

# The Indianapolis Times

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## A BIRD IN THE HAND

As a general rule, public improvement should be made from the proceeds of bond issues rather than from the proceeds of taxes, on the theory that they can be used over a period of years and that they should be paid for as they are used.

Charles L. Barry, president of the board of school commissioners, is suggesting a 14-cent reduction in the school tax levy and that much needed school buildings be erected from the proceeds of bond issues instead of from the proceeds of taxes.

This is all well and good if Mr. Barry sincerely means to get behind bond issues and erect school buildings. If he means merely to obstruct the erection of buildings all is far from well.

Barry has never shown himself to be in sympathy with school improvements. He has always had a tendency to favor the group of obstructionists who believed that children should attend school in poorly heated and poorly ventilated shacks.

The school board should go slowly in carrying out the tax reduction proposal. A tax levy in the hand is worth two bond issues in the bush.

## THE BLIND SCHOOL SITE

HERE is considerable justice in the opposition to the purchase of the Wheeler property on the Cold Spring Road as a site for the new blind school to take the place of the old one which will be wrecked to make way for the World War memorial buildings.

The property is among the most valuable of its kind in Marion County. It has on it an extremely expensive house which probably would have to be rebuilt in order to make it useful for school purposes.

The proposed price of the property is said to be \$190,000. It would seem the State could spend its money to a better advantage in some other part of the county.

Also, as Mayor Shank points out, the property is somewhat inaccessible. It was intended to be the home of a very wealthy man to whom automobiles meant nothing. But to many parents of pupils the necessity for obtaining automobile transportation to the school would be a real problem.

## KOOLIDGE, KOURTS AND KINGS

If President Coolidge actually believes all he said in his Baltimore speech he has, to put it in the mildest manner, a woefully perverted notion of what was in the minds of the founders of this republic when they adopted the American Constitution.

The base of his argument is the statement that the founders fled England to escape the tyranny of a king, and fought the Revolutionary War to escape the impositions of a despotic parliament.

From this he argues that the founders "in order that their President and their Congress might not surpass the bounds of the authority granted to them by the Constitution which the people had made, and so infringe upon the liberties of the people, they established a third independent department of the government, with the power to interpret and declare the Constitution and the law, the inferior courts and the Supreme Court of the United States. No President, however powerful, and no majority of the Congress, however large, can take from any individual, no matter how humble, that freedom and those rights which are guaranteed by the Constitution. The Supreme Court has final authority to determine all questions arising under the Constitution and laws of the United States."

By looking over the Constitution again, President Coolidge will find that the Constitution did not create the inferior Federal courts. It created only the Supreme Court. All Federal courts below that one were created by Congress.

However, he says the Supreme Court was created with the sole purpose of protecting the freedom of the individual, of guarding his earnings, his home, his life. And, finally, our alarmed executive says that "a deliberate and determined effort is being made to break down the guarantees of our fundamental law. It has for its purpose the confiscation of property and the destruction of liberty. At the present time the chief obstacle to this effort is the Supreme Court of the United States."

The question is whether America will allow itself to be degraded into a communistic and socialistic state, or whether it will remain American. Those who want to continue to enjoy the high estate of American citizenship will resist all attempts to encroach upon their liberties by encroaching upon the power of the courts."

Whether President Coolidge knows it or not, the average American citizen knows that all of the criticisms of the Supreme Court and the inferior Federal courts is founded upon a belief that these courts have been usurping powers not granted to them by the Constitution; that the Supreme Court has gone clear beyond its constitutional right to maintain and interpret the Constitution by actually legislating, as when it has written into the laws a meaning entirely different from the plain intent of Congress and the executive.

These criticisms are not an attack on the Constitution; they are a defense of it, against arbitrary usurpation of power by the judicial branch of the government.

The Constitution guarantees to the American citizen a trial by jury of his peers. Federal courts rob him of this right by enjoining him from doing certain things and then punishing him for contempt of court if he disobeys the court's injunction.

The Constitution guarantees the rights of the people to free speech, a free press and peaceable assemble. The Federal courts have deprived the people of these rights by injunction, and have punished the people for contempt of court for exercising these constitutional rights.

The Constitution guarantees that no citizen shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. The Federal courts get around this guarantee by the injunction route.

President Coolidge's argument is that of a hide-bound champion of government of the many by the powerful few. It is not a defense of the Constitution; it is a defense of arbitrary usurpation of power by the judicial branch of the government in the interest of this powerful few. The courageous citizens denounced by the reactionary Coolidge as socialistic and communistic are neither socialistic nor communistic but are true American defenders of the Constitution and the rights and liberties of the people which are guaranteed by the Constitution.

## HERRIN HAS A NEW KIND OF COMPLEX

All That's Necessary is Tin Star and You Can Carry Gun.

