

# Indiana Daily Times

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UTAH evidently hasn't got on to the system. They are fires, not earthquakes.

LET US hope Jim Watson is more of a success as a Senate leader than he was as House whip!

THE TAXPAYERS yesterday had an opportunity to see where a lot of their perfectly good money has gone.

THE CITY has demanded \$500,000 from the street car company. The citizens demanded adequate service from both the city and the street car company long ago. Neither appears possible of accomplishment.

**Is Francis a Liar?**

The authenticated statement of Frank Francis, presented to the readers of the Times yesterday without embellishments or interpellations, offers a broad field for analysis and consideration.

Truth and fiction are unquestionably interwoven to such an extent that it is impossible wholly to separate them.

Credence must be given to part of the statement, but common sense demands that other parts be rejected.

Assuming, simply for purposes of analysis, that Francis has told the truth about J. Herbert Hartman, it is not then necessary to believe that his references to others are the truth?

If one puts faith in Francis' picture of Hartman as his accomplice and assistant in thefts, must not one put the same confidence in his statements concerning others who are mentioned in his statement?

Must we not, then, believe that the police force, which has been the pride of the Jewett administration, contains its share of crooks?

Francis says four policemen took whisky for use at the primaries out of the car he was driving. He says that Captain White came to Hartman and advised Hartman to leave the city to avoid "paying off." He tells of the bribery of Windy Johnson, a city hall janitor, and of Rufe Page, the fervent supporter of Mr. Thomas C. Howe. He relates how whisky was hauled here in a hearse and sold from a stolen garage. He tells of the sale of stolen diamonds to Indianapolis merchants. He gives specific addresses as to places where whisky was cached and he points out guilty knowledge of his car thievery on the part of members of the police force.

He tells of hours spent at the political headquarters of Mr. Thomas C. Howe, of a conference with Mayor Jewett and Cloris Adams, of parties at a road house frequented by business men and wild women of burned ballots and repeaters, of a joy ride in which a stolen car was wrecked, of ordering whisky by the case delivered to an office building.

An interesting part of his statement is the assertion that Fred Hartman, brother of the candidate, "framed the getaway" of Welling, the alleged egg who escaped with a lot of other prisoners from the county jail.

If Francis is to be believed in his statements against Hartman there is no reason why he should not be believed in regard to these statements.

If his "confession" is accepted as a whole, we must acknowledge that Indianapolis possesses an underworld the depth of which has not been entered by the distinguished gentlemen who control our police department and so proudly point to their improvement of the moral conditions in Indianapolis.

Here, again, we strike a snag in the course of reasoning that makes the journey difficult.

Francis declares that our police are corrupt and that a Republican candidate is a crook. There is a decided effort to substantiate the latter part of his declarations, but no effort at all to prove the first part of his assertion. In fact, the Republican organization, while it appears to be perfectly willing to believe all that Francis says about Hartman, is not even willing to listen to what Francis says about some of its pets.

The whole forms an unsavory mess that will doubtless be viewed with many shrugs by those placid citizens among us who do not like to have public attention called to anything that tends to disturb them in their belief that what they do not see does not exist.

Democratic politicians might see herein the expose of existing conditions which they have studiously refrained from attacking in the belief that their chances of success lie in obtaining support from the administration that appears to tolerate these conditions.

**Misrepresentations!**

Contrary to the theory which seems to prevail in certain political camps in Indianapolis, it is not the province of a newspaper to further the chances of any political candidate by perversion of truth or the suppression of facts.

This community has seen so many examples of misrepresentation concerning candidates for office in late years that it contains now persons who would measure a newspaper's loyalty to a political party by the amount of abuse it heaps on the candidates of the opposing party.

Primarily, the purpose of a newspaper is to supply its readers with the news of the day. Editorially it may honestly present conclusions based on an honest presentation of the news. But since its conclusions must be based on the news it presents, it follows logically that they cannot be honest unless the news is honestly presented.

We have had in this community too many dishonest conclusions based on persistent dishonesty in the presentation of the news of the day.

Partisanship should never be compelled to compromise with honesty. In the long run there will be nothing gained by misrepresentation of a candidate for office solely because of his political affiliations.

The duty of selecting public officers does not devolve upon newspapers. It is the privilege and the burden of the electorate. Insofar as a newspaper may assist the electorate in reaching a decision by the honest presentation of facts for its consideration it is performing a public duty.

But when a newspaper stoops to garbled statements, untruthful interpellations and omissions from available records of salient facts merely to support a preconceived theory which may or may not be a true theory, it becomes a public menace.

Not even the intensity of a political campaign can be accepted as a mitigating circumstance in favor of a newspaper or an individual that willfully sets about to misrepresent facts.

**Dusting Off Old Plans**

Mayor Jewett's dusting off of the plans for the remodeling of the market, the improvement of the city hospital and other municipal projects serves to call attention to the fact that with only three months left of his administration, none of these oft-promised improvements has gotten beyond the "contemplated" period.

As measures of furnishing employment to the unemployed these building projects would unquestionably be successful.

But as measures that would provide Indianapolis with anything worth the cost they are subjects for careful thought.

It should not be forgotten that one of the purposes of the proposed addition to the city hospital was to provide a place where Mr. Jewett said the negroes might be satisfied and the market remodeling included a place for an extensive cafe for the peddlers and commission dealers who have crowded out the producers.

There will be no opposition to the starting of municipal work that will relieve unemployment in Indianapolis whenever it is shown that the municipal work contemplated is for the benefit of the public instead of the payment of political obligations incurred by a wrecked machine.

**A Foul Campaign Slander Perishes**

"But, my dear, don't you know that the League of Nations legalizes the white slave traffic?"

Many women in Ft. Wayne heard from other Ft. Wayne women the utterance of that silly statement one year ago and were disturbed. Perhaps the women who heard the shameful slander were also deceived by the propaganda placed in their hands.

Last week the League of Nations took definite steps toward an international, world-wide fight for the extermination of the traffic in women and girls, when the members of the assembly were instructed to secure from their various governments permission to sign, during the present session, the conventions for the repression of the traffic in white slaves.

Thus perishes another campaign canard—perhaps the most vicious and the most disgusting.—Ft. Wayne Journal-Gazette.

## TATE'S APPEAL TO COME BEFORE PARDONS BOARD

Case Noted Since Woods' Conviction on False Pretense Charge.

**FIXING' CLAIM MADE**

Among the five Indianapolis persons who are asking the State board of pardons for clemency at hearings to be held Oct. 10 and 11, is Clifford Tate, 19, who was sentenced on March 23, 1921, to a year on the Indiana State Farm on a charge of stealing a cow.

Tate's case became prominent when Lee Woods, an employee at the State fairground, was indicted on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses from the parents and relatives of Tate, the young Negro who was serving as a page in the Indiana State Fair.

Judge Solon J. Carter of Superior Court, room 3, who acted as special judge to obtain their signatures to a petition asking that Tate be paroled.

Woods was found guilty on Sept. 16, last, and sentenced from one to seven years at the Indiana State Reformatory by Judge Solon J. Carter of Superior Court, room 3, who acted as special judge to obtain their signatures to a petition asking that Tate be paroled.

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