

Indiana Daily Times

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SUNDAY appears to be not only a day of rest but also a day of devastation in Indianapolis!

ANYHOW the loss of a township will not make Marion County a less desirable place in which to live!

PITY the county road superintendent! He has to ride around all day Sunday in the county commissioners' bright new automobile!

PERHAPS Mr. Ralston selected the Democratic Club for an opening campaign speech on the theory that many of its members needed conversion to the party cause!

COULD it be possible that Lew Shank and the unimpeachable Leo K. Fesler were associated in the effort to relieve Mr. Swails of his duties as county school superintendent?

THOSE DEMOCRATIC EDITORS who are to meet at Turkey Run for their summer outing evidently believe in shifting the burden of the program on other than editorial shoulders!

Save the Investment!

It is now a matter of general agreement among citizens and taxpayers that in the last two years there has been little judgment displayed in the location of hard surfaced roads throughout Indiana.

The same persons and institutions that were wholly indifferent to the truth of the statements made two years ago, are now pointing out that we have many isolated paved roads which are of little practical benefit for the reason that they are not coupled with main lines of traffic.

The complaint of these citizens is a true one, just as it was true two years or more ago when it was voiced by a few and either ignored or denounced by the very people who are now seeking to stir the community over it.

We have little sympathy with that false bid for popularity that comes from those who sit idly by and watch a defective program placed in operation in order that they may complain of it at a later date.

The time to have protested against the "skip-stop" method of building permanent highways in Indiana was before the money was sunk in these isolated sections of roads. It was when the Indiana Daily Times first told the people of the State what the highway commission under the miserable misdirection of L. H. Wright and James P. Goodrich was doing with the millions in the highway funds.

Now, as usual, those "good roads advocates" who are now railing about the heavy taxes borne by property owners were lending support to the waste of money by denouncing criticism of methods as opposition to hard roads.

We have today, in Indiana, a great many miles of paved roads. They are isolated, disconnected, useless and expensive. They start from no place and they return to no place. To make use of them the traveler must pursue a winding route, encounter almost impossible highways and waste time, fuel and effort on the stretches of poor roads to an extent that overbalances the benefits of the good roads.

This is, of course, wholly reprehensible and entirely at variance with the theory of good highways. But it is a condition that has resulted from the indifference and selfishness of the property owners themselves.

It is also a condition that must be improved before the State will reap any benefits from the millions of dollars it has invested in hard-surfaced roads.

We have invested our money in roads that can only pay a return on the investment when other roads are built to make them accessible.

It would be the poorest kind of business judgment to abandon the isolated good roads and refuse to build the connecting links.

Because of the foolishness that permitted the Wrights and the Goodriches to misdirect our earlier investments in good roads we must increase the investment to obtain any return on it.

No one with business sense will oppose the building of the connecting links that will make possible the advantageous use of those isolated highways which have cost us millions and which are not without value except to those who live along them.

Shocking!

Added to the uncertainty as to taxes that hovers like a grim specter over the residents of Marion County there seems to be a possibility that almost any low descending sun will find the government reversed and revised for better or for worse.

Driving into the city from a peaceful township not so many miles from the monument for the purpose of marketing his hogs at an uncertain price, a farmer may never be able to get back into his home township.

For out of the cloudless sky that portends no more serious a change than the natural variation of the day's temperature may come an upheaval in the government and so, where two townships stood yesterday only one may exist today.

Yet, even in revolution there has been progress in Marion County. In days of old, when there was more attention paid to self-government and county boards were less paternalistic in their progress, the average citizen either had, or thought he had, a voice in the government. In the pristine glory of his citizenship he little reckoned that the time would come when a board might meet in the seclusion of the four walls of a courthouse that is not paid for, and there determine, without a "by your leave" or "if it pleases" to wipe from under him the very township in which he lives.

Candidly speaking, the suddenness of the abolishment of Pike Township rather gets on the nerves. Perhaps it is unnecessarily alarming, but it nevertheless tends to make one wonder if our bold and brave county commissioners will not some day decide that Marion County's interests will be best served by secession from the Union.

