



The Indianapolis Times

61st YEAR—NUMBER 32

FORECAST: Partly cloudy, cold tonight, tomorrow. Low tonight, 22. High tomorrow, 40.

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1950

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FINAL HOME

PRICE FIVE CENTS

Welch To Enter Two Novis in 500

Nalon, Miller To Drive; Prize Issue Hanging

Owner Stands Pat On Demands; Duke's Car Fully Rebuilt

By ART WRIGHT

The powerful Novi Specials, which have been a question mark in the entry list for this year's 500-Mile Speedway classic, will be brought to Indianapolis for the race.

Duke Nalon, who narrowly escaped death last May 30 when his car caught fire, will be at the wheel of a rebuilt version of that same Novi.

Chet Miller, veteran of 26 years in auto racing competition, will pilot the Novi driven last year by the late Rex Mays. Miller was on the Novi team for a time prior to the 1948 race here.

Entries for the cars will be mailed from California to the Speedway office Saturday, the deadline date for entries.

Welch Reveals Plans

These plans for the Novi team were revealed today by Lou Welch, owner of the cars, in an exclusive interview with The Times.

One "hitch" in any promise of whether the Novis will compete in the 500-Mile Race rested on Mr. Welch's demand for an increase of the prize purse.

Mr. Welch, who talked with The Times while on business in the East, said that before he left California, he reiterated his prize demands in a letter to Wilbur Shaw, Speedway president. "I told Shaw we were entering the cars with the understanding they might run only if the prize purse is increased."

Last winter the Novi owner declared in an exclusive Times' interview that he wouldn't run the Novis in the 1950 classic unless the Speedway increased its own contribution to the prize purse to \$150,000. The amount is a boost of \$35,000 over the Speedway's end of the purse exclusive of lap prizes, accessory monies and other gifts.

Other Prizes Donated

Last year the Speedway put up \$115,000 of the purse. The total of \$179,150 awarded the 33-car field included lap prizes donated by business firms and citizens, awards made by various accessory companies to drivers using their products and merchandise gifts to winners.

Mr. Welch told The Times today he might be satisfied to run the Novis in the 500 if the Speedway "at least adds \$25,000 for the boys who finish from third to 10th places."

"I don't care about us," Mr. Welch said, indicating that he was confident of victory this year, "but I do think the boys who finish from third to 10th should get enough money to get back home."

Mr. Welch said he instructed his secretary in California to "mail in the entry blanks to the Speedway next Saturday so we're sure to have the cars in the race if Mr. Shaw changes his mind and increases the prize purse." Entries postmarked by Saturday are eligible.

Duke's car has been completely rebuilt since his near-fatal crash on the northeast curve last year. A new chassis was required, Mr. Welch said. He said the cars are the same as they were last year except that carburetion has been improved.

Mr. Welch said the Novis will arrive in Indianapolis "some time in May" . . . but insisted that whether they actually compete in the race depends upon whether the Speedway increases the prizes.

'Race Driver' Uses Wrong Speedway

"But, judge, I'm a race driver." Professional immunity didn't work in Municipal Court 3 today. Judge Joseph Howard fined semi-pro speedster Harry Brooks, 25, of 1975 Hoshbrook St., \$5 and costs for "doing" 56 mph on English Ave.

When the judge asked him his occupation, Brooks said his avocation was race driving. He said he won several sprint races last year on the Salem dirt track, and "if everything goes well" plans to enter the 500-Mile classic May 30.

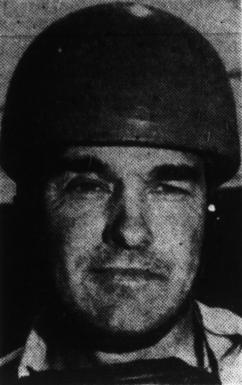
"Well, don't do your racing on our streets," Judge Howard admonished Brooks as he passed sentence.

Driver Leaps Out as Train Smashes Truck

A driver leaped to safety when his truck was struck by a Pennsylvania passenger train today at the S. Emerson Ave. crossing. Residents who witnessed the crash said the driver jumped out just before the diesel-powered engine struck the front of the fruit and vegetable truck. He was not immediately identified.



Duke Nalon



Chet Miller

Realtors Urged to Promote Unified City Government

Time to Co-ordinate Agencies to Perform Over-all Services, Real Estate Board Told

By LARRY STILLEKRAM, Times Real Estate Editor

Indianapolis realtors today were urged to promote a metropolitan government to eliminate duplicating public services and trim prohibitive downtown real estate taxes.

"It's time to co-ordinate independent functions of government to perform over-all services," the Indianapolis Real Estate Board was told.

Otherwise a city the size of Indianapolis will face a costly decentralization to suburban shopping and community centers. Downtown property values will suffer.

The warning for a federalized city administration similar to Montreal, Canada, was issued by Kenneth P. Vinsel, executive vice president of the Louisville Chamber of Commerce.

The IREB luncheon speaker told realtors in the Washington Hotel that besides the overlapping wastes in present governmental services, realtors must recognize the metropolitan district as a whole.

The warning for a "federalized city" administration similar to Montreal, Canada, was issued by Kenneth P. Vinsel, executive vice president of the Louisville Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Vinsel pointed out that more and more home builders and buyers were scurrying to suburbs to escape high taxes, smoke, noise and the lack of convenient downtown shopping facilities.

