

# The Indianapolis Times

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The angel of the Lord encampeth around about them that fear him, and delivereth them.—Ps. 34:7.

It is only the fear of God that can deliver us from the fear of man.—Witherspoon.

## WHAT IS THERE TO HIDE?

**S**O-CALLED friends of the State highway commission who are making such desperate efforts to prevent an investigation by the Legislature of its affairs are doing the commission an irreparable amount of damage.

The State highway department spends millions upon millions of public money every year. The public, of course, has a right to know down to the most minute detail about the operation of the commission.

Still the "friends" of the department are doing everything possible to prevent an investigation.

Why?

Is there something to hide?

That is the only conclusion that can be drawn from the columns of propaganda, thinly disguised as news, now being printed concerning the investigation and from the hue and cry that is being raised to stop the probe.

This is not the first time efforts have been made to hide the details of the activities of the road department.

More than two years ago The Indianapolis Times exposed the activities of this department in receiving from the Government hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of surplus war material, of no conceivable use to a road department, and in disposing of this material without competitive bids.

Many months later the board of accounts took up an investigation of the department. Again everything possible was put in the way of the public ascertaining the facts. But alleged irregularities were found and a sum of money was paid back.

Then the Marion County grand jury took up the investigation. Again every possible effort was made to stop the probe. It was reported that at least one State official was threatened with the loss of his job in connection with the highway affair because he did not accede to the demands of another State official.

Then came the legislative effort to bring about an investigation and it has been blocked.

What is the answer?

Some day the public will know.

## A MERE BILLION? POOH!

**I**DEFY America herself to reimburse a sum of \$3,000,000,000," Louis Loucheur, former French cabinet official and financial expert, is quoted as saying in connection with France's \$3,340,000,000 debt to the United States.

"She would be incapable of doing it and nevertheless the United States financial situation is much more solid than ours," he added.

Wonder if M. Loucheur was correctly quoted. If so he betrays an amazing ignorance of American affairs.

Figures just made public by President Coolidge and General Lord, Director of the Budget, reveal that it would have been perfectly possible for this country to have paid a debt, not of a mere \$3,000,000,000, but of approximately twice as much, all in the last four years!

We actually paid on our national debt, in that time, the sum of \$3,198,000,000, not counting the interest. That is to say, we reduced our national indebtedness by that much.

During the same period we reduced Federal taxes by some \$2,000,000,000. Thus, had we owed France, or Britain, or any other country, the sum of \$5,000,000,000, by maintaining taxes where they were we could easily have paid that debt in four years' time.

What M. Loucheur says about our financial situation being more solid than that of France, is, of course, quite true—fortunately for us and unfortunately for France.

But as for the rest, he was considerably off—or misquoted.

## THE FIGHT MUST GO ON

**T**ELEGRAPHIC reports from various States indicate that ratification of the child labor amendment will be obtained only after a long fight against the wide-spread misunderstanding of its meaning. Like other amendments to the Constitution, years may be required to put it into effect. Opponents of the amendment have won over sufficient State Legislatures for the time being to prevent ratification during the present winter.

The fight must go on in those States where the Legislatures have not yet acted. The honest misunderstandings on the part of some and the deliberate misrepresentations on the part of others must be cleared away. Many of these States should ratify this winter. In those States that already have rejected the amendment for the time being, the truth must be driven home. The people must see and their representatives must see that justice demands this protection for child workers.

Thus far only one thing has been proved. That is how powerful an influence unfair propaganda can be. Given time to get to the bottom of this issue, the people will decide in accordance with justice and America, richest among the nations, will deal wisely and generously by her children.

# V. BLASCO IBANEZ STILL WARS ON THE KING OF SPAIN

Author Explains His View-point on Condition in His Homeland.

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS

**Y**OU saw "The Four Horsemen," no doubt, or read it. Also "Blood and Sand." And maybe some other writings of V. Blasco Ibanez.

Today he is an exile in France, waging a revolution—with his type-writer—against his king, Alfonso XIII of Spain, whom he hopes to topple from the throne.

Here are some of the things he is saying—against the king, and the Spanish dictator, Gen. Primo de Rivera, and the situation in his country generally. Pieced together, they afford a pretty clear picture of conditions as he sees them in the tormented, tottering Spain.

"Thanks to Alfonso XIII and his mother," says Ibanez, "Spain has become greedy, cowardly, servile, incapable of any idea outside of sensual pleasure."

"The wealthy classes are cruel through fear—fear of a change. They are in favor of all solutions which permit of gun-fire as a preliminary measure."

## Shot on Streets

"The working masses, on their part, give proof of a taste for violence more marked than in any other country. Every time they have demonstrated their desires the answer has been to shoot them down in the streets."