Indeed, it would be no more startling to the county at large to discover at the close of one of the commissioners' meetings that Marion County had annexed herself to Kentucky, than it is for the residents of what was once Pike Township to discover that between breakfast and lunch they have suddenly become residents of Wayne Township and Pike is no more.

Such rude jolts to placidity as this one, administered by a board that has long slept so quietly are disconcerting at least.

In the interest of those among us who are not used to such shocks we suggest that when the commissioners determine to abolish another township they have the courtesy to give at least twelve hours' notice to the township most interested.

A Bit Thick!

Out of the mass of unintelligible statements that are being issued by city officials relative to the street car situation it appears that the principal point of contention between the city and the company over the surrender of the company's franchise is the requirement that the company pave between street car tracks.

Heretofore the company has been compelled to place the streets between its tracks and eighteen inches on each side in the same condition as the rest of the street. In other words, the patrons of the street car company have been directly taxed to help the property owners along a paved street bear the expense of paving that street.

There has been no complaint of this tax on street car riders because it has not been appreciated. When the total cost of a street car ride, including this tax, was less than 5 cents there was no objection to the tax.

Now, however, this tax, combined with other costs, makes it impossible for the company to maintain service at the 5-cent rate.

The question then, is whether the cost of a street car ride shall remain below 5 cents and the street car patrons cease to pave streets, or whether the street car patrons shall continue to pave streets and pay more than 5 cents for street car rides.

As to the justice of street car patrons paving streets there can be a wide difference of opinion but it is difficult to understand the equity in assessing a street car rider who uses the Shelby street line for the paving of North Illinois street.

And it is not at all difficult to understand how the property owner in North Illinois street benefits by the paving of the street, especially when a large part of it is paid for by the street car riders of the whole city.

The appeal of the city administration for favor because it is insisting that the street car patrons partake of the city streets is as fallacious as its recent appeal for the nomination of Mr. Thomas C. Howe.

And it ought to be rejected by an equally large vote of the people.

THE KELLY PLAYERS PUT THE JAZZ IN COHAN COMEDY

Drama on View at Murat—Choice Summer Vaudeville Offered

George M. Cohan has given us three things.

He has written something which he calls a comedy but I brand it trifles in writing "A Prince There Was." Cohan wrote three parts—Blind, valet; Mrs. Prouty, a New York boarding house keeper, and Jack Carruthers, a magazine editor.

Gregory Kelly in casting this Cohan affair placed the three right people in the three big roles. Bryan Beasley gives a polish to the role of Jack Carruthers which brightens up the whole scene. Leslie Clark as the blind, the devoted valet to "A Prince" has given as David Warfield acting. Angela Ordern as Mrs. Prouty, the boarding house keeper, appears to have stepped from the album of life, so wonderfully realistic is her work.

I was one of the few who did not relish the work of the Kelly players in "Seven Keys to Baldpate" and "A Prince There Was." I thought Mr. Kelly would fail to do justice to the rapid action and cunning satire of Mr. Cohan. That idea was wiped away and thrown in my mental ash barrel the minute the play started.

The play actually moves. Gregory Kelly as Charles Martin, the "Prince," who invades the Prouty boarding house to brighten the lives of the "want-to-be's" by giving them an opportunity to be somebody, spurs up his work in that Cohan satire. The program calls it a comedy but it is sparkling satire—a burlesque, if you please, on the Polynesian craze. This play is delightful fooling. At the close of the first act, Mr. Kelly opens wide the Cohan lever and runs away with the Cohan idea.

It is immense to see Kelly open the speed clutch for once as it shows that he is an actor who is not fitted for just one role. The role he has given Mr. Woods is a "Prince" role.

Miss Ruth Gordon as Katherine Woods hasn't so much to do but her rapid and pretty work aids in putting over the play. Elizabeth Black as Comfort, the younger, who opens fairyland to the "Prince," is charmingly effective. She does not overact the role and that is saying a whole lot.

