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THINK METRIC

IUPUI and Midwest National Bank have begun a major public education program to prepare for the eventual and inevitable conversion to the metric system of weights and measures in the United States.

Both institutions will distribute thousands of English-metric slide converters throughout Central Indiana to help people learn how to change quarts into liters, miles into kilometers, and pounds into kilograms.

Midwest National Bank will distribute the calculators to customers; IUPUI will give them to prospective students. Both will make them available to groups which have a special interest in the metric system.

Officials at both institutions pointed out that the conversion, already begun in earnest by many major industries and businesses, may be authorized by the U.S. Congress within a short time. In 1973, there were at least 10 resolutions introduced in both houses of Congress calling for an immediate plan of conversion. All the resolutions provide for conversion to be fully implemented within 10 years.

"Since education is the first step toward a successful change to metrics, it is the job of educational institutions to lead in helping the public learn the system," said Dr. Glenn W. Irwin, Jr., IUPUI chancellor. "With this program, perhaps thousands of Hoosiers will be among the first Americans to be comfortable with the metric system."

Robert A. Martin III, executive vice-president of Midwest National Bank, said his institution enthusiastically joined with IUPUI in this important educational venture. The bank purchased the devices and made them available for university use according to IUPUI specifications.

The English system of weights and measures is an amalgam of often illogical customs which relate to the sizes of medieval baskets and the distance from fingertip to nose on English kings.

The metric system was developed after the French Revolution as a tightly rational system which related weights, measurements, and temperatures. Only 10 nations in the world do not now use the metric system. The United States is the largest and the only industrial nation not on metrics. The others are Barbados, Burma, Gambia, Liberia, Muscat Oman, Nauru, Sierra Leone, South Yemen, Tonga, and Trinidad.

The standard metric units generally are similar in size, weight, or dimension to their English equivalents: one quart equals .946 liters, one pound equals .454 kilograms, one yard equals .914 meters, one mile equals 1.609 kilometers.

The Indianapolis 500-Mile Race would be the Indianapolis 804.5-Kilometer Race, football teams would need 9.144 meters to make a first down, and a 10-gallon hat would hold 37.856 liters.

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In metric nomenclature, the prefix centi-means a hundredth and the prefix milli-means a thousandth. A centimeter, the approximate equivalent to the English inch, is thus the hundredth part of a meter, the rough equivalent of a yard, and a millimeter is a thousandth of a meter.

On the other side of the decimal, the hecto means one hundred and a kilo means one thousand. A hectacre is approximately 40 per cent of an acre and a kilometer or one thousand meters, is about 62 per cent of a mile.

Educators believe it is simpler to teach this system to children than the older system: Two pints to a quart, but four quarts to a gallon; 12 inches to a foot, three feet to a yard, and 1,760 yards to a mile.

The conversion to metrics will eliminate some grand traditions and cliches: Football commentators on television will have to murmer wisely that "Football is a game of centimeters" when a fourth down plunge fails. And Bert Parks can smirk and say that the new Miss America measures a perfect 91.44-66.04-91.44. The runners-up can console themselves that she also has a few extra kilos around the hips.

Good-bye, pennyweights . . . Good-bye, fathoms and furlongs . . . Good-bye, barleycorns . . .

DR. SAMS TO HEAD TUSKEGEE NURSING SCHOOL

Dr. Lauranne Brown Sams, president of the National Black Nurses Association and a nationally recognized nursing educator, will resign from the Indiana University School of Nursing faculty to become dean of the Tuskegee (Ala.) Institute School of Nursing, effective January 1, 1974.

Dr. Sams, a native of Indianapolis, has had major responsibilities for curriculum development and for the evaluation of academic and clinical education programs at the I.U. School of Nursing.

"We accept her resignation with deepest regrets," said the I.U. dean of nursing Dr. Elizabeth K. Grossman. "Dr. Sams made truly invaluable contributions to the growth and quality of nursing education in Indiana. I feel that Tuskegee went after the very best for dean . . and they got her.

Dr. Sams, a graduate of Crispus Attucks High School, was graduated with highest academic and clinical honors from the Marion County General Hospital School of Nursing in 1950. She earned bachelor of science and master of science degrees at Butler University and joined the I.U. nursing faculty in 1958. Dr. Sams earned a doctorate in educational psychology from the Indiana University Graduate School in 1968.

She has been active in academic affairs for both the school and the university. Besides serving on all the nursing school's curriculum, planning, and evaluation committees, she has served on I.U. and IUPUI committees for metropolitan affairs, for science and humanities programs, and for equal opportunity. She was recently appointed by Gov. Otis R. Bowen to the Indiana State Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education.

Dr. Sams has also had major community responsibilities, serving on the Mayor's Model Cities Task Force and several related committees, the committee on curriculum and program development for the Metropolitan Manpower Commission, and the central nursing committee of the Indianapolis Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Nationally, in addition to serving as president of the National Black Nurses
Association, Dr. Sams is a member of the Special Committee on Alcoholism in the
Black Community of the National Institute for Alcohol and Alcohol Abuse, a member
of the American Nurses Association Task Force for Affirmative Action and the ANA
Research Commission.