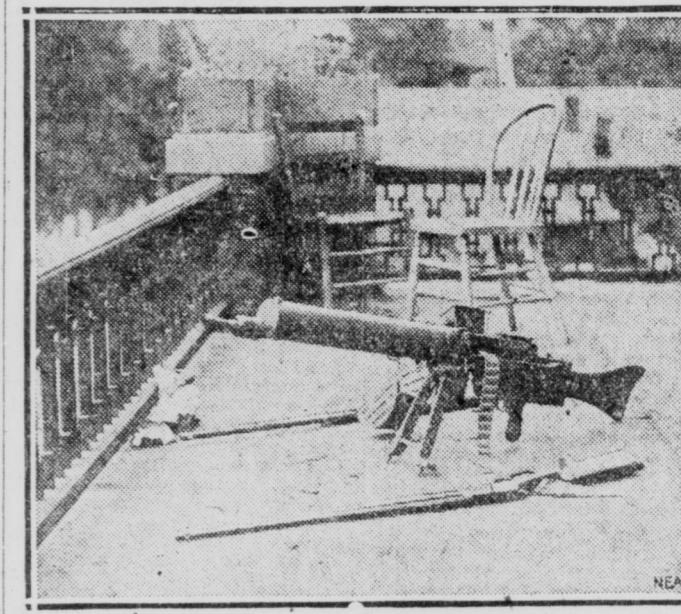
By GEORGE BRITT  
NEA Service Writer

HERRIN, Ill., Sept. 9.—An alienist testifying for this community, as it stands charged with running amuck, probably would stress the fantasies of its citizens playing policemen.

And he might clinch his plea with the question, "Why should any one care to be a policeman in Herrin?"

The policeman game is one of the most interesting sidelights on the

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MACHINE GUNS, LIKE THIS GIVE HERRIN, ILL., SCENE OF KLAN STRIFE, A WARLIKE APPEARANCE. THIS ONE IS MOUNTED ON THE ROOF OF THE CITY HALL.

## American Boy

By HAL COCHRAN  
His hair is all frazzled and won't stay in place. A brush is a stranger to him. There's "full of the dicens" all over his face and he bubbles with vigor and vim.

His shoe strings are flopping all over the ground; there's a large stocking hole at his knee. My guess is that he's the inventor of sound; he's as noisy as noisy can be.

There's maybe one button that's left on his waist; his trousers are ripped at the seat. It's cup cakes and pie that appeal to his taste or a big dish of cream is a treat.

He's nibbled his finger nails down to the quick and he's tan till he couldn't be tanner. He never has known what it is to be sick, 'cause he just isn't built that manner.

Now who do you think I am spouting about? Who lives on just laughter and joy? The answer is plain and there isn't a doubt, he's the average American boy.

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## Under Miss Indiana's Torch

By GAYLORD NELSON  
STEPPING ON 'ER

THE police still are warning on the motor speeder. That is what police departments in most American cities are doing most of the time.

The craving for speed is an intensely human trait; it has been with us ever since our first Simian ancestor (that's only a figure of speech. Mr. Bryan) dropped from the trees, bobbed his tail, and began to run around on his hind legs because he could go faster that way.

And the automobile gratifies this natural passion for speed more readily than any other machine in common use.

So in the success of this current drive, or any drive against speeders, is bound to be only so-so or less. It's easy enough to get any individual human shooting star after he has burned up the pavement. It's easy enough to cool off that one comet with a stiff fine or jail sentence. But for one so cooled a hundred get away with it and continue to burn it up. And so long as Henry and auto builders make 'em so they can be stepped on some one will take a chance and "step on 'er."

Despite police efforts, and more power to them, we'll always have, no doubt, the pests with the heavy foot on the accelerator, who are trying to equal the speed of a ray of light—which sprints along at 186,000 miles per second. Not all of our boulevard speed demons have yet made a ray of light get up and hump itself, but their intentions are good.

Some few of the speed pests, however, have succeeded—and they no longer menace traffic.

They traveled from here to here after in the split part of a second by "stepping on 'er."

## A QUIET SUNDAY

UNDAY used to be devoted to meditation and repose. Especially the latter. About the only thing our grandparents exercised on that day was their digestive apparatus. For, after church, came that great American institution, the Sunday dinner. After which the family sank into a state of suspended animation until evening.

The only danger they had to fear Sunday was dyspepsia.

Our Sundays are different. Witness some of the headlines on one page of yesterday's paper recounting a few of the sun's Sunday's occurrences in Indiana:

"KILLED NEAR HIS HOME," "FATALLY INJURED BY AUTO," "BOY FATALLY INJURED BY AUTO," "KILLED AT RAILROAD CROSSING," "RUN OVER BY AUTOMOBILE, DIES."

"HIT BY AUTO, SHE SAYS," "FAMILY IS KILLED," "SEVEN PERSONS INJURED."

