

# The Indianapolis Times

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## AS TO "IMPUDE

**H**EARING on the petition of the Indianapolis Water Company for increased rates has been concluded. Verbal attacks and defenses have been completed and expert witnesses have told their stories and made their calculations. The public service commission now has before it the difficult task of determining what is to be done.

Citizens of Indianapolis put up a harder fight than they ever presented in a utility rate case. They matched the company, expert for expert, and argument for argument.

There is a wide difference of opinion between the company and representatives of the consumers. This has to do largely with valuation.

Each side is right if its basis is to be accepted.

The commission must decide whether to accept either of the valuation theories or to adopt a third one. It has plenty of precedent for doing almost anything.

To the layman who has followed the progress of the case one thing stands out more clearly than anything else. That is the fact that the company is, on its own admission, prosperous; that it always has been prosperous, and that it merely is making an attempt to increase its profits.

The public is so used to seeing utilities appear before the commission contending they are losing money that the spectacle of a highly prosperous utility asking for increased rates takes on the aspect, as Taylor E. Groninger, corporation counsel, already has put it, of "impudence."

## SMOKE WAR VOLUNTEERS

**P**ROPOSAL of the Scientech Club, Society of Engineers, offering free services of its members to serve on a smoke ordnance technical committee, is an encouraging sign for good government.

Political leaders must beware when citizens evince enough interest over the success of a plan that they volunteer services without compensation.

Action of the Scientech Club probably is inspired by the past misfortunes of other cities where no civil service commissions or qualifying bodies have passed on the qualifications of candidates for the office of smoke inspector.

Chicago, until formation of an advisory smoke board, employed a former florist to administer the intricacies of a smoke ordinance.

Cincinnati, where unusual success has been attained in reducing the smoke evil, had a former store clerk and a politician for smoke inspectors until the present practical engineer was obtained through approval of a civil service commission.

It would be about as efficient to hire an undertaker to lay bricks as to have some ward heeler of a political regime tell Indianapolis what kind of furnaces Mr. Citizen should install in his home and what methods are best for reducing smoke.

## OUR CO-ED VS. THE HAT BOX

**M**ISS AMERICA is going to college these days. The large enrollment at Butler College, where 635 girls and 557 men are registered, is testimony of this tendency.

Remember the time when girls—few of them as well—went exclusively to girls' private schools? It wasn't so long ago, either.

Growth of co-educational institutions is an encouraging sign for future citizenry. More girls demand careers. And in preparing for them, more girls are learning knowledge for the ballot box, instead of the hat box.

The men at Butler may be pitied by some. But athletic standards have not suffered.

Co-ed supremacy in numbers at least has not handicapped physical prowess and skill of the "stronger sex" on the football field and on the basket-ball floor.

## CONVENTION HALL AND FUNDS

**K**ANSAS CITY newspaper has started an argument. It says that in a year's time that city has been host to 220 conventions with total attendance of 175,000 persons.

Minneapolis newspaper replies that with a big convention hall such as that possessed by Kansas City it could do as well.

Here is the claim of Indianapolis, based on figures of the Chamber of Commerce:

During the current convention season Indianapolis will be host to 200 conventions, with an attendance of 300,000. This without a big convention hall and without a special convention fund, both possessed by Kansas City.

Indianapolis conventions are fewer, but the attendance at individual gatherings is larger. This is because Indianapolis is so easily accessible.

If Indianapolis had a special convention bureau, an appropriate fund and a convention hall adequate to handle national gatherings, there might not be any conventions left over for either Kansas City or Minneapolis.

EGYPT has exhausted her immigration quota for fiscal year ending June 30, 1923. Egypt's quota is four.

AUTOMOBILES exemplify the statement that a vast number of people cannot read the signs of the times.

SECRETARY HOOVER'S idea, boiled down, seems to be that the regeneration of Europe must be left to another generation.

AMERICAN kids and grown-ups consumed 263,529 gallons of ice cream last year. This would make about 1,581,174,000,000,000,000 portions of the size served in our cafeteria!

POSTMASTER GENERAL last week resumed postal money order relations with kingdom of Bulgaria. Next day the kingdom blew up. No blame attaches to Harry New.

AUGUST automobile and auto truck production passed the 334,000 mark, again breaking all records for the month. That means great opportunity for inventors to make a permanent roadbed, one strong enough to stand the pounding of these trucks' wheels.

WASHINGTON'S new Senator is named Dill, while the latest congressional victor from Spokane bears the name of Hill. Both are Democrats. Dill and Hill, like Jack and Jill, together now we see. They represent what the folks out West think of the G. O. P.

## FAMILY IS DIVIDED FOR HAPPINESS

Actor Says Love Is Ruined by Intimacy and Separation Is Remedy.

By NEA Service  
NEW YORK, Oct. 8.—Is love ruined by the intimacy of family life?

Can a family more easily find happiness by dividing—separate households two roofs?

Richard Bennett and his wife and three daughters, facing these problems, throw custom to the winds and say: "Yes."

"Love?" says Bennett, noted actor.

"That's exactly why we're separating. Our family is splitting three ways because we love each other—not because we don't. We're dividing so we'll be a happy family—so everyone will have a square deal. It's a radical experiment in equality—which ought to begin in the home."

Bennett says clashing temperaments are responsible for this new theory of family love and housing, which has just been carried into effect, and which eclipses in novelty the matrimonial experiment of one-breakfast-together-per-week tried by others.

Constance With Mother  
"Constance, our oldest daughter, now 18, is moving into one apartment with her mother," he said. "Barbara who is 17, is going with me into another four blocks away. And Joan—she's 13—is already in boarding school.

"There's my wife—Adrienne Morrison, as she is known professionally. A good actress as well as a good mother. Do you suppose I want her worried with the care of a large establishment, playing ladies' maid to three girls old enough to look out for themselves, and waiting on a selfish husband?" No, I don't."

"Constance is older," he continued.

"Barbara has an inferiority complex. When you develop a strong nature in one member of a family, someone else has got to be yielding. That's the law of averages."

Can't Manage Her  
"Constance goes with her mother because—well, frankly her mother manages her better than I can, for I can't manage her at all."

He laughed, indulgently. "And I'm taking Barbara to bring her out," he went on. "When the family unites, as it will, of course, Barbara isn't going to lace anybody's shoes or run errands. I'll guarantee that."

"Joan is better off in boarding school, learning to depend on herself, than to be at home copying things she is too young to know about and being pampered by her parents."

"Meanwhile, Barbara is to appear with me in the same play. Mrs. Bennett is rehearsing in another. And Constance has become fired with ambition and is looking for a job. So we all expect to work this winter—and work is the real secret of happiness."

By the new arrangement, Mrs. Bennett gets 60 per cent of the family income and Bennett gets 40.

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