

Indiana Daily Times

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WHAT OTHER BUNCH of republicans desires to take a hand in the affairs of the democratic party in Indiana?

FESLER'S CROWD seems to be confronted with the problem of whether to withdraw from politics now or after the primaries.

JUDGE COLLINS is taking under advisement the case of a man who had seventy-two quarts of whisky "for his wife's health." Why?

Fesler Totes Water Bucket

James W. Fesler, candidate for the republican nomination for governor, has almost read himself out of the republican party.

In his Wabash speech he finds fault with the 1919 tax law, that statute of which the republican state committee in its campaign literature says:

"The enactment of the new tax law is the greatest achievement of the republican party in Indiana since the civil war," and is "the best tax law that could be devised under the constitution as it now stands."

Mr. Fesler takes the tax law by its enacting clause and proceeds to shake out of it an improper every amendment that the legislature of 1919, at the behest of Gov. Goodrich, placed in it. He adopts the platform on which Edgar D. Bush started his race for the nomination and which platform was so roundly condemned by Ed. Wasmuth, chairman of the republican state committee, who said:

"No candidate who does not support the tax law is worthy of the support of the republican party."

What Mr. Wasmuth said regarding Mr. Bush's views applies with equal force to those of Mr. Fesler, who, as a result of his stand at Wabash, is a candidate for governor without a party and with nothing more than an individual appeal to carry him toward the office.

Mr. Fesler disagrees with his party relative to the tax law on the following issues:

1. It is not "fair and just in its application to all taxpayers."

2. "The tax board must not assume authority where the legislature has not given authority."

3. "I favor an amendment to the law which will provide substantially that after the townships and local taxing units have been equalized by the county board of review the state tax board shall have the power, if it claims the work has not been properly performed, to examine into the matter and to equalize in such case on its own initiative, after notice to all interested taxpayers to be heard, under regulations fixed by the law itself and not pursuant to some rule adopted by the board."

4. "Express provision should be made for a hearing and relief to any taxpayer whose assessment by reason of such increase is higher than the true cash value of his property."

5. The tax law confers on the tax board the sole authority to pass on bond issues and tax rates. Mr. Fesler says: "I am opposed to these provisions of the law and favor such changes as will place these matters entirely in the hands of the local authorities."

6. "Some uncertainty has arisen as to the rights and powers of the board at these various sessions. The law should be amended so as to make these uncertainties entirely clear. The taxpayer is entitled to know when his assessment is to be finally fixed and that it can not be changed after the time prescribed by law."

7. "I believe that the time has come when some provision should be made by the legislature for special consideration of the matters affecting the public schools of the state. The duties of the tax board are now so great that it is physically impossible for the board to give such consideration to the schools as the importance and necessity of the situation require."

All of these attacks on the state tax law indicate that Mr. Fesler is an earnest advocate of relief for the taxpayer from the centralized Goodrich form of government.

But is he? If elected would he carry out a single one of these reforms he advocates? Could he?

The best answer to these questions is contained in the declaration with which he prefaches his attack on the tax law. He says:

"I am seeking this nomination from those who believe the affairs of this state can be administered best by the republican party. I am a republican."

"I believe in the policies and best traditions of that great party. When the representatives of that party have met in state convention, and adopted a platform of principles, I shall do as I have done for the past thirty years—unreservedly support that platform."

"And in the event of my election I shall carry out those principles so far as it is within my power and ability to do."

Solving the Housing Problem

Evidence continues to indicate that business men have tackled the housing problem in this state in the only manner in which it can be successfully solved. The formation of a company for the purpose of erecting homes for the employees of the LaFayette Motors Company is the second instance of the kind in the last week.

There is room in Indiana for many of these companies. The housing situation in Indianapolis is particularly acute, but it is probably no worse than in other parts of the state.

One feature of the movement that is not particularly to the credit of the state or city is that in the formation of both new companies the initiative has been taken by men who are comparatively new to the local field. The LaFayette Building Company is the outgrowth of the demand of the city's latest acquisition in the automobile line for proper housing of its employees. The American Mortgage Company is headed by a Cincinnati man, who has been quick to grasp the opportunities in this state.

Indianapolis business men have not been slow to realize the necessity for such financing and have become associated with both undertakings. But the initiative has passed to the newer elements in the community, and perhaps it is well that they should have the lead.

For when business men realize that the initiative is retained only through constant striving to meet the needs of the day they are always more active.

Why Neglect Our Roads?

There may be some reason why Marion county residents, who contribute more toward good roads in the way of vehicle license fees and taxes than the residents of any other county in the state should have the worst roads, but such a reason is not apparent.

One has only to attempt to drive to any neighboring city to have it impressed on his mind everlastingly that the roads of Marion county are in a much worse condition than those of counties adjoining. One can not help wondering why it is that the county line should be the invisible dividing point between good roads and bad roads when the county boundary can hardly be held forth as a marker either for temperatures or rainfall, or traffic.

The facts are that in almost every county surrounding Marion there is more better care taken of gravel roads than in Marion county. The result is that when the driver of a commercial or passenger car gets out of Marion county he draws a sigh of deep relief and wonders what becomes of the money he contributes for the care of the roads at his home county.

It is perhaps too much to expect the commissioners of Marion county, who have more political duties to perform than any other kind, to insist that our gravel roads be maintained in as good condition as the gravel roads of either Hamilton or Hancock county.

But it is not asking too much of the commissioners of Marion county, and of the other officials who have duties to perform relative to the roads, to insist that they either maintain these roads in passable condition or inform the public as to why they can not do so.