"BOY DIES OF INJURIES."

Perhaps we've improved on grandfather's regime—perhaps not. Of course his Sunday diversion eventually got him, but the Grim Reaper moved slowly then, and operated through the medium of acute indigestion. But now he rides an automobile and lops them off in whole families.

That's efficiency of a sort.

It's getting so we no longer publish newspapers—just mortality tables.

And, for Indiana, last Sunday was a quiet day as Sundays go.

## In New York

By STEVE HANNAGAN

NEW YORK, Sept. 9.—She is petite and attractive, her black bobbed hair scarcely showing above the stand at which she sells cigars, cigarettes and books at an uptown hotel stand.

Always pleasant, demure and obliging, there is within a glint of sadness in her shifting eyes, a hint of a hidden sorrow.

For months I have been a patron at the stand. The other evening she introduced me to a bright boy, 19 years old, as polished and gentle, mainly as any young man I ever have met in New York.

He was her son. She appears young enough to be his sweetheart in these days of May and December romances. The father is dead.

The son recently was graduated from a fashionable prep school and this fall will enter college.

Through the years, this young mother (she is only 35) has labored that her son might have an education. Her identity has always been kept secret. She has not been able even to visit him at his school during the winter months.

"It would never do for son's school authorities or his companions to know that his mother is a cigar clerk," she explained.

Recently they went in search of an apartment that they might spend the summer months together.

Always it was the same look of astonishment in the eyes of building superintendents. "They couldn't be mother and son," and so the answer always was "we have no apartments."

She returns to selling cigars and he goes away to college.

## Two Police Forces

A tinner made a hundred badges in one consignment. They are plain, unlettered, six-pointed tin stars soldered to safety pins, symbolizing authority. To those who laugh at the story as a nursery tale, the answer is simply, come to Herrin and see for yourself.

The demonstration continues today in Herrin's two sets of salarymen. Members of each side wear stars, carry guns, occasionally make arrests and stand around the main street corners. They don't disturb each other. And each seems to be having good time.

The senior chief, John Ford, was appointed a month after Christmas by Mayor "Maje" Anderson upon the insistence of the Law Enforcement League. As his force he named Harold Crain, Sam Stephens and W. A. Whitson, with Albert Jones as traffic policeman.

It may be the mayor decided to Ford to be ousted, and named "Uncle Matt" Walker as his successor.

"Uncle Matt" appointed his son, Harry Walker, and Riss Lisenby to the force.

The council refused to confirm the appointment and supported Chief Ford. He continued in office, they contend, under the provision that his appointment was good until his successor should be fully installed.

## Work Without Pay

Since May, pay checks have been cut off. The council refuses to approve salaries for the new police, and the mayor will not recognize the old.

Does the lack of salary interfere with police functioning? Not that any one can observe.

The doubled force plays with double deal. Partisan of each side will inform the visitor that the other officers rarely make an arrest and the fact are only nominally on the job.

Chief Ford and Chief Walker both may be found the greater part of the day sunning themselves on the corner of Madison St. and Park Ave. in front of the city hall. Each is reported to be a Klansman, and they are friendly enough.

The mayor's action in changing the force, according to Klan explanation, was intended solely to disrupt the opposition. The only hostility resulting, so far as appears on the surface, is that between the mayor and the majority of his council.

With all its force of officers, however, the police department was not in evidence to prevent disorder when the shooting of six men occurred at the Smith garage until after the smoke cleared away.

Two squads of soldiers remaining here seem to be the main reliance of the community for actual law enforcement.

## Tongue Tips

E. M. Lord, Osborn, Mo.: "I have come to the conclusion that it's mighty hard to bear a \$10 bill when it comes to friendship."

Rev. Worth M. Tippy, secretary Federal Council of Churches: "For a church to stand idle much of the time when it might be used for the good of a community is an economic waste."

L. Adams Beck, writer: "Before we unite ourselves with the ape, some may think the trial of the common sanctities of the body worth while."

Judge Thad B. Landon, Kansas City: "You cannot stop this reign of lawlessness unless criminals are given swift, sure and severe punishment."

## Business-Like Sister

"I love you," he said, "more than I can tell in words."

"Try figures," she replied coldly.

London Tit-Bits.

## A Thought

Many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first.—Matt. 19:30.

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Business-Like Sister

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## Honesty is the best policy—Cervantes.

## The "Victory" Over Fort Wisconsin



## SET CLAIMS INCREASE IN SELECTIVITY

New Receivers Are Said to Surpass Old Type.

By NEA Service

NEW YORK, Sept. 9.—Two new ideas in radio manufacture and a departure in design feature the latest form of receiver that is being prepared for the market.

It is called the "syncrophase" receiver and is a five-tube, tuned radio receiver.

The features that it is contended make this set unique and an interesting study are:

1. Radio in