

The Indianapolis Times

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SCHOOL BOND VICTORY

THE fight for decent school buildings in Indianapolis has been won. Unless something unforeseen happens, work can be started on those buildings very soon.

The Times is proud to say it had a leading part in that fight. The fight has been a long and bitter one. The Times was the only newspaper that continuously and consistently kept up the battle.

More than two years ago the proposal was made that bonds be issued for school buildings. Immediately opposition started. The opposition was largely from agencies which sought to control the school board and had failed to do so. They sought to discredit the board at the expense of innocent children.

A remonstrance was filed. A "taxpayers' league" was formed and an organized effort against the building program was conducted. Charges of extravagance were made. One of the petty objections that was given great publicity was the fact that a few rivets in the iron work of a school building had been painted with gil paint when they would have served the same purpose without the paint!

So the bond issue was turned down and the children suffered!

But the battle was not over. The Times took up the fight again last fall. It insisted on decent school buildings. The school board, discouraged by previous defeat, hesitated, but finally agreed to try again.

Again the opposition started, but opposition was more difficult by this time. Public sentiment was being aroused and parents were objecting to their children being housed in miserable shacks.

A committee of the Chamber of Commerce was appointed to look into the program. A report derogatory to the school board was made, but nothing ever was done about it. The Chamber of Commerce quickly abandoned its part in the controversy and apparently forgot it.

Things progressed smoothly. Then, when the board was about ready to go ahead and issue the bonds, fourteen persons, only one of whom has children of school age and one of whom does not live in the city, signed a remonstrance.

But by this time public sentiment was fully aroused. It quickly became apparent the remonstrance would not be successful.

A hearing was held before the tax board Wednesday. Not one of the remonstrators appeared, where on the previous occasion they had been present in great force with lawyers who spoke for them. This time they did not face public opinion. The hearing lasted less than an hour.

The new school buildings will not solve entirely the problem of providing for Indianapolis children. Building has been at a standstill too long for one project to remedy the situation. But the present program will solve the problem in the eight communities where it is the most pressing. It means hundreds of pupils will have well heated, well lighted and well ventilated buildings.

The Times feels Indianapolis is making a constructive movement forward.

PASTE THIS IN YOUR HAT

AS this coal strike talk gets more and more confusing, here is one thing, at least, that can be remembered as a sort of land mark—Samuel Warriner, spokesman for the anthracite mine owners, says that to grant the wage demands of the miners would add \$90,000,000 per year to the labor cost of mining.

Warriner also says that if this wage increase is granted, it will be necessary to pass the expense on to the public by adding \$2 a ton to the consumer's price.

The United States coal commission finds that the annual output of anthracite is between eighty and ninety million tons per year.

Adding \$2 a ton would add between \$160,000,000 and \$180,000,000 to the public's bill.

Of this the miners would get \$90,000,000 and Mr. Warriner and others in the coal business would keep the remaining \$70,000,000 or \$90,000,000. Mr. Warriner's warning that "the public must pay the high wages" is intended to incline public opinion against the miners, but when it appears that an advance in wages of \$1 is to be used to club the public for an additional dollar—

Well, that is passing on labor cost with a vengeance.

CRIME IS RUNNING RAMPANT

THE rapidly growing disregard for human life throughout the United States, and especially apparent in Indiana at this time, is one of the gravest problems that society has to deal with.

In one edition of The Times this week were accounts of suicides, murders, wholesale accidents and several persons seriously wounded because of the activity of some of the all too prevalent bandit.

The murder of William Van Camp, Franklin County sheriff, who was killed by bandits while performing his duty, is fresh in the minds of Indianaans. Shall this also be entered in the records as another "unsolved mystery"?

Detroit bandits fired recklessly into a crowd, seemingly caring as little if the bullets hit and killed their victims as they would if they missed. Result, three wounded. The same gang killed a policeman a few hours later.

A Chicago girl admits she joined a band of outlaws because she had a "craving for thrills." Such thrills lead to dangerous results.

So long as murderers remain unpunished we can look forward to recklessness growing to limitless dimensions. If our departments of justice are too small to carry on their work they should be augmented with more agents. Every citizen should make it his duty to aid these departments by reporting even the slightest clews that would help in solving many of our "unsolved mysteries."

WHAT the farmers need is a weed-eating insect.

A WATCH has 160,144,000 ticks a year. This is more than a cow.

NEVER hide bootleg booze under the bed. Imagine what a bunch of drunk bedbugs could do!

GIRAFFES see behind without turning their heads. Boys think teacher looks like a giraffe.

REASON FOR MINE BODY DISCUSSED

William Green, Secretary, Defends Organization of Coal Diggers.

By WILLIAM GREEN, Secretary, United Mine Workers of America.