CALENDAR CHECK-OFF

Tuesday -- "Mechanism of Action of Inhalation Anesthetics," Physiology Seminar by Dr. Raymond Paradise, professor of pharmacology; Medical Science Building, Room 205, 4 p.m.

Showcase of Music -- Harpist Eleanore Schettler and guitarist Javier Calderon will present a classical program for the Showcase in Music production Tuesday at 8:15 p.m. in the Lecture Hall Building. Tickets are \$1; free for students.

<u>Dean's Convocation Series</u> -- Professor Lawrence Hunter, Department of Mathematical Sciences, will talk about "Computers in the Humanities" at noon Wednesday in the faculty lounge of the Krannert Building, 38th Street.

Tuesday -- Dr. George Springer, chairman and professor of mathematics, IUB, will discuss the "Snowmass Conference on the School Curriculum" at 4 p.m. in Room 263 of the Krannert Building, 38th Street. Dr. Springer participated in the Snowmass Conference, held last summer in Colorado, which focused on the pre-college curriculum in mathematics.

<u>Insurance Seminar</u> -- A free luncheon and seminar on the facts about insurance for medical students will be held at noon Wednesday in the Provincial Room of the Union Building. This non-sales seminar will present the facts about life insurance and related products and is being conducted by Roger W. Thomas, independent insurance broker.

<u>Wednesday</u> -- Lecturer Frederic Stroaska will discuss rape prevention at 8:15 p.m. in Lecture Hall 101. The event is sponsored by the IUPUI Lectures and Convocations Committee.

Thursday -- "Some Observations on the Role of the Analytical Chemist in Product
Development," Chemistry Seminar by Dr. Alvin L. Donoho, research scientist with Eli Lilly
& Co.; Krannert Building, 38th Street, Room 231, 4 p.m.

<u>All-Day Meeting</u> -- Members of the IUPUI Faculty Council and top IUPUI administrators will be attending an all-day meeting Thursday at the Lilly Center to talk about the preliminary report of the IUPUI Goals and Objectives Committee. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m.

I.U. and the World -- I.U. President John W. Ryan will talk about "Perspectives in Overseas Development Work: With Implications for Indiana University in the Future" at a special meeting at 8 p.m. Thursday in the Atkinson Hotel, President Ryan will be introduced by IUPUI Chancellor Glenn W. Irwin, Jr. A banquet will precede the address; the charge for this optional part of the program is \$10 per person. Banquet registration money should be sent to Conference Bureau, Conf. #300-73, Indiana Memorial Union, Bloomington, by Monday (November 12). However, since this is a late notice, you may go ahead and send your banquet money, and also call the Conference Bureau (337-4661) to report that your remittance is on the way. These calls will be accepted until noon Tuesday. (A telephone reservation constitutes a guarantee that the person will pay for the meal.) For further information, call the Conference Bureau or Robert W. Hattery at 337-1684.

Friday -- "Complications of Contrast Material and Evaluation and Technique of Uroradiologic Examinations," Radiology Conference by Dr. David Witten, professor and



chairman of the Department of Radiology at the University of Alabama; Myers Auditorium in Marion County General Hospital, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Nurses-To-Be -- Freshman Nursing Day is Saturday, arranged by a student committee under the direction of Miss Martha Akers, associate professor of nursing. The day includes 10 a.m. registration, tours of University Hospital and the new School of Nursing, and a welcome from Nursing Dean Elizabeth K. Grossman at 3 p.m. in the Union.

Put It In Writing? -- "The Trail You Leave in Ink" will be the topic when the IUPUI Women's Club meets Tuesday, November 20 at the Sweden House, 5515 West 38th Street, at 6 p.m. Speaker will be Sgt. Norris J. Starkey from the Bureau of Identification of the Indianapolis Police Department. He is an expert in handwriting analysis and finger printing. Reservations must be made by Friday (November 16), Cost is \$4.35. Send your reservation and check to Gerry Lunsford, Coleman Clinic, Medical Center, or to Evelyn Ziegler, Bursar's Office, 38th Street Campus.

ALL ABOUT LAW

Information from A to Z about law as a possible career will be given at IUPUI's first Law Career Information Seminar Thursday.

Mary Hyne of the sponsoring University Division said the seminar is designed to show how students can be admitted to law schools, the demands made on law school students the future for para-legal aides, opportunities for women and minorities in law, and an outline of various specialities in law and how several disciplines relate to legal careers.

The seminar, will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Lecture Hall 100, and is open to the public. There is no charge. Speakers will be G. Kent Frandsen, associate dean of the Indianapolis Law School; Fred Schwab, a law student at Bloomington; Clarence Bolden, Indianapolis attorney; Belle Choate of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union, and Albert G. Fisher of the National Labor Relations Board.

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JEANNETTE MATTHEW LIBRARIAN, SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS 420 BLAKE STREET