shy of a camera, huddle close to a wall of a downtown building.

The Sears roof is a surprise. Definitely. With the exception of the tower you see rising above the building, the entire 15,000 square feet of roof are covered with three to four inches of water. Two sun decks, one for men and one for women, and boardwalks are built above the water. The ducks have a shelter out of water which they seldom use. They like the boardwalk better. It might be because the feed trough is on the runway. On either side of the roof two outlets spill 400 gallons a minute. That's the water which has gone through the refrigeration unit. Rather than have it go immediately to the sewer, the water is pumped out on the roof where it further cools and prevents heat from penetrating into the interior.

Earl Fluharty, chief engineer, explained the part the ducks play. Without the ducks paddling around, the roof lake would become so stagnant that about every two or three weeks, Mr. Fluharty and company would have to drain and clean the topside of Sears. It would also necessitate turning off the air-conditioning. Bad business.

With the quackers around, the roof can go practically unattended all summer. Employees consider the ducks as a fine piece of scenery on the water.

"They earn the 75 pounds of feed a week required to keep them happy," said Mr. Fluharty. Feeding is done by Elmer Pollard and Raymond Rodgers, two of the assistants in the engineering department. Before I left, Elmer showed how that was done.

Food for Ducks
SILLY THINGS, ducks. Although they eat almost all their waking hours, when Elmer poured the growing mash in the trough you'd think the ducks hadn't eaten in a week.

"Ray put some gold fish in the water once," laughed the chief, "but they didn't last long. We didn't see anyone fishing up here so we assumed the ducks ate them up."

"What happens to the ducks when the leaves turn, there's a tang in the air and the birds start flying south."

"We drain the water, get all the porters to help the engineering department and we have a duck chase," laughed Mr. Fluharty. "Then they're passed around to various members of the staff. It's duck soup from the top."

Come spring and another batch of ducklings are placed on the roof to idle the summer away. Nice work up to a point, don't you think?

A gentleman, obviously a lover of good literature, thrust a piece of paper in my hand yesterday on the Circle. "We want a book," he said. Four men from the Circle Engraving Co. had put their stamp of approval on "You, Too." Wonderful. Saved from a shutout again. Total, 1562. Goal, 30,000.

A Short War

By Robert C. Ruark

NEW YORK, Sept. 2.—It is with great pleasure that one notes that Mr. Sander Katz, the militant draft-dodger, is at large again, after doing an eight-months' term in Lewisburg jail on his ear, as the thieves say.

This absolves the artistic Mr. Katz from his responsibility to the state, and since he now wears a forcefully donated draft registration card, I assume he is safe from further raids by the Selective Service Act.

It has really been a short war for Mr. Katz, whose principles are so stout that he has twice visited the clink as a gesture of disdain to the draft. On emerging from his latest long week-end, of which he served only two-thirds of his sentence, he was met at the train by a delegation of young men who form a committee for "non-violent revolution."

Addressing the press, Mr. Katz allowed as how he hopes all the other young men will do as he does, and says, quite "I will continue to counsel and abet them, and if drafted I will refuse to go."

I suggest that the manipulators of our non-warring draft print this comment into the general orders of the soldier camps, and read it to the boys at morning muster.

Follow Hay-Foot Routine

MANY OF the men who were literally black-mailed into enlistment are still following the hay-foot, straw-foot routine, and might be interested in what an outsider has to say about beating forcible impressment into the military services.

Mr. Kraft, lest you forget, is an objector of the draft on "social, political and philosophic" grounds, which might make him one with about 14 million young men who stored their serge and took up khaki as a steady costume. The only difference is that while Mr. Kraft mused over his philosophy in a snug calaboose, some of the other lads swapped their khaki for a shroud.

It is of some importance that this Katz was a wartime dodger as well as a peace-time recalcitrant. He has, as a result, become a hero to the odd cliques which fatten off purposeful martyrdom.

Mr. Fixit

By Frederick C. Othman

WASHINGTON, Sept. 2.—Looks like we'll have to put Maj. Gen. Harry H. Vaughan down as a Mr. Fixit with medals. Just drop in at the White House, if you want a favor done, and ask for Gen. Harry.

If he's too busy doing favors for other people to get around to you, he has on the job a Mr. Fixit Jr., in the person of the assistant military aide, Col. C. J. Mara, who is no slouch at solving problems, either. Just tell the cop at the front gate of 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. your troubles. He'll relay same inside.

