

Indiana Daily Times

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HOW could any one expect an aviator to whip a ship yard worker?

NOW that the fight is over all we have to look forward to is the election.

THE ONLY TIME some places are ever heard of is when the American Marines land in them.

MILWAUKEE has only 39,576 Germans. Where did the remainder of the Berger vote come from?

IF that Gas Users Association could have thought of anything else to ask the court to do to the Gas Company it would have put it in the complaint.

THROUGH a technicality Congress has left the Navy without money with which to operate for at least a few days, according to a Washington dispatch. That is one way to reduce armaments.

Better English

In New York an organization has been perfected under the name National Association for the Improvement of American Speech. Its headquarters there announced that it seeks to establish purity of American speech as a means of national unity and culture. The undertaking is a meritorious one and deserves hearty support.

Improper English now may be proper tomorrow. "Gosh ding it" may receive official sanction within a year, while today it does not express much. Starboard and port have given place by edict in the Navy to right and left and indeed the entire manner of expressing feeling is changing. It is not proper to swear in polite society, even at the street car or gas companies.

The man who murders speech in this day and age either tries to adopt the language too late in life, or has not improved opportunities for betterment. With papers which as a rule use correct language, with books and libraries in abundance and every tendency urging a proper English, surely the work of the new organization will be encouraged.

It is noticeable that the plain, direct speakers of today receive more attention than the flowery orators. The short Saxon words appeal stronger than the long and perhaps more historical Latin speech, though both may be used to express the same thing.

In England there is dialect that Americans cannot understand, particularly in Yorkshire, but it is English. This country, where schools abound and railroads have mixed the population, has practically no such distinction. True, there is a difference between the soft drawl of the Southerner and the twang of the Yankee, but it is minor.

The secret of good conversation or good writing is to say what is wanted in the least number of words—to match the idea with the proper word which expresses it. In the English language this may be done to a nice, for the immense vocabulary permits the utmost freedom of expression.

It is said the words "enclosed find" convey more thrills than anything else in English. It is certain that "please remit" uttered monthly, eventually becomes most grating on the nerves. Whether the new society can improve these is a question.

Meeker a Failure

It is becoming more and more apparent to the Democrats of Indianapolis that a grave error was committed when they failed to force the retirement of Tom Meeker, city chairman, following disclosure of his close alliance with the city hall Republicans in the last primary.

Since that time Meeker has proved his utter inability to measure up to the chairman, and the course of party harmony has been blocked by his attempt to ignore the women of the Seventh District Democratic Club in his arrangements for organization of the women voters.

The theory of one organization for both men and women which has been adopted by the Democrats for the city campaign can doubtless be made acceptable, provided the women are not ignored in the formulation of that one organization.

That proviso seems to be the issue on which the club women and Meeker differ. Meeker is loudly asserting that he does not propose to have a "bunch of women dictating to me." The women are firmly asserting that they want no part in an organization in the formation of which they have had no voice.

The average voter will wonder how Meeker will handle campaign problems of the future in the light of his failure to meet this comparatively minor problem. Certainly a chairman who loses the confidence first of the active workers of his party and next of the active women of the party is not likely to formulate and control any very strong organization.

It is becoming more apparent every day that the Democratic candidates are carrying a great load in their effort to get along with the chairman of Texas fame.

Captain and Crew!

The notoriety given Captain Stearns of the battleship Michigan, when he was detached without loss of rank, for consulting his crew upon ship matters, takes one to the seaside and its cooling and bracing breeze.

It seems that the captain of the battleship put it to vote, with the crew, where the ship should land, instead of arbitrarily settling the question himself. In this he was derelict. So he was taken off the ship. The offense did not result in any real harm or damage but the discipline of the ship was endangered.

On board ship the captain is the superintendent, general manager and board of directors. Naturally, some one must be the head of all activities, and equally naturally every one must yield implicit obedience to him. If it were not so, in times of emergency, no one would act. So the surrender, for even a brief interval, of authority, certainly was a grave error in judgment.

The captain might have landed as the crew wished, in which case every one of them would be willing to fight for the "old man" as he is called. It is found in the control of men that it is not wrong to please them, if possible, but there is a far cry between respecting their wishes and having them assert their wishes.

In olden times the sea captain could be a martinet. The Yankee skippers were most thoroughly detested for their general demeanor and make-up. Today, in times of wireless communications, and in an age of more enlightenment, the rights of the sailors are more respected and they are protected upon arrival in port by societies and by officers of law.

But the captain is in supreme command and his wife is not permitted to accompany him, excepting in extreme cases.

Women!

Since Miss Alice Robertson, member of Congress from Oklahoma, presided over the House of Representatives recently and Miss Clara Burnside, police captain of Indianapolis, was elected secretary of the International Association of Policewomen at Milwaukee, any mere man who is sweltering along in the heat and afraid to remove his coat, had better just go and sizzle away in a little grease spot. The evidence shows he will soon be crowded off anyhow.

Radcliffe College just graduated 104 young women and they will enter into twenty-four occupations, only 4 per cent preparing for early marriages. Even from London comes the cable that a Miss Snell stands at the head of the class in law of staid old Cambridge University, far above all men students.

Politically it takes just a glance to note progress, even at our own door. Miss Betsy Edwards is chief of the department of organization of the women's executive committee of the National Republican Committee and will hope eventually to save the country at the next presidential election. Miss Julia Landers of Indianapolis is in charge of the formation of nation-wide study clubs by Democratic women, and by the time politics gets hot again will have all female voters so well versed that the presence of men will not be wanted.

It is interesting to note, by way of contrast, that a widow in Brooklyn recently received \$30,000 for the accidental death of a freight conductor killed in the line of duty. So there is some value attached to a man after all.

MOVIELAND

By
Lillian Gish

MILLIONS LOVE HER



The Motion Picture Stock Company

Of course, the idea of having a stock company is not new; away back in the beginning of motion picture history different big producing organizations had groups of people who appeared in practically every picture, each one being quite likely to play a pig part in one release and rather a small one in the next.

Working in such a company was wonderful experience. Of course, there was a member of the Griffith organization that was really very beneficial because, when I rehearsed a picture, Mr. Griffith would rehash it with people who would not play them eventually, but were thus given an opportunity not only to prove what they could do with the role, but perhaps to do it so well that they would be given it instead of the person originally cast for it. For instance, the first real one I had, in "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse," got her start, you know; she was an extra, not because she wanted to get into pictures, but just because she wanted something to do, and the girl player in a picture would be a lot of fun.

And Rex Ingram, the director, noticed her, and singled her out for future reference. Her part in "The Four Horsemen" was the first real one she had.

So you see, there's always a chance for the extra.

And with the growing practice of planning a good story with a good cast, rather than a story which is the background for one person, there's going to be a chance for those of motion picture stock companies.—Copyright, 1921.

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