A SIDE from the purely commercial aspect of the matter, there is the humane phase of it which cannot be overlooked. The only capital which the miner has to invest is his labor and the only protection he possesses is his economic power. He can only successfully exercise his economic strength through organization. Through organization he has raised his living standards, secured protective legislation and promoted his moral and material welfare. Without organization the condition of the mine workers would be deplorable indeed.

While most employers wish to treat their employees fairly and establish decent living standards among them, there are some who still believe in the master and servant rule, who regard labor as a commodity to be purchased at the lowest possible price and to be exploited at will. As in every industry, therefore, there are in the mining industry good and bad employers, none of which should have the authority arbitrarily to fix the wages and working conditions which their employees must accept.

Each Has Rights

Those who work and serve in industry are as essential to success as those who operate and manage the industry. Each has rights which the other should respect. Neither should become a dictator, because that would be autocracy in industry, something which is repugnant to the American sense of fair play.

The success of the coal industry and, in fact, that of every industrial enterprise must rest securely upon the fundamental principle of cooperation and good will. The relationship between employer and employee ought to be harmonious and reciprocal in all that pertains to their common welfare. There should be perfect understanding and thorough cooperation. This can be brought about in the coal industry through complete organization and collective bargaining based upon union recognition.

Union Means Stability

Summing it all up, union recognition means collective bargaining, wage contracts for fixed periods of time, efficiency, the substitution of reason and business methods for force and subjection, and the establishment of stability in industry resulting in guaranteed production, while non-unionism means inefficiency, uncertainty, industrial guerrilla warfare, strikes (because men long held in subjection will ultimately fight for the right to belong to a union and for union recognition), and the lowering of the American standard of citizenship.

Human experience shows that responsibility soaks men so that they seriously consider their obligations and duties to themselves and their fellowmen. They hesitate under the weight of such responsibilities to incur public displeasure and to fly in the face of public opinion. Then back of it all is the powerful irresistible force of public sentiment. It is the court which, after all, compels recognition. No organization or group of men can successfully carry out a movement which is opposed to public sentiment, and vice versa, organizations and groups of men are compelled to respond to the demand of crystallized public opinion in an affirmative way.

Animal Facts

Niagara Falls power people are badly fussed because squirrels, playing with the wires, ground the electrical current to distant Rochester. They aren't half as fussed up as the squirrels.

Arctic owl, with a spread of six feet, sometimes visits as far south as Fugot Sound. This giant bird is known to attack men.

Gray fox likes fruit and often visits California orchards to eat the windfalls. He can climb a tree, too, but doesn't if the eating's on the ground.

The fisher which is still found in many parts of the United States is not a marten, but, with that swift animal, is a member of the weasel family. In fact, the fisher uses the marten for dinner purposes. He makes his home in trees and is so incredibly speedy that he easily catches the agile squirrel. Eight thousand of him go into the fur trade every year.

Howard Middleton, wild life photographer, caught snapshot of an Alredar and a skunk at the moment when they were preparing for battle. Skunk won easily, with Towser putting all his back with the well known squirrel coat.

Dr. Hornaday, veteran zoologist and animal lover, risks to indignant pitch because two noxious rodents a day as food.

If a field mouse infests only one cent's worth of damage to crops, your owl will consume \$7 worth of mice per year.

Every well regulated farm should have an owl tenant. He averages two noxious rodents a day as food.

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With the papers full of pictures of Arctic milking cows and pitching hay, how is it possible for Magnus to feel otherwise than that he has milked and lived in vain?

Three to five millions of newly hatched trout planted yearly in Yellowstone Park lakes and streams. Let's go!

Europe holds the non-stop record. It has been going it since 1914 and is just getting its second wind.

What is a home? asks a writer. Well, it is a cigarette atmosphere into which a man goes with his golf sticks.

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Some twenty of our Senators are now in Europe and there is fear they will be able to get home before the war stalls them.

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They were talking about Ireland. "The trouble over there," said the hardest smoker, "is the large number of Irish there."

"That reminds me of the two society women and one Irish woman I saw on a train out of Albany recently," said smoker No. 2. "The society women had met on the train by accident and they occupied the same seat in order that they might visit and gossip. In the seat immediately back of them was a corpulent Irish woman with a lot of baskets."

"Where did you spend your vacation this year?" asked one society woman of the other.

"Oh, I went to Boston, but I don't like it there. There are too many Irish in Boston," said the woman.

"Well, I went to New York, but I didn't like it a bit. Too many Irish there, too."

"At that moment the train slowed up for a station. The Irish woman arose, gathered up her baskets, and she turned into the aisle, she leaned over the society women and said, 'The two of you go to hell. You'll find no Irish there.'"

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