"Alfonso has adopted the speech and gestures of a bull fighter. No schools have been created in fifty years."

"There used to be two governing parties. Desiring to be an absolute monarch, Alfonso took the line of splitting them, setting leader against leader and rewarding traitors. He carried out the maxim, 'Divide and rule.'"

"He believed that by governing with the military he would be far more master of the country than when surrounded by civilians."

"For four years he planned the coup. . . But he was incapable of keeping his secret. At a banquet at Cordoba, he let his tongue run away with him. There was nothing extraordinary in that, since there is plenty of Montilla wine at Cordoba. He let it be understood that he would presently become absolute master of Spain."

## Blame Civilians

"The military also wanted power. The Morocco disasters, according to them, were attributable to civilians. Thus, for the king and the military, the civilians became the scapegoats. 'At first they thought of appointing as dictator General Aguilera, who is less ridiculous and more honest than Primo de Rivera. But one evening Aguilera declared the honor of a soldier was worth more than the honor of a civilian, and Sancho Guerra, a Conservative with an irritable temper, replied by giving him two resounding blows.'"

"After that no one could reasonably think of Aguilera as a dictator. How could fear be inspired by a warrior who had been cuffed by a lawyer?"

"The king then thought of Primo de Rivera, a general, despised for his private life and who never commanded an army. He is the nephew of Marshal de Rivera, who betrayed the revolutionary government of 1874 and restored the Bourbons. He has no children, so used his influence to promote the young men so to continue the glorious family traditions."

## Progress Rapid

"There has seldom been so rapid a career. Every gesture he made was heroic. He could not draw his sword without getting some advance in rank or some ribbon for heroism. 'He was born in southern Spain and has its prolixity. His facility of speech might be useful if it had been wedded to real intelligence. But he is a sort of first cousin to the king; he thinks he knows everything.'"

"This Figaro—this barber—dressed up as a general, after the coup at Barcelona marched on to Madrid to purify Spain. His program to arouse enthusiasm among the crowd is: 'The king is a great man, almost as great, almost as honest, almost as pure as myself. The politicians who have governed hitherto are a band of robbers. I will unmask them and put them in jail.'"

## Income Tax

Bonuses to employees constitute allowable deductions from gross income when such payments are made in good faith as additional compensation for service actually rendered, provided that when added to the stipulated salaries they do not exceed a reasonable compensation. Donations or gifts to employees which do not have in them the element of compensation, or are in excess of reasonable compensation for services, are not deductible from gross income.

Pensions paid retired employees, or their families or others dependent upon them, or on account of injuries received by employees, and lump-sum amounts paid or accrued as compensation for injuries are proper deductions as ordinary and necessary business expenses. Such deductions are limited to the amount not compensated for by insurance or otherwise. No deductions are allowed for contributions to a pension fund held by the corporation, the amount deductible being the actual amount paid to employees. When the amount of salary of an officer or employee is paid for a limited period after his death to his widow or heirs in recognition of the services rendered by the officer or employee, such payments may be deducted. Salaries paid employees who are absent in the military, naval, or other service of the Government, but who intend to return at the conclusion of such services, are allowable deductions.

Donations or gifts to employees which do not have in them the element of compensation for services rendered may not be deducted by the employer, and need not be deducted in the return of the employer.

# RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

## Textbooks

**R**EPRESENTATIVE LAWRENCE E. CARLSON of Huntington introduced a bill yesterday to provide free school books. Textbooks adopted could not be changed oftener than every ten years.

Probably nothing in connection with the schools is more perennially the bone of contention than textbooks. Who shall select them? Who shall pay for them? How frequently shall they be changed? In some places school textbooks change with the weather. In other places the books in use are so out of date they are little better than antiquities.

The present Indiana law, prohibiting changes in less than five years, allows reasonable elasticity. It does not permit adoption of new books as they drop hot from the publishers' presses, but enables the Hoosier schools to limp along with the educational procession.

To extend the period to ten years would effect no great saving—and some texts might completely ossify in that period.

Free textbooks have a seductive sound—but only salvation is free. That is not given away by acts of the Legislature. Somebody must pay for school books—the school district or the school patrons. The latter would probably find it just as satisfactory to pay for school books directly as indirectly through taxes.

## Hauling

**T**HE Indiana Supreme Court, in a decision Tuesday, upheld the "heavy-hauling act." This law prohibits a load of more than 3,800 pounds, including the vehicle, on roads in bad condition, unless the vehicle has tires five inches wide.

The decision will be pleasing to the highway commission. It is discouraging to road makers—and debilitating to funds—to have heavy weather by overloaded vehicles.

