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## BACK IN TIME

### FROM THE TRIBUNE FILES

COMPILED BY TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER DARLENE SCATES

**1894** Because of a smallpox epidemic in Chicago, Indiana health officials declared it dangerous for Hoosiers to visit the city.

Members of the Indiana Board of Health had traveled to Chicago to investigate the size of the epidemic. In some parts of the city, they found the only precaution being taken to prevent the spread of the disease was the posting of warning cards on houses. There was no quarantine, and people were free to come and go as they pleased.

After meeting with officials of other state health boards, the Indiana group decided that it would give city authorities a chance to confine the disease before enforcing a state-line inspection against Chicago. But because it was deemed unsafe for Indiana residents to go to Chicago, South Bend police took steps to keep people from going there.

The police chief himself asked officials of Dodge Manufacturing Co. in Mishawaka, who were sponsoring a train trip to Chicago the following week, to cancel the event. Company officials were willing to do so if the railroad company would consent.

So police paid a visit to the local passenger agent for the Chicago & Grand Trunk railroad. The agent said it was possible to call off the trip, and he met with Dodge officials that same afternoon.

There had been only one case of smallpox reported in the area. In Bourbon, a young traveling businessman had been diagnosed with smallpox. He was placed under quarantine along with two companions who had also been exposed to the disease.

**1919** On May 15, 1919, South Bend's Jewish community scheduled a mass meeting for the following Sunday to discuss the atrocities being practiced against the Jewish minority in Russia and Eastern Europe.

Organizers planned to draft an appeal to U.S. citizens and to President Woodrow Wilson "to interfere and stop the shedding of blood."

Part of the statement read: "... in an era when humanity and democracy are so widely advocated and being fought for, these people solely indulge in the barbarian atrocities, openly preaching the annihilation of the Jewish race."

The mass meeting was held at Pinee Hall on Lafayette Boulevard.

**1944** Twelve women who starred with the South Bend Blue Sox in the All-American Girls' Baseball League the previous year continued their workouts in the league's spring training camp at Washington Park in Peru, Ill.

The women were among 120 players from 24 states and Canada who were seeking regular jobs in the expanded six-team league for the 1944 summer season.

The South Bend athletes were: catchers Bonnie Baker and Lucella MacLean; pitchers Margaret Berger, Doris Barr and Kay Bennett; first baseman Johanna Hagelman; second baseman Margaret Stefanz; shortstop Dorothy Schroeder; third baseman Lois Flaerrsch; and outfielders Betsy Jochum, Josephine D'Angelo and Mable Holle.

Their daily routine at training camp consisted of setting up exercises and general practice and instruction in hitting and fielding. The first exhibitions were scheduled for that weekend, with double-headers placed to get the women into competitive shape.

Contracts had been signed with the league's six coach-chaperones. Rose Virginia Way, coach-chaperone of the Blue Sox the previous year, was not offered a contract for 1944 because league directors thought she was too young for the job. Way was 26. The coach-chaperones were assigned to their respective teams when training camp ended the following week.

**1969** The 40th annual Tulip Festival opened in Holland, Mich., on May 14.

The festival had earned international fame. News cameras clicked as dozens of young people in wooden shoes and baggy pants clomped into the streets with mops and brushes, and the annual "clomtage" (washing the streets of Holland) began. Then came the klep, klop, klap of 600 Klompen Dancers.

The city itself was decked out in Dutch finery, most of it straight from the Old World. During the four-day festival, more than 250,000 people visited the town to look at its tulip beds, walk along its dikes and canals, and eat in its novel dining rooms.

News media from seven states representing 40 newspapers and radio and television stations converged on Holland for press day. They were given a whirlwind tour that began at the city's Civic Center and ended with a dinner at a restaurant overlooking Holland's harbor.

Scheduled in the four days were more than 100 events including a flower show at the armory, where color TV crews filmed Holland's festival queen — the tulip.

The city's five-story windmill "De Zwaan" ground out whole wheat flour for visitors. The windmill had been imported from the Netherlands in 1964 and reconstructed in the middle of a newly created park along the Black River near the center of town.

The festival was even attended by then-Michigan Gov. William Milliken, who used the opportunity to push his controversial recreation bond plan.