And if either the general or the colonel think you're worthy of help, they'll be delighted to take over your troubles. Or so said Col. Mara under tough cross-examination by the Republicans of the Senate Investigating Committee. You don't have to be introduced by John Maragon, the galling Greek, Col. Mara said, though a number of troubled citizens were.

What I'm getting at is the plight of the two Mr. Fixits, sitting side by side in full uniform, explaining how they ran the White House Service Bureau for taxpayers with problems. The Senators by their questioning didn't make it any the less embarrassing.

Car Trouble

AFTER leading the Mr. Fixits through explanations of deep freezers, race track deals, special passports for perfume magnates, surplus property sales, and other such items which Gen. Vaughan said were a part of his daily business, Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin wondered how many automobiles he'd bought this year, or last. The portly general said, none. The Senator said what about 1947?

"I'm driving a Packard, but I can't recall whether it is a '46 or a '47 model," the general replied. "I bought it."

"Yes, but didn't you secure an Oldsmobile in

and he has been abetted—his word—by our own law and order, which sometimes seems to deal so gently with some dissenters.

When Katz came up to trial under Judge Harold Medina, he of the nonstop edition trials of the 11 Communists, the judge left the boy a beautiful out. He stated at the time that if Katz came back repentant, bearing a registration card, it was possible that some of the harshness of his sentence might be stroked away.

Katz was not repentant. He stood by his social, political and philosophic principles, and was stricken by the horrid penalty of eight whole months in what is called the coziest clink in the United States, Lewisburg. This is the same jug that is known as the country club, and boasts such distinguished alumni as Serge Rubinstein, another hero who is currently on the town.

Contrast in 'Clink' Time

THE TIME in service for the handcuff volunteers of our current peace draft is 18 months, and the time for the draftees is 21 months. By simple addition I do not find that eight months of sitting in a can is as long as either 18 months or 21 months. By the same addition I do not find that 19 months of wartime penal service is as long as the time from Dec. 7 to the discharge dates in the fall of 1945.

It seems highly peculiar to me that the laws of this land are so shaped that they may wrest a civilian loose from his private life and ship him off to play soldier at a time when his country is not at war, but when penalties for non-conformity are passed out the penalty is less than the allotted time for compliance with the regulation.

The post-war administration of Selective Service has been weird, at best, and I suggest now that the weirdness continue and all the brave lads who are heading a sergeant's whim be released from their bondage. Katz is out, home free, and I see no reason to discriminate against the other thousands who merely went, when they were called. Or else we might toss Mr. K. back in the brig again, against the expiration of the act June 24, 1950.

1947?" insisted the Senator. "No," snapped the general.

"Do you know a Mrs. Maurice Cavanaugh of Spring Green, Wis.?" Sen. McCarthy asked.

That refreshed the general's memory. Yes, sir, she was an old friend in the lumber business up in the north woods. And she'd phoned him that she was desperate for an automobile. So the general put in an order here and the lady's fiancé dropped by the White House, picked up her sedan with hydraulic drive and delivered it to her in Wisconsin.

"And she sold it in the black market and made \$600 or \$700 on it," Sen. McCarthy continued. "She paid \$200, later it turned up on a used car lot in Iowa, priced at \$3400."

This was a surprise to Mr. Fixit. Well, wondered the Senator, how many other people had he helped buy automobiles? Gen. Vaughan said he'd fixed up the captain of President Truman's yacht with a new car, and also the President's overcoat.

Overlooked a Bet

"H-M-M-M-M," observed Sen. Karl E. Mundt of S. Dakota. "I was in the market then for a car, myself. Looks like I overlooked a bet."

Sen. Clyde Hoey of N. Carolina, the chairman, said this evidence looked to him like chicken feed stuff. He suggested that his Republican colleagues turn to something more important.

"I think it is important when the President's aide helps in securing cars that turn up in the black market," Sen. McCarthy retorted. He said the lady in Wisconsin had bought a Buick and a Cadillac. But not with his assistance, Gen. Vaughan hastened to add.

All the general-ever got for favors, he insisted time after time, was the satisfaction of helping out his fellow man. Guess I'll have to drop over to the White House. I need a new suit. Mr. Fixit undoubtedly knows a good tailor who can fix me up cheap.

