

The Indianapolis Times

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RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

D. Carleton B. McCulloch, Democratic nominee for Governor, says in his platform: "After the Ku-Klux Klan issue forced itself into politics by enveloping the Republican party I insisted upon a plank in the Democratic platform standing for freedom of religious worship and all other guarantees of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. I stand squarely for the purity of the courts, the supremacy of the law and the right to worship according to conscience."

How a citizen of the United States could take any other stand is hard to understand.

Article 6 of the Constitution of the United States says: "No religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States."

Any organized religious movement in politics is objectionable, whether it be Catholic, Protestant, Jewish or of any other faith. The founders of our Government obviously took steps to make it clear that religious creeds should never become involved in party politics.

Making a religious distinction among candidates, or attempting to elect or defeat a man because of his religious sentiments is clearly a violation, at least, of the spirit of the American Constitution, which says that no religious test shall be required as a qualification for public office.

One of the foundation stones of American freedom is religious liberty. The country was settled largely by those who came here to be free from religious persecution. Then why should we even think of permitting the matter of creed to enter for one moment into the Government of our country?

When we limit public office to members of any particular religious element our American liberty will be gone and we shall have reverted to church domination like that of the middle ages. This would be equally true regardless of the creed.

The Times in this campaign will not ask whether a candidate is a Protestant, Catholic or Jew. It is none of our business.

So far as Dr. McCulloch's advocacy of the purity of the courts and the supremacy of the law are concerned, any candidate qualified to hold public office should stand for these things.

OH, FOR A POET

WHO are we to shout, in derision, "Chicago, hog-butcher to the world?" Why should we turn the boast of the Illinois poet into a club against the Windy City, famous for its stockyard odors?

We sit, complacently on our municipal front porch, drowsing away like an idle oriental, conscious of the offensive odors from the southwest but too lethargic to protest.

Why should any private corporation be so far privileged that it may offend, with impunity, 350,000 noses at frequent periods when the wind is in the southwest?

If Indianapolis continues to acquiesce in this encroachment upon its comfort, respect and its dignity, then let us, too, have a poet who will cry:

Indianapolis, the nation's meat-shop!

What care we if it smells to high heaven?

We fill our lungs with attar of grease and burnt hides
And rejoice therefore. . . . Indianapolis, the
nation's meat-shop!

PREMIER GRABSKI of Poland reports the financial success of his administration. There is something in a name.

CHEER UP. Static will not seem so bad if, as Senator La Follette says, the radio will curb campaign lying.

THE FACT that seventy-six persons were arrested for drunkenness during one Boston Sunday, indicates that twelve miles is not the limit there.

DETROIT NEWS is in error when it says Moses was the first traffic cop because he divided the Red Sea for pedestrians. Mr. Adam and Mrs. Eve who were first signaled to go.

IT IS CLAIMED that it costs only \$2,500 to smuggle an alien idiot into the United States, which doesn't seem to be a tariff adequate to protect the home product.

"WHAT IS Charles W. Bryan's middle name?" asks a Boston paper, and we suppose some hide-bound Repub. in will reply that it is "Dennis."

UNDER the influence of a phonograph, a Detroit prisoner quickly confessed to theft, and it may suggest use of the saxophone hereafter instead of the terrible "third degree."

THE CALIFORNIA member of the Republican national committee says the present registration shows a Coolidge majority of 700,000 in the State, but he modestly claims only 400,000 for election day. Thus can be seen what a fine climate does to conservatism.

President Dawes; President Bryan; President Wheeler?

There's more chance of one of the vice presidential candidates being the next President of the United States than there has been since the modern method of electing a President was put in force.

Why? Because with three parties in the field, the possibility grows that no candidate for President may have a majority of 265 electoral votes; and the House of Representatives is so divided that in all human probability it could

POLITICAL EDITOR, Washington Bureau The Indianapolis Times, 1322 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. I want the bulletin BIOGRAPHIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES, and inclose herewith 5 cents in loose postage stamps for same.

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