

Indiana Daily Times

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WHY let the legislature interfere with the trial of Bell Howard since his performances in the last primary settled his standing in machine politics?

HAS MAYOR JEWETT issued any "courtesy cards" to the members of this legislature or have they been here often enough to know how to get along without them?

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION is now reaping the crop of discontent it sowed in its strenuous efforts to reconcile its duties with the desires of Gov. Goodrich.

ON THESE DAYS of heavy shrinkage it would be interesting to know whether the police confiscated 260 quarts from those two automobiles as one newspaper says or only 240 as is reported by another.

THOSE AUTO THIEVES who got away with twenty-two cars ought to have saved sufficient for the coming rainy day to enable them to take advantage of all the slips between arrest and incarceration.

Come on Home, Orators!

Without intending or desiring in any way to cast any obstructions in the paths of those partisan advocates who are now preparing to do battle for their national leaders and principles, we desire respectfully to call attention to the fact that there is in this community a great spirit of unrest and dissatisfaction that will never be quieted by the solution of the great and grave problems that confront the nation.

This dissatisfaction and unrest have been produced by the neglect of issues much nearer home than those about which our estimable Ohio neighbors are now wrangling.

In other words, the people of Indiana generally, and of Marion county particularly, are a lot more interested in whether or not they are in the future to have the right to register their preferences in regard to candidates than whether or not their more or less unwelcomed national candidates are going to stand on the more or less wobbly platforms some more or less selfish politicians provided for them.

It is a fact that can not be denied that neither the republican nor the democratic party of Indiana got the candidate for president it most desired.

Probably the Indiana republican party fared the worse in this regard, but that is a moot question concerning which we may honestly differ without fear of conviction.

One of the important questions of the day in Indiana is what will be done in the interim to insure that no more mistakes shall be made in the interpretation of the public will. On this subject the democratic state platform says:

"We declare for the repeal of the present primary election law, but, believing in the principle of home rule, we pledge the enactment of an optional county, city and town primary law that will enable political parties at their option to select their county, city and town candidates for office and all their delegates to conventions, under a primary law with all the protection of the law governing general elections."

The republican platform is far less concrete and much more unsatisfactory insofar as it does not even indicate the theory that is to be applied in an admittedly necessary revision. It says:

"Experience has demonstrated that the present direct primary law is cumbersome, unsatisfactory and expensive; that it does not accomplish what was hoped for it. We believe the sentiment of the people is heartily in favor of revision of this law and we favor an amendment of the primary law."

Since it seems to be the fashion for the candidate to add, subtract and divide the platform of his party in this campaign, would it not be well to look to Dr. McCulloch and Mr. McCray for specific expressions on this subject?

Dr. McCulloch might inform us whether it is the intention of the democratic party to permit nominations to be made in conventions under the same sort of manipulations that brought about the demand for direct primaries and Mr. McCray might inform us as to whether the one amendment that the republican party favors concerns the expense to candidates or the method of counting the votes which is now so satisfactory to the Marion county officers' ring.

What the people of Indiana want is a direct primary system that will make impossible the spending of hundreds of thousands of dollars in behalf of a single candidate and will insure a recording of the votes as they are cast.

Neither party platform pledges the party to the accomplishment of these well-defined desires.

No candidate for office who does not have opinions on this subject and the courage to fight for these opinions in the legislature and in the party councils is fit to occupy the governor's office.

Evasion in platforms has become a popular pastime among politicians, but each evasion adds to the rapidly growing sentiment for participation in party affairs on the part of the voter himself.

The time will come when the masses that cast the ballots will have a voice in the selection of the tickets.

It will come quicker when the people cease to be content with jokes about primaries and demand workable primary statutes.

She Found a Way

If she had been trying to bob her hair with a Bill Hart six-gun and thereby making herself a menace to society, it would not have seemed so harsh for a policeman to arrest her, even though she were carrying on this torsorial enterprise at Broadway and Thirty-seventh street in New York City, amid an audience of several hundred persons.