### NOT SO LONG AGO

Hannah Eldred Photo

## Coming of age

The North Liberty High School class of 1944 had more members in its junior year, shown here, than its senior. By then, according to class member Hannah Eldred, some of the boys had become old enough to enlist in the military and headed off to war. From left are front row: Ray Stanifar, Jim Hocker, Paul Anderson, Grant Poynter, Paul Neidinger, Junior Powers, Jim Berry and Lloyd Clark. Second row: Eleanor Lawson, Esther Albright, Viola "Mickey" Bowers, Ruth Niblick, Peggy Shinn and Jim Frankenburger. Third row: Rosezella Quinn, Miss Robertson (sponsor), Selma Jeanne Peterson, Opal Moon, Evelyn Hanson, Ruth Scousley, Annabelle Held and Duwanna Clark. Fourth row: Pauline Kelley, June Wolfe, Hannah Eldred, Carl Kime, Kenneth Davis, LaVerne Payce, Cliff Williams and Steve Scimos. Fifth row: Robert Folks, Bill Moon, Raymond Hartsough, Jim Reed, Frank Munsur, Dale Amm, Ed Kurzthal, Charles Nemeth and Melvin Newcomer.

# 'Army' of unemployed visited area

By FLORENCE HURCOMB

SOUTH BEND — The South Bend Tribune of May 10, 1894, included a small item noting the arrival in town that morning of a Mrs. Randall, by way of the Lake Shore train from New Carlisle.

She was seen to leave her valise in the lobby of the Oliver House hotel before she set off in search of Mayor David R. Leeper, or someone in authority at the police station.

She might be considered the scout for her husband, "Gen." Randall, leader of a segment of Coxey's Army. She found her South Bend contacts receptive to the arrival of this division of Coxey's Army.

Jacob Sechler Coxey, a populist leader from Massillon, Ohio, had led his "army" of unemployed workers to Washington, D.C. He was arrested for walking on the Capitol's grass on May Day 1894 and was not allowed to make a speech giving his ideas on labor and monetary reform.

This was not a time of war in the United States; economic reform was the banner under which Coxey's Army marched. President Grover Cleveland's administration was centered on bringing the country out of the serious economic depression brought on during the Panic of 1893.

**THROUGH THE YEARS** is a Michiana history column coordinated by Mary Renshaw from the Northern Indiana Historical Society, working with a group of affiliated agencies in northern Indiana and southwestern Michigan. For more information about the column, write INHS, 808 W. Washington St., South Bend, IN 46601.

Coxey's proposals were adopted to some degree many years later with the Public Works Administration of the 1930s — during another time of unemployment, the Great Depression.

Some divisions of Coxey's Army continued to march to Washington throughout the summer of 1894. The group that arrived in South Bend under Randall's command were mostly Chicagoans. His Commonwealers — Coxey had named his army the Commonweal of Christ — had spent the night of May 10 at New Carlisle, where they stated they had been well-treated.

The arrangement made with Mrs. Randall by police Chief Benjamin H. Rose for the South Bend sojourn included provisions of bread, meat and coffee for supper and breakfast the next morning. The camping place was donated by South Bend's largest employer, J.M. Studebaker, on land described as "Island Park, Studebaker tract of ground up the St. Joseph River."

The hosts were wary when the group of about 200 unemployed men arrived in midafternoon. Chief Rose informed Randall that his men must remain in their camp and move on as soon as possible after breakfast.

The group marched eastward the next day through Mishawaka and camped at Elkhart for the night. The paper didn't mention if any newcomers from Michiana joined Coxey's Army for the march to Washington.

Coxey continued his campaign the rest of his long life — he lived to be 97. He visited South Bend on Sept. 3, 1908, while on a speaking tour.

By then, the 75-year-old traveled in a special truck equipped with a loudspeaker and fold-out platform. The crowd was small but Coxey was undaunted. He was off for Detroit to visit another eccentric — Henry Ford.

A reporter asked Ford's opinion of Coxey's plan for interest-free bonds and public works to provide jobs for the unemployed. "It won't work. There's no graft in it," Ford replied.

Florence Hurcomb, staff assistant for the Northern Indiana Historical Society, is an occasional contributor to this column.

## TIME OFF

U.S. Postal Service Photo

The World Cup Soccer stamps will be issued May 26 at the Main Post Office in New York City.

# U.S. gives World Cup Soccer its due

By SYD KRONISH
AP Special Feature

World Cup Soccer, one of the greatest of international sports competitions, will soon be played in the United States for the first time.

To hail this event, the U.S. Postal Service is releasing three stamps for postage, a souvenir sheet and a stamp folder as a collector's item.

The 29-center is a first class domestic stamp. The 40-cent stamp is an international rate adhesive. The 50-center is an international airmail stamp. Each comes in panes of 20 stamps and bears the inscription "World Cup Soccer."

The tourney will see 24 national teams playing 32 matches in nine cities. The World Cup will open June 17 in Chicago's Soldier Field and conclude a month later at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif.