And the breezy bit of work is that of Wallace Beasley. Short, the cheap movie actor, who thinks he is a detective. Mr. Ford grasps the Cohan idea and speeds the satire along to a merry finish.

"A Prince There Was," to my way of thinking, is Cohan's idea of "kidding" the actor and the playwright. To me it is running and smart satire on the mush and mire of the drama.

The audience last night acted beautifully and lavished their applause on Mr. Kelly, Miss Gordon, and above all—Angela Ogden, Byron Beasley and Wallis Clark.

And the prettiest part of the show was the great satisfaction that Mr. Kelly exhibited in the audience—liking the work of other members of his company.

Opinion—"A Prince There Was" is wholly satire and rapidly presented.

On view at English's this week.

W. D. H.

GEORGE SOMMES WINS BIG HONORS AT MURAT.

George Sommes this week again is proving that he is made of the stuff that actors are made of.

Sommes' big opportunity is offered him in "The World of His Wife," the play that Stuart Walker is offering for Indianapolis approval at the Murat Theater as his current bill in the stock season.

It is the dramatic treat of the season—safe it is to go even farther without fear of challenge—and say it is the dramatic treat of several seasons, even including the "regular big-time" shows that make the city. Indianapolis knows full well what these Walker players can do, and this week their acting makes the little tights fairly run up and down one's spine.

There's this man Sommes, there's Blanche Yurka, there's George Gaul and Elizabeth Patterson and John Wray and Aldrich Bowker and Robert McGroarty, with Elwin Noel and James Morgan thrown in for good measure. The last named have only bits, it is true, but they do these bits just as they should be done.

To get back to Sommes. He's cast as Julian, the wronged husband—wronged not by his loving wife, nor by the friend he has trustingly taken into his home, but by the lying tongues of his kindred and of his friends, of "the world as his wife." As the lines of the play put it he is called upon to run the gamut of emotions and never once does he strike a false note. He is a character who is called upon to play, but he meets every exacting demand without falter.

Miss Yurka is Teodora, the apex of the perplexing triangle, and she plays with beautiful restraint, while George Gaul, as Ernesto, the innocent cause of all of Julian's and Teodora's woe, well, he's George Gaul, which is just about all that need be said.

The principal character never puts in an appearance. Has it as you put it been referred to as "The Wife," but "They" didn't have to be there in the flesh for "They" had eloquent and capable envoys present in the persons of Mercedes, wife of Sevoro, Julian's brother and their son Pepito. Miss Patterson was Mercedes and Bowker Sevoro. And

(To be continued.)

RECEIVED APPLAUSE



MISS ANGELA OGDEN.

A wonderful thing happened at English's last night. The audience decided to scatter some individual compliments.

The big ovation of the evening went to Miss Ogden for her splendid work as Mrs. Prouty, the boarding house keeper in Cohan's "A Prince There Was." Mrs. Prouty never questioned the life of a boarder as long as he was in the house.

Miss Ogden, with her long black silk skirt, a long but "strikingly" role.

The Marimman girls, in a musical novelty composed of clever dancing and singing, open the bill.

Neal Abel, "the man with the mobile face," keeps his audience laughing with his mimicry of frothy humor facially illustrated.

The Jubiter trio, performing a series of sensational acrobatic "stunts," and a two reel comedy "Playmates" complete the bill.

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WANT TO GO NORTH? THEN VISIT THE LYRIC.

Patrons of the Lyric this week are transported magically from the realm of ice and snow to the mysterious celestial Empire of Japan, thence back to the land of music, via the vaudeville route, and the rapid change of climate agree wonderfully with the audiences if the effect of the opening acts can be taken as a criterion.

The Alaskan Duo, a man and woman who are exceptionally clever on ice skates (and they are real skates, too), fit about the star, keeping wonderful time to the music, and keeping the audience in wonderment as to whether they are skating or not. And it is in this act the audience is given a shiver as it thinks of the land of the Eskimos.