She believed that her attractive appearance would be enhanced if her hair were bobbed, and possibly it is needless to say that she voted unanimously in favor of its being bobbed.

The barbers she called upon were of different opinion.

They were unanimous that her hair was too pretty to be bobbed even under their skillful hands, and they informed her so and refused to do the deed—four of them.

Folled?

She was of the feminine sex.

And she borrowed a pair of shears and "went to it," regardless of time or place.

And now, as is true with many ventures when the law intervenes, she is in what might be termed *status quo*, for the magistrate before whom she was taken was horrified at the torsorial effect attained and ordered her to remain at home until she had grown at least a normal crop of hair.

On Proper Maintenance

It seems there is quite a difference in opinion as to what constitutes the sum sufficient to maintain one properly.

It wasn't so very many generations ago that a place to live in and plenty to eat and some clothes now and then constituted all one needed.

Those were the candle-lighted days; or more correctly speaking, nights.

But there aren't so many candles used now, except by plumbers and steamfitters and furnace men and those bold-spirited amateurs who seek gas leaks with them.

Yes, present times are different.

For example, there is the woman of Milton, Del., who, as guardian of her son, who inherited a trust fund amounting to \$20,000 a year, has applied to the surrogates' court there for permission to expend \$900 a month for her son's expenses, and, in addition, asks for \$4,600 with which to purchase a new automobile for him.

Last year, when her son was 16 years old, she obtained permission to spend \$7,500 from his income.

In New York City, a woman who is suing for separation from her husband, claims that he allowed her 50 cents a day with which to meet all household expenditures.

Oh well, maybe the 50 cents would have been all right in the candle-lighted times.

THE 'BIG TOPS' COME TO TOWN!



By W. D. BOYCE.

In nearly every town in the United States circus day is a holiday. Small boys and the average man may be willing to work on the Fourth of July and Christmas day, but they absolutely refuse to work on circus day. Something about putting up of the "big top," the smell of the sawdust, the elephant and the trick donkey is within the understanding of every human. So there is something about a national election for president of the United States that interests everybody, although it doesn't make a darn bit of difference to 95 per cent of the people who is president any more than it makes a difference to the small boy who owns the circus, just so there is a circus.

There is little or no difference between the democratic platform and the republican platform. Both contain beautifully worded and phrased planks that are forgotten as soon as they are written, and the only difference is that the party that gets in will get the jobs. Each party is wet and dry on a dry platform. Each party is for the league of nations with reservations. Neither party is in favor of paying the soldier his back wages because that would mean taxing the rich profiteers who made the money out of the war in order to pay the bonus, and so on all along the line.

Last December and January the betting was 4 to 1 that the democrats would get licked. Today the betting is 2 to 1 and by September or October it will be even money that the bull moose-jackass will win. So far as the great mass of voters in the United States is concerned it doesn't care who wins. Both republican and democratic bosses are scared as to how the women would vote if they had a vote and have done their best to keep enough states from adopting the constitutional amendment for woman suffrage while pretending to favor it. It is likely, however, that the women will get the vote and only the real big interests will be watching which party gets the vote. A good many people think that white women will vote with the democratic party because all the negroes are in the republican party. Women draw the color line a great deal closer than men.

A good many men seem to think the soldiers will vote with the democratic party because the republicans, being in power in congress, did not pass bonus bill. A good many people think the democrats made so many mistakes in the conduct of the war that they will be turned down. There is no doubt that President Wilson has been so arbitrary in many matters that he lost hundreds of thousands of votes for his party. If he had not had a stroke he might have smoothed over some of those mistakes.

The candidates for president of both parties can be claimed by both wet and drys, so they break even on the big question. Either is perfectly willing to be a wet or a dry if he can land the job. Neither one ranks as a topnotcher in his party, but the party that carries the state of Ohio this year carries the election.

Let us all go to the circus, take in the sideshows and stay for the minstrels. "Who cares for expenses?" I don't!—In the Saturday Blade, Chicago.

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