The Quiz Master

??? Test Your Skill ???

Who wrote the southern war song, "The Bonnie Blue Flag"?

The song was composed by an Irish comedian, Harry McCarthy, who set it to an old Irish tune, "The Irish Jangling Car."

How many stars were there in the flag that inspired Francis Scott Key to write our national anthem?

Fifteen. Thirteen of these represented the original thirteen states. The two additional stars were for Kentucky and Vermont, the first two states to enter the Union after the Revolution. This flag also had 15 stripes.

What percentage of the American people live in the West?

Forty per cent of the nation's land and 35 per cent of its natural resources are in the West, yet only 14 per cent of the American people live in this region.

How many records did Ty Cobb hold when he retired?

Ty Cobb held 90 records when he retired. In 1946, when sports writers of the entire nation were asked to pick the names of the 10 leading figures in the game for Cooperstown's Hall of Fame, Cobb led his closest rival, Babe Ruth, by seven votes.

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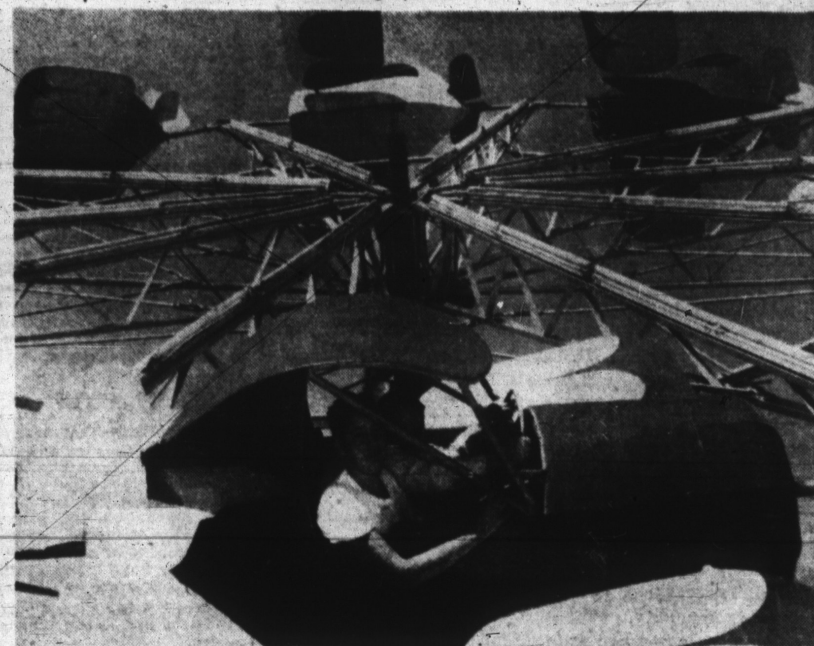
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First Day Attendance Records Fall As Crowds Jam Indiana State Fair

Picture Story by John Spicklemire, Times Staff Photographer



The 1949 Indiana State Fair opened on a chilly note yesterday but mid-day crowds brought a new first-day attendance record. This morning shot shows the early slim attendance.



Brice Benson, 13, of 3410 Brookside Pkwy., N. Dr., and Pat Sloan, 12, of 3490 Fall Creek Pkwy., E. Dr., take a spin in the whirling "Spit-Fire." Amusements on the midway were crowded yesterday as the gates were opened free to children and Boy and Girl Scouts.



The wealth of Indiana's summer harvest is shown here. The best vegetables and fruits are on display in the Agriculture building. Row on row of onions, peppers, tomatoes, beans, corn and cabbage are exhibited.



Four-year-old Barbara Klopp, 2219 S. Randolph St., clutches kewpie-doll prizes won for her by her brother. His skill in the basketball toss won the trinkets.



Garold Hampton, Crawfordsville, watches Robert Servis, New Market, prepare his butterfly collection for display in the Agriculture building.



The Armstrong family takes time out for lunch and rest at a telephone center. Left to right are Tommy, Mrs. Howard Armstrong, Nancy and Mrs. George E. Armstrong of 314 and 316 N. Denny St.

Schedule Exhibit Of Auto Trailer

The world's most complete auto trailer, the Duo Flagship, will be exhibited on the auto lots of the Jones Auto Co. in Indianapolis Sept. 3-7.

