

The Indianapolis Times

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A BILL OF FULL RIGHTS

THE Federal coal commission preliminary report says officially at last what every coal consumer has long thought. As the result of bitter experience, to-wit:

1. That in coal mining, as in railroading, banking or supplying water, the public interest comes first and there are limits to the rights of those who own and run the industry.

2. That when operators disagree with miners over wages and resort to industrial war, a national emergency ought to exist in which the Government should seize and operate the mines.

3. That Congress should establish an authority which could watch the coal industry, keep the public informed, and protect public welfare. So far, so good.

These sensible suggestions will strike home with the coal consuming public everywhere. They probably will appeal to the more enlightened members of Congress. No one need hesitate to espouse the public's rights to a sure supply of fuel at reasonable prices, especially now that the conservative President's coal commission has laid down our bill of fuel rights.

The menace is that the United States Supreme Court, which has already denied the Federal Government the right to dig into the affairs of the coal industry, will deny the right of Congress to regulate coal mining. The value of the commission's preliminary report lies, it would seem, mainly in the fact that it has gone on record as agreeing with the public. Now if it can show Congress how to pitch a law over the plate in such a way that the Supreme Court cannot knock it over the left field fence, we may have coal in winters to come.

STREET CAR SAFETY

THE man who operated the world's first electric street car is still living and on the job. He is Walter B. Eubank, motorman in Richmond, Va.

It has been only thirty-five years since Eubank gave the signal that started the first electric street car and collected the first nickel fare. We progress farther than any of us realize.

The man who paid that first fare was William A. Boswell. His nickel is exhibited in a New York museum.

Eubank, veteran motorman, has been responsible for the safety of more than six million passengers. And never has had a serious accident in connection with his work. He has traveled 800,000 miles on street cars. Consider this long distance and the vast number of passengers transported without fatalities or serious injuries, and you will realize the great importance and constant nerve-tense vigilance of the men who run our street cars.

Yet we rarely give them a thought, let alone any concrete expression of thanks. Pass the cigars occasionally, brothers. And don't forget the motorman's team worker, the conductor.

ROUSING WELCOME TO RAINBOWS

REMEMBER that day back in the spring of 1919 when the biggest crowd Indianapolis ever saw lined the streets to welcome home the boys from overseas? Remember the cheers and handclaps as that regiment of bronzed men wearing tin hats marched in review!

They were Rainbow division men who were cheered in that parade. They were returning home from the battlefields of France, where they fought only as brave men can fight. Some of them who went over were not in the parade.

The same Rainbow men who marched on that beautiful May day are still doing things. They will be hosts the latter part of this week to their comrades beside whom they stood on the fields of France. Saturday afternoon they will parade again and they will stir latent memories.

These men are just as deserving today of your cheers and your cooperation as they were when they were welcomed home. Let's welcome them to Indianapolis in the same spirit. Let's make them feel they would like to come back again.

TOO MUCH POLITICS

ON the theory, presumably, that many heads are better than a few, Mayor Shank is proposing to call in representatives of various industries and organizations to go over the city budget with department heads. That is a good idea. Too much expert advice cannot be obtained in the operation of public affairs.

"Last year the budget went to a club and was referred to a committee of my enemies," Shank said in connection with his plan.

This may or may not be the case, but whatever the situation this feeling should not exist. Politics should have no place in consideration of where the people's money is to be spent. There has been too much of that sort of thing.

MAYOR SHANK AND PETITIONS

MAYOR Shank has given the public generally an opportunity to voice its opposition to the proposed increase in water rates. The proposed petitions to be circulated generally asking for a reduction instead of an increase should give a true cross-section of public sentiment. Often when organized opposition arises in a rate increase case utility lawyers reply that this opposition represents only an organized minority. The Shank petitions can leave no doubt as to the feeling of the majority.

It begins to appear the public is coming into its own in utility cases.

PROTECTION AT BEACHES

IF guards at the Twenty-Sixth St. beach Sunday saved sixteen persons from drowning. Not a single death from drowning was recorded in the city. The answer is that Indianapolis people are bathing in protected pools instead of in uncharted places in the river and creeks, as has happened too often. Let's keep it up.

"I've worked for the two richest men in the world," is the proud boast of a gardener on John D. Rockefeller's estate at Pocantico Hills, New York. "Before I came here I worked two years for Henry Ford out in Detroit." We wonder which of the personality-developing schools turned out this wonder-worker.

Heywood Broun of the New York World claims to have discovered the "finest non sequitur of the year" in an article on exhibition wherein the author suggests a man of the highest ability is needed to head the enforcement forces, and adds that "police should be persuaded to take up the work."

COWBOYS GIVE AID TO EDITOR

New Mexico Publisher Cited on Fifteen Counts of Contempt.

PAPER CHARGES GRAFT

Two Hostile Camps Pitched in Town as Trial Is Opened.