Kinzo, a Japanese juggler, takes his audience with him to his native land, and shows them some real art in the juggling craft, performing some real tricks with the ball, the rings, the rings and the clubs of the realm. Roland and Ray give the customers some real-for-rear entertainment in the singing and comedy scene.

Kinzo, a Japanese juggler, takes his audience with him to his native land, and shows them some real art in the juggling craft, performing some real tricks with the ball, the rings, the rings and the clubs of the realm.

Other acts on the bill are Stumble and Salsa, comedy singing and talking; Ira Kuhn, singing; Joseepon's Icelanders, Pinguers and Dwyer, singing and dancing; and the Moranirls, in a musical act.

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ALSO ON VIEW.

Other attractions on view today include the following: "Deception" at Lowry's State; "Sentimental Tommy" at the Circle; "The Man of the Hour" at the Circle; "The Traveling Salesman" at the Circle; "The Fighting Fins" at the Rialto; "The Fighting Stranger" at the Regent; "Hard Luck" and "The Miracle of Manhattan" at the Colonial; popular vaudeville at the Broadway and movies at the Rialto.

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PUSS IN BOOTS JR.

By David Cory.

CHAPTER CCCLVI.

The next morning, after Puss and the furies had visited the little white house in the hill, where the baby had come to stay, the Fairy Queen said to him, "Come to me, and I will tell you what you must do." And when Puss said he would, he called a little workman fairy and told him to take Puss with him and show him what a busy place Fairy Land was. "Oh, there's lots to do," said the workman fairy, removing his cap, and wiping his forehead with a piece of spider-web, when he and Puss were alone. "I have to spin the wool of the young peaches to spin into Winter cloaks for delicate ladies, and do you know what will become of us with another such winter as the last, and a short peach crop?" "Cheer up," said Puss. "I'm sure the Fairy Queen considers you a wonderful manager."

Well, this made the fairy workman feel lots better. "Would you care to see the pixies polishing their lamps?" he asked, and as Puss wanted to see everything, he said, "I would." And so would I if I had been there, and so would you, I'm sure.

"There he said, pointing to a crew in the rock, "is where the pixies keep their lamps in the daytime. They are busy now, trimming and filling them."

So Puss peeped in. There stood hundreds of little folk each at work with a bronze lamp, the smallest ever seen. They trimmed the cobweb wicks and snipped the spider webs, and while they worked they sang and sang and were in great glee about the pranks which they were to play when night should come down over the earth.

And when Puss grew tired of watching these funny little folk the workman fairy pointed to the meadow, where hundreds of fairies were caring for the wild flowers, stretching the roots out, down, and side, and straightening them, and pulling away from the hot sun. "Gracious me!" exclaimed Puss, "what busy little fairies are!" And in the next story you shall hear what happened after that. Copyright, 1921.

(To be continued.)

HOROSCOPE

"The stars incline, but do not compel."

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8.

Saturn rules kindly according to astrology, during this day, dominating all the other planetary influences. Mars, and the Sun also are in benevolent aspect.

New interest in colonization or farming is foreshadowed by the stars and it is probable that through government aid there will be a movement back to the land.

Educational matters will receive government attention at this time and progressive educational lines is foreshadowed.

Persons whose birthdate it is may have a strenuous year, for there will probably be changes for them. Employees will be promoted, if they are diligent in service.

Children born on this day will be strong and persevering, but they may not make money rapidly. These subjects of Gemini are likely to have too many talents for their own good.

(Copyright, 1921.)

Take a Look at Your Own Panama Canal

It cuts in half the highway of the seas.

It compresses the whole earth into smaller compass.

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It brings Australia 1,300 miles nearer to England.

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A copy will be sent free to any reader of the Daily Times who will fill out the coupon and enclose 2 cents in stamps for return postage.

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Frederick J. Haskin, Director, The Indiana Daily Times Information Bureau, Washington, D. C.

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