And it is high time that Messrs. Shank, George and Hayes either begin to function as road commissioners or handle it that can keep the roads open.

ORGANIZE NOW TO OBTAIN LAW AGAINST BLUE SKY SHARPS

Editor of The Times—My attention has been called to an article in the papers which discusses the action of the Marion county grand jury with reference to the necessity for a blue-sky law to be enacted in this state for the protection of the public from the high pressure artists which unquestionably do infest Indianapolis and the state as a whole perhaps more than any other state in the entire country, and while the grand jury may be compelled to wait a somewhat tardy, yet there is no doubt sufficient time between now and the session of the next general assembly for an organized effort to be put forth looking toward the enactment of blue-sky legislation, which will adequately protect the citizens of Indiana in the matter of investments.

The most interesting banking institutions of standing naturally welcome legislation which will prohibit the operations of any individual or concern which fails to qualify any of their offerings when same are subjected to certain standards of merit, for it is to the manifest interest of the individual or investment banking house of good repute that the state fixes a standard or standard upon which investments may be based which the public can be tested. As it is today and has been in the past, a meritorious issue of securities suffers the same skeptical consideration as the issue with little or no merit to recommend it. Oftentimes the spurious stock salesmen puts over his act and gets away with an investor's money before he has even told him what he is offering or to whom he is offering and the stamp of the committee.

The writer attended several meetings early last year when the blue sky legislation came up for discussion, and it seemed that everybody in attendance at these meetings favored legislation looking toward the protection of the investing

On Laundry Prices

Editor The Times—I read with much pleasure your editorial on laundry. I am glad that The Times is not afraid to let the public know some of the things that are being done. The laundrymen are charging are exorbitant beyond all reason is unquestionable, and worst of all, to cover their sins, they wish to make the public believe the employees are getting it. In the Star March 10 you will find a speech by W. H. Montgomery, a resident of the Association of Laundrymen, in which he says employees' wages have increased 10 per cent in the last year.

As I am a laundry worker myself I happen to know something about that and will give you some figures. One of the laundry girls were getting \$8 to \$10 per week. Today they are receiving \$10 to \$11 per week. I would like to ask Mr. Montgomery if that is 100 per cent. Laundry drivers were being paid \$15 per week, and that has been the scale for two years and is the same to today. It has never been changed with the exception of a few drivers whose routes become so large they were almost making a living and in those cases the drivers were reduced to \$14 per week and 100 per cent over \$8 per week is adding \$1 per week to the coffers of the trust. Ask Mr. Montgomery if that isn't the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. But Mr. Editor, you will possibly ask why do the drivers stand for this. I will tell you.

These different laundrymen who are members of this trust, have an agreement among themselves that they will not hire a driver or employee of any kind until they have been away from the employ of another for three days and from that to six months depending on the value of the employee. If Mr. Montgomery wishes to discuss this matter further let him address

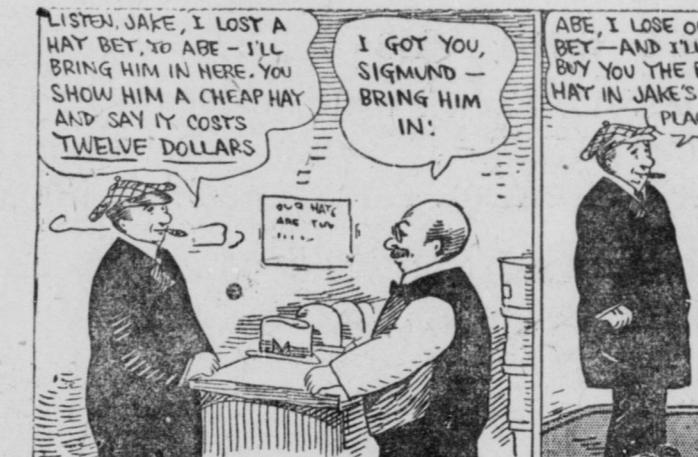
C. JONES.

918 East Eighteenth street.

BRINGING UP FATHER.



ABIE THE AGENT.



HOW DO THEY DO IT?



Let Us Have Peace

Hark!

Can you hear
Borne on the winds that blow from far
Across the sea, the stifled groans,
The walls and lamentations issuing
From thousands, nay, from countless
multitudes

Or tortured, suffering, despairing souls?

The souls
Of those who hunger for the crust
Which is denied them; lacking which
They starve

And dwindle into puny weaklings,
Falling easy prey
To dread disease and ghastly death.
Alas!

Victims are they of war and peace de-
fense

Their cheeks are sunken; hollow-eyed
their stars

With lustre-lacking gaze,
Hopelessly,

Yet scarce complainingly,
At every passer-by.

Such deprivation have they suffered
Through days

And weeks, and slowly dragging months
Of weary waiting for the day to dawn
Of world peace and good-will.

Voiceless

Are they save for the feeble moans
That ever and anon are heard.

Are faintly heard between the shouts
Of fulminating sophist guardians

Of sovereignty, party and prerogative.

In clamorous passion their discordant
voices

In endless disputes are upraised.

That pompous wearer of the toga

Shrieked—"Twee-dle-dee! Naught else but
Twee-dle-dee."

Bellowing loudly,

And with gesticulations wild,

Another blatant son of thunder

Vociferously shouts,

With a shrill, shrill, shrill,

Such shrillness as doth not

Shout like a hawk,

Such shrillness as doth not

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