The trailer has a "flying bridge" with a 10x12 folding porch (and a pooch porch). The motif is marine throughout with porthole windows.

It is sound-proofed with plastic and has an Astrodome and wall fittings of oak, birch and mahogany. It has a kitchen, bar and full-sized bath.

W. A. (Bill) Hittle is sales manager of the Jones lots at 1250 W. Washington and 630 E. Washington St. There also are Jones lots in Anderson, Richmond, Shelbyville, Evansville and Bedford.

Candle-Making Exhibit Draws Fair Crowds

Standard Oil of Indiana has an interesting candle-making exhibit in the center of the Manufacturers' building.

Candles are formed, sized, colored and striped while you watch. Tallow is kept heated at 150 degrees.

Why He Got Drunk

LAS VEGAS, Nev., Sept. 2 (UP)—"Sure I was drunk," Earl Cotanch told the judge. "And I'll tell you why."

"I was sitting next to a man in a restaurant when all of a sudden he pulled a gun and blew his brains out. I saw the whole thing. Do you blame me for getting drunk?"

"No, I don't," Municipal Judge Walter Richards replied yesterday. "Case dismissed."

Speeder Caught After 50 MPH Pursuit

Hobart White, 33, of 1576 Broadway, was charged with reckless driving and operating a car while intoxicated early today after police said they chased him several miles through city streets at "a reckless and excessive rate of speed."

Police said White turned a corner while speeding at more than 50 miles an hour. In the ensuing chase he was accused of ignoring traffic signals, stop street signs and failure to signal at turns.

Religion School Schedules Events

The Butler School of Religion today announced a series of events which will open the school year of 1949-50. Dr. O. L. Shelton is dean of the school.

Enrollment for the first semester will be held Sept. 12, 13 and 14 with classes opening Sept. 15, Dean Shelton said.

New students will be entertained at a dinner in the University cafeteria Sept. 13 at 5:45 p.m. The formal opening of the school term will be heralded by a convocation Sept. 15 at 11 a.m.

President R. M. Bell of Johnson Bible College will be the speaker. The annual faculty reception for the student body will be held Sept. 15 at 7:30 p.m. In the student lounge of the School of Religion bldg. Students and their families have been invited.

Student organizations also scheduled to begin activities include the Student Volunteers meeting Sept. 20 at 7:30 p.m.; the Ministerial Association meeting Sept. 27 at 7:30 p.m.; and the Zealot Club dinner Oct. 11 at 12:30 p.m. All activities will be held in the Religion bldg.

Wins and Loses

SYDNEY, Australia, Sept. 1 (UP)—Reporters rushed to the home of 72-year-old W. G. Westren today to tell him he had won the \$22,500 New South Wales government lottery, but they found his relatives in mourning.

"Father waited all his life to win the big prize," his sobbing daughter said. "He died of a heart attack last night."

Rotarians to View State Fair Activities

Indiana State Fair activities and a state fair parade of champions will be featured at the Rotary International of Indianapolis meeting at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday in the Claypool Hotel.

Foremost among the champions will be 4-H boys and girls and the exhibits they have brought to the 93d State Fair from the rural districts of Indiana.

TALK ON SET ENGINES
Roger C. Fleming, public relations director, Allison Division of General Motors Corp., assisted by test pilot Jimmy Youngblood, will describe recent jet engine developments during a meeting of the Scientists Club at noon Sept. 12 in the Hotel Antlers. A display of testing gear will be included.

Boy, Fireman Hurt In Traffic Crash

A 12-year-old boy was in critical condition at Methodist Hospital today, and a city fireman was treated at General Hospital as the result of traffic accident yesterday.

Frank Wilcox of 3707 N. Meridian St., Apt. 1, received a possible brain concussion and a fractured arm late yesterday afternoon when struck by a car operated by Richard Eugene Miller, 18, of 51 E. 21st St., at the intersection of 39th and Illinois Sts.

A streetcar operator was slated to appear in Municipal Court after his vehicle collided with a Indianapolis fire truck early last night.

William J. Bigley, 35, of 472 Roslyn Ave., driver of the fire truck, suffered a crushed left arm in the impact. He was taken to General Hospital in a department automobile.

James Guest, 63, of 2022 Lockburn St., the streetcar operator, was to face court for failure to give an emergency vehicle the right of way. Fire Department officials said the fire truck was burning red lights and sounding the siren when the accident occurred.