

Indiana Daily Times

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THAT POLICEMAN who fought a revolver duel with a negro in the darkness and hit him three times should be made marksmanship instructor for the department.

Daugherty and Watson

A demand for the resignation of Attorney General Harry M. Daugherty has been made on the floor of the United States Senate because of his acceptance of a fee to bring about a pardon for C. W. Morse, who was serving a sentence in the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga. Of course, it is too much to expect that the man who so prophetically depicted President Harding's nomination in a "smoke-filled room" at 2 a. m. months before it was accomplished will acquiesce in the demand, but nevertheless his connection with the unsavory deal will to a large extent prohibit the public from having the confidence in its Attorney General that it should.

The debate on the floor of the Senate following the expose of Mr. Daugherty's deal with Mr. Morse by Senator Caraway of Arkansas brought Senator Watson of Indiana to his feet with a ready defense for the Attorney General, but before the session had ended the Hoosier Senator must have felt as though he had picked up a red-hot poker.

Under the merciless questioning of Senator Caraway Senator Watson said, according to the Congressional Record:

"I know that he (Mr. Daugherty) did not get any fee from Morse for getting him out of the penitentiary or helping to get him out."

Mr. Watson admitted that he had discussed the affair with Mr. Daugherty because he "had heard the rumor" and later he ended the debate by declaring that he had "never asked him about any fee, of course, because he said he did not get any."

Senator Caraway read from photostatic copies of letters that had passed between Mr. Daugherty and Mr. Morse and between Thomas B. Felder, an attorney, and Mr. Morse.

Mr. Daugherty's letter, dated April 30, 1913, states, "I inclose here with copy of the letter setting forth the contract you made of Aug. 4, 1911, with Mr. Felder for his services and mine. You will observe that I was correct in the statement that there was a balance due of \$25,000 when you were commuted. * * *

Mr. Felder's letter, which is the contract between the attorneys and the former prisoner, sets at rest any doubts what was paid for Morse's freedom in the following stipulation:

"4. We are to receive, in the event we secure an unconditional pardon or commutation for you, the sum of \$25,000, which is to be in full compensation for services rendered in connection with your application for pardon."

Perhaps Mr. Daugherty had never taken Mr. Watson sufficiently into his confidence to inform him of the existence of these letters, yet the Hoosier's eager championship of his friend in trouble demonstrated that he does not necessarily have to be possessed of the facts in order to defend acts of the Administration or its individuals.

Shank and the Primary Law

Mayor Shank has announced that he will go before the Republican State convention to utter a plea for the retention of the direct primary law, which the reactionary element in control of the party desires to abolish. The mayor, as a well-known Republican leader and the co-chief—with William H. Armitage—of the biggest single political organization in the State, can be assured of respectful attention and probably his recrudescence to vaudville joker will win him many hearty laughs, but it is doubtful, unless something slips, that his views will make a sufficiently deep impression to save the convention from going on record against what the stand-patters firmly believe is an obnoxious law.

No one is better qualified to speak in behalf of the primary than the redoubtable mayor of Indianapolis. He has been counted out and counted in through primary organizations until he knows whereof he speaks when he cants upon its desirabilities. And furthermore, it is true as it is in the case of his friend, Mr. Beveridge, that neither would be in the position they now are if the convention system still survived in Indiana.

The standpatters do not hanker for the primary, because it has the habit of completely upsetting their plans at unexpected moments. It affords the mere voter a chance to express his opinion and unfortunately that is sometimes at direct variance to the views held by the so-called leaders. Therefore it must go.

President Harding, who is frank enough to admit that he is a stand-patter, has little liking for the primary. Neither has Senator Watson, nor Governor McCray, all of whom have had some bitter experiences at the hands of the ordinary voters. The Harding influence will be reflected in the decisions of the convention and the Watsons and the McCrays will be in charge.

It is difficult to see unless, as has been said, something slips, where the Beveridges and the Shanks will have much weight, although they may have plenty to say.

The Health Exposition

The Indiana Health Exposition at the State Fairground this week stands out as a fitting climax to the long period of public service of Dr. John N. Hurty, secretary of the State board of health, the directing genius of this educational event.

Dr. Hurty has announced his intention to resign as secretary of the board after twenty-five years of service. The health exposition is in a nature of a farewell.

For twenty-five years Dr. Hurty has labored for the public good. To him, more than to any other man, are due the health laws of Indiana. To him is due the fact, to a large extent, that Indiana school children are protected in every possible way. He has had much to do with food inspection laws. He has raised the standards of health in the community from the depths of twenty-five years ago to their present high level. He has had assistance but he has always been recognized as the head of the movement for prevention as a means of eliminating disease.

Through all of his work, Dr. Hurty has met with almost insurmountable opposition. He has been repeatedly called a crank and a fanatic. In every step obstacles have been thrown in his way either by unenlightened public opinion or the ignorance and cupidity of legislators. In view of these facts his achievements deserve praise.

Dr. Hurty is preparing to resign but not to retire from public life. He is advanced in years, but he wishes to perform one more public service. His greatest opposition has been in the Legislature, and now he proposes to become a member of that body in order to assist in putting through measures that he has been unable to have enacted into laws as an outsider.

The secretary of the board of health has never been a politician. He has served under Democratic and Republican Governors alike. When he sought office he was complimented with the highest number of votes cast for a legislative candidate of the party with which he chose to affiliate.

Murder Car Sources

If the authorities charged with the enforcement of the law are unable to see any moral laxity in "hip-pocket" parties which are said to constitute the principal attractions in Saturday night revels at roadhouses in and about Indianapolis they should at least regard these places as potential sources of drunken motor car drivers.

A belated start in cleaning up an intolerable situation was made Saturday night when Sheriff Snider and Marshall De Vault of Broad Ripple arrested two men for speeding and obtained the license number of ten others who they say will arrest on similar charges. All of these offenses were committed either going or coming from a notorious resort which is frequented by "hip-pocket" parties.

Operations of automobiles by drunken persons must be stopped, as the toll of four lives in the last few weeks demonstrates even to slow-moving officialdom. The only sure way of curbing the "murder cars" is for the authorities to clean up the sources.

This cannot be done by winking at violations of the law, either on the part of the Federal, county or city officials. It may require a vast amount of energy and patience to stamp out week-end orgies in which liquor and automobiles are mixed with often fatal results, yet it is something which the law-abiding rightfully insist upon.

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Judith Lowry as Helen Hardy Tries to Look Beyond the Horizon in Big Play

There is a play being presented by Stephen Walker at the Murat this week which deserves to be called a real American play.

It is called "The Detour," by Owen Davis.

I am ready to call it a play with brains. There is a real something—a worth while something—to this play of a mother's dream for her only daughter. And that is the Murat stage there is the Walker company. It is in my years of covering the Walker company, I never have seen more human work than that done by Judith Lowry, Aldrich Bowker, Mary Ellis and Donald Macdonald.

I did not see Effe Shannon and the original cast in "The Detour," either in New York or Chicago, but I am ready to bet the mother of the Murat stage there is the Walker company. It is in my years of covering the Walker company, I never have seen more human work than that done by Judith Lowry, Aldrich Bowker, Mary Ellis and Donald Macdonald. I did not see Effe Shannon and the original cast in "The Detour," either in New York or Chicago, but I am ready to bet the mother of the Murat stage there is the Walker company. It is in my years of covering the Walker company, I never have seen more human work than that done by Judith Lowry, Aldrich Bowker, Mary Ellis and Donald Macdonald. I did not see Effe Shannon and the original cast in "The Detour," either in New York or Chicago, but I am ready to bet the mother of the Murat stage there is the Walker company. 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