For first day of issue postmarks, buy the stamps at the post office after May 26, affix them to envelopes and place in a larger envelope addressed to: Customer Affixed Stamps, World Cup Soccer, Postmaster, New York, NY 10199-9991. Requests are due by June 25.

The colorful souvenir sheet ($1.10) features the stamps on a backdrop image of a U.S. map. The map and text show the nine American cities and the countries that have earned the honor to compete.

The stamp folder highlights the stamps in a souvenir sheet format. It will be available for $4.95 at some post offices and the Philatelic Fulfillment Center, Box 449997, Kansas City, MO 64144-9997.

**STAMPS**

■ **RUGBY, ANYONE?:** Samoa, an archipelago in the South Pacific, has issued a set of four stamps honoring its national rugby team.

The first stamp portrays Samoan rugby officials who supervised the games. The second stamp depicts a match between Samoa and Wales. The third stamp features a match between Samoa and New Zealand. The fourth illustrates a view of Apia Park Stadium where Samoa's team plays its games.

The four mint stamps are available for $10.95, first day covers for $14.95 and both for $24.95 from the Sports Collectors Society, P.O. Box 4281, Valley Village, CA 91617.

# Certain titles aimed at kids

By RICK S. JONES

While the general public believes that all comic books are bought by little kids, comics publishers know better. The best-selling books are usually targeted to a core audience of teen-age males, although a large increase in adult readers has occurred in recent years.

But there is always a need to develop the children's market. Since typical teen-age comics fans leave the hobby after six years or so, new readers must perpetually be drawn from younger ages.

Marvel and DC, the largest U.S. comics companies, have specific titles for younger readers. DC's Superman and Batman Magazine and Batman Adventures star their mainstream heroes in simply plotted stories, while Looney Tunes features Warner Bros. characters like Bugs Bunny and Wyle E. Coyote.

Marvel's heroes are presented to preteens in Spider-Man Magazine and X-Men Adventures. Their G.I. Joe is a strong seller, and Barbie and Barbie Fashion appeal to many young girls. A recent agreement now allows Marvel to tell new tales of Disney's "Aladdin," "Beauty and the Beast" and "The Little Mermaid."

Older Disney characters like Mickey Mouse and Uncle Scrooge appear in Gladstone comics, which will soon celebrate Donald Duck's 60th anniversary. Donald Duck No. 286 includes a reprint of Donald's first solo comics story from 1937, along with a tale in the tradition of "It's a Wonderful Life" about what Duckburg would be like without Donald Duck.

Many children's comics are based on popular cartoons, like Exosquad, The Simpsons and Speed Racer. A new original comics creation, from Polestar, is "Ultrasyberwerkie Dolphinbrainiac." The exploits of bionically enhanced dolphins in outer space could prove popular with the younger set — as long as they don't have to ask for it by name.

Every comics publisher in existence owes a debt of gratitude to Archie Comics. Eternally young Archie Andrews has attended Riverdale High for over 50 years. He's been the star of dozens of comics, including issues with religious themes from Spire Christian Comics.

Today, about 15 comics and digests deliver Archie

**COMIC BOOKS**

and his friends to young fans each month. In addition, Archie Comics presents "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle Adventures" and "Sonic the Hedgehog."

Harvey Comics publishes a legion of characters for children, including Richie Rich, Popeye, Underdog, the Muppet Babies and Beetle Bailey. They now have rights to use Hanna Barbera creations, so premiere issues of "Scooby-Doo," "The Jetsons," "Magilla Gorilla" and more will appear this summer.

And a variation on 3-D images will debut in the adaptation of the new Flintstones movie. Two pictures will be printed in the same space, one with the traditional animated characters, the other with a comics version of the live actors from the movie.

Harvey's editor-in-chief Sol Jacobson explains: "Look through one lens of the 3-D glass, and you'll see John Goodman. Look through the other, and you'll see Fred Flintstone."

Comic books prepared for preteens often appeal to adults as well. Some characters, like Popeye, have been in comics since the 1930s. Today's adults were yesterday's young fans, and some want to look in on Beetle Bailey or Uncle Scrooge again.

One poet-teen who occasionally revisits Riverdale High is best-selling novelist Stephen King, who penned an introduction to a collection of Archie stories from the 1940s.

Gladstone is in the midst of a 10-volume collection of every story Carl Barks did for Walt Disney's Comics and Stories. Each 56-page book is $8.95. The entire project, when completed in 1996, will cost over $450. Obviously, they're not just selling these issues to little kids.

Still, many adults won't pick up a comic for fear of embarrassment at being seen reading a "funnybook." What a pity. Why should anyone be embarrassed for wanting to spend time with a childhood friend?

Rick S. Jones of Argos has been collecting comic books for more than a decade.

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