"As realtors, you must plan for better centralized development," he said. "But, at the same time, you must realize that cities will decentralize unless you make the downtown area more attractive to shoppers and workers."

Rapid decentralization is costly, he said, in that annexed districts tax present government facilities more than they contribute to these services.

Population 'Lost'

The former University of Louisville political science dean pointed out one-third of 40 large cities lost population during the '30s, while only two of 40 metropolitan areas lost population.

"This should be warning enough to curb government waste and plan for greater downtown conveniences to protect real estate values and the growth of an expanding city," he said.

Mr. Vinsel was introduced by F. C. Tucker Jr., IREB program chairman. Bruce Savage, board president, presided at the luncheon meeting.

KEROSENE BURNS FATAL

ROCHESTER, April 13 (UP)—Curtis Croussmore, 62, died last night in Woodlawn Hospital after kerosene exploded in his hands as he built a kitchen stove. The fire caused \$2000 damage to Mr. Croussmore's home.

After hovering near freezing most of the day yesterday, Indiana's temperatures were expected to rise slowly to a high this afternoon of 37. But more snow-tingling blasts out of the north will send the mercury shuddering to 22 tonight. A high of 45 was forecast for tomorrow.

Inside The Times—

Times Spelling Bee to be held at Central YWCA tonight

Disciples of Christ set meeting of educators here . . .

Indiana Association of Podiatrists open 27th annual

convention here tomorrow . . .

Who said cops can't be charming . . . police ball set

tomorrow night . . .

Dick Haymes to play role of pickpocket . . . Erskine

Johnson in Hollywood . . .

Cape to seek clean sweep in Calder Cup playoffs here

tonight . . . The Press Box by Bill Eggert . . . Eddie

Ash reports on the Indians . . .

Civic Theater's production of "Two Blind Mice" opens

tomorrow night . . . PTA news, organizations, clubs,

women's news . . .

Blackwood on Bridge, Eat Well for Less, Counter-Spy

by Louise Fletcher, The Market Basket, Times Sewing Contest entry blank . . .

Years of free shows coming for the public reports Earl

Wilson in his Broadway column 'It Happened Last

Night' . . .

Harold Hartley's business column . . . Nash presents its

new "Rambler" . . .

Air Force blue to keynote military ball at Butler tomorrow . . . last installment of "Francis" . . .

Amusements . . . 18

Bridge . . . 24

Comics . . . 43

Crossword . . . 9

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Gardening . . . 24

Hollywood . . . 18

Inside Indianapolis . . . 35

Mrs. Manners . . . 35

Your Job . . . 16

Truman Takes Bow as U. S. Rings the Bell

Credits Himself

For 'Fine Shape'

The Country Is In

By MERRIMAN SMITH

United Press White House Reporter

WASHINGTON, April 13—

Harry S. Truman in a review of his first five years as President said today that the country is in fine shape and that he deserves the credit.

The President told reporters that employment, business and agricultural conditions are better than they have been in a long time.

And looking to the future, he said he is hopeful for continued improvement in international relations.

As of now, Mr. Truman said, he can see nothing seriously the matter with this country.

Yesterday marked the start of Mr. Truman's sixth year as Chief Executive.

Today, at his 222d news conference, the President said his first five years had been rather difficult but that the country is still on its feet.

Mores at Work

The President spoke slowly and deliberately as he thought back over the tumultuous years since the death of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt on April 12, 1945.

There is some unemployment, the President said, but more people are at work in this country than in any other country at any time in history.

He said that if reports from Wall Street may be believed, business conditions are also the best in history. And he added, the position of the farmer is excellent, surpassed only by the all-time peak year of 1948.

Mr. Truman's anniversary dissertation was touched off by a question: "Are the first five years the hardest?"

He said this country came out of World War II easier than from any other war in U. S. history.

Easy to Criticize

He said it is easy for some to give no credit to the President for the currently good position of this country. It would have happened if a moron had been on the job, if some of the press is to be believed, the President added.

But he said he thinks the chief executive can take the credit and he certainly intends to do that.

In his first news conference in the Capitol in more than a month, Mr. Truman made these points on immediate matters:

ONE: He didn't think it possible for him to libel Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy (R. Wis.), as Sen. Robert A. Taft (R. O.) has charged. McCarthy instigated the investigation of Communists in the State Department.

THE President dismissed Sen. Taft's defense of Sen. McCarthy and criticism of the administration as part of Sen. Taft's effort to win re-election in Ohio.

TWO: He said he personally ordered the federal grand jury investigating crime in Kansas City. Two of the witnesses before the grand jury, Democratic Boss Charles Binaggio and his son, George Gargotta, were slain by gunmen last week.

Mr. Truman said it was up to the Justice Department to decide whether the FBI should investigate the slayings.

THREE: The fair employment practices bill—which Southerners don't want—will be taken up in the Senate after it approves another year of Marshall Plan aid. He said there is no point in bringing up FEPC now and delaying the federal recovery program by a filibuster.

FOUR: He had no comment on Russian reports of a clash between an American and a Soviet aircraft.

In the international field, the President said conditions have improved since 1946. His reason for saying that: Mr. Truman said: "That he considers 1946 the low point since the end of World War II."

He called it the worst time he could remember and the worst time this country has faced except in a shooting war itself.

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