Construction of highway involves not only a financial problem, but also a serious technical problem. The better the roads the bigger the loads that will be hauled over them. It's an unending conflict between construction and destruction.

Like the naval race between the penetrative force of projectiles and the resistive power of armor-plate, somewhere along the line, building road surfaces to withstand the heaviest possible traffic, without damage, construction costs become prohibitive.

A plug of tobacco carried in the hip-pocket may be too great a load for some Indiana roads. On others even all profanity must be thrown overboard before vehicles can traverse them without damage. Consequently only by rigidly imposing limits on the weights of vehicles and contents, to suit the condition and character of the highways, will the roads bear the greatest number.

## Looking Ahead

By HAL COCHRAN

Today is the day that our mind runs away with the thoughts of a garden in summer. How truly it said that we're planning ahead on a plot that we hope is a hummer.

We'll hike to the yard and we'll draw on a card the plans for layout in mind. The thought that is main in our plan will be plain, but of very original kind.

We'll read magazines with their tinted up scenes of the garden it's easy to grow. The wife lends her voice to the one of her choice, and then hubby starts countin' his dough. We send for the seeds that will fulfill our needs and we wonder what luck they will bring. Impatience grows. Then, most every one knows, that we pray for the coming of spring.

Right here is the place for a kindly meant trace of a hint to all folks who buy seeds: Whatever you're growing, pay heed to your hoeing, ere all of your plans go to weeds.

## Preventing Strikes

From the beginning of the conciliation service in 1913, there is shown an increase year by year in the cases submitted for conciliation. This does not mean that the number of trade disputes is increasing, but it does mean that the service of coming into wider appreciation and the prospect is rather that the number of strikes and lockouts may be cut down by efforts of prevention.—Report of the Secretary of Labor.

## Drainage

**T**HE Isaac Walton League of Indiana is sponsoring a bill providing for the restoration of lakes and rivers in the State that have been lowered or partially lowered through drainage works.

The purpose of the measure is to preserve, if possible, the myriad little lakes of northern Indiana from extinction.

Probably the face of nature has been more profoundly altered throughout the States of the old Northwest Territory by man-made drainage enterprises than by any other works of civilization.

All the accounts of early settlements in Indiana, Ohio and Michigan tell of impassable roads, unfordable rivers and endless successions of swamps. Many of the hardy pioneers must have been of amphibian breed—or at least web-footed.

That was scarcely one hundred years ago. Today we can hardly visualize such conditions. Drainage has converted the miasmatic bogs into fertile fields. Crops and optimistic realtors grow where for fifty thousand years buffaloes croaked—and Chicago dumps the Great Lakes into her sewer.

However, like all good things, drainage is being overdone. If steps aren't taken now to preserve some of the inland lakes, and natural reservoirs, the region may ultimately reach a condition of aridity where the bootlegging of water will be profitable.

## Judge

**J**UDGE ALLEN P. TWYMAN of the East Chicago city court has sent his resignation to the Governor. Resentment of criticism for failure to enforce prohibition laws is given as the reason.

East Chicago is no Sahara, however or whatever is responsible for the condition.

The retiring magistrate, however, wishes out one obstacle to all law enforcement—easily obtained change of venue.

"It is a farce," he said, "that a judge, elected by the people, be set aside by the simple filing of an affidavit of prejudice by a defendant. That directly upsets the expressed wishes of a majority of the citizens."

"This practice has reached such a stage in the last months that my powers to enforce the law are practically nullified. Important cases are taken from me on changes of venue requiring the appointment of a special judge."

Possibly popular election of judges is a defective system nevertheless, most regularly elected judges are able, and indisposed, to try all causes fairly and impartially.

Many defendants do not want a fair judge, but a favorable judge. Special judges and changes of venue are sought and granted on the flimsiest pretenses—at the expense of the taxpayer. Criminal justice will always be uncertain and disheveled until the practice is suppressed.

## Tom Sims Says

Society news from Washington. Coolidge took a trip on the Mayflower without chucking any Cabinet members overboard.

Near Hagerstown, Md., an auto killed a wolf. The driver may claim he thought it was a pedestrian.

These antique hunters are sometimes amusing. A hundred years from now some of the things they buy will be a hundred years old.

Wish there were some way to make old autos popular with antique hunters.

If we could run like Nurm, we would get back from lunch on time.

Los Angeles woman was awarded \$25,000. Her husband gave her the air but refused to give her the heir.

Mrs. Sack of Providence, R. I., got \$300,000 because her husband left her holding the sack.

You can tell when prohibition is effective. They will quit singing "Sweet Adeline."

This "Follow the Swallow" is a pretty piece of music even if it does remind us of a chaser.

Detroit woman robber men and gave the money to her husband, but they are hard to train that way