By SIDNEY B. WHIPPLE, Editor of Denver Express Written for United News

V EAGAS N. M., July 10.—Twenty-three cow-punchers, dressed in their best Sunday chaps, took a day off to ride into town from San Miguel County ranches and hunt up Editor Carl C. Magee of Albuquerque.

When they found him they turned over a fund of \$60, contributed from their \$30 a month wages, to aid in his defense on fifteen charges of contempt of court, leveled against him by Judge David Leahy of the State district bench.

The trials began today.

"This 'yes money,'" they said, "shows where the cowboys stand. And if you need a bodyguard you can count on us." Pueblo Indians, who don't know what it's all about, but who do know that Magee—who has consistently fought for their land rights—is "in trouble," have contributed to the defense fund which today passed the \$15,000 mark.

Profoundly Stirred

And those travelers who have bought pottery and beads and blankets from these same Indians know they must have been profoundly stirred to surrender a nickel—to any cause.

Two hostile camps are pitched in town. The Magee case is the sole topic of conversation. Almost to a man the Mexican inhabitants of San Miguel County are loyal to Secundo Romero, who is accused by Magee of ruling the country with a heavy political hand, and are anticipating heavy penalties against the editor for his attacks on the judiciary. On the other hand, thousands of whites have signed petitions to the Governor asking for an investigation of every court in the State and impeachment by the Legislature of the judges whom Magee has assailed through the columns of his paper.

Addressed Mass Meeting

Magee and Judge Richard H. Hanna, his chief counsel, against whom disbarment proceedings are pending, addressed a mass meeting of 1,500 citizens of Las Vegas, in the opera house. The speakers were cheered when they repeated their charges the State courts were "under the control of 'Sec' Romero and it was impossible to obtain justice in San Miguel County."

Stenographers, acting under the court's instructions, were present to report the speeches.

"And I suppose that means a few more contempt charges," Magee told the audience. "Meanwhile," Magee charged, "the prosecuting attorney says he will have everybody who attends this meeting cited for contempt. Well, I'll have good company in jail, anyway."

Proceedings in a Russia

The editor described the original trial for libel against Judge Frank W. Parker, of which he was convicted by a jury of twelve Mexicans, none of them able to read or write English, proceedings which "might have taken place in Russia."

"I asked them to try me for libel," Magee continued, "on some of the other things I said about them—such as my charge that Jose Sena, clerk of the Supreme Court of New Mexico, deposited \$2,700 of the court's money without bonds and under his own name in a bank that later failed—and they said, 'No, we'll try you for what we please.'"

Magee has already made plans to edit his newspaper from the penitentiary if his conviction for libel is sustained and Governor Hinkle fails to pardon him.

Public Jobs

(Decatur Democrat)

The public service commission will investigate the rates of electric and water companies over the State, seventy-seven of them. They do this without petition and it looks as though they were hunting up jobs for their men. It will cost each community considerable money and the benefits will be slight in all probability. Why don't they let people run their own affairs?

County Agents

(Bluffton Evening Press)

The next forward-looking piece of legislation to be enacted by Indiana should be the licensing of automobile drivers. Most States now require that one who expects to drive a car shall take out a special license. Give him after he has passed an examination showing that he has adequate knowledge of the management of a machine, is familiar with the rules of the road, is of good moral character, is not diseased or maimed in any way that will impair his efficiency as a chauffeur, and is mentally sound.

One who is placed in charge of a locomotive engine has to undergo a long period of apprenticeship and the most rigid of examinations concerning his physical and mental health, his knowledge of the engine and his general stability of character before he is given a "run."

Some such test is needed for drivers of automobiles if we are to decrease materially the vast number of deaths in automobile accidents each year, and the even greater number of injured.

Senator Edge

Senator Edge explained he voted against the former bonus bill, not because he had anything against the soldiers, or felt they were not entitled to substantial support from the Government, but simply because the bill was "unbusinesslike" and contained no arrangements for providing the necessary funds."

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County Agents

(Bluffton Evening Press)

It is just 200 years since the death of M. Charles, a Frenchman, who first filled a balloon with hydrogen gas. The gas was expensively made by the action of sulphuric acid on iron.

Charles and Mongolfier were the pioneers in flying. The latter was the first to show he could fly above the earth, but the former invented most of the appliances that made ballooning practical. Charles himself was the only person who had the courage to make the initial trip in the hydrogen balloon. This voyage was remarkable because he ascended to the height of 9,000 feet, above the Tullerries.

After this success he invented the safety valves, the balloon car and the carrying of ballast. He was also the first to rubberize the silken envelope to make it hold gas, and he introduced the use of the barometer in ballooning to indicate height of the ascent.

Unlike many notable inventions the utility of the balloon was soon recognized. This use has been confined mostly to military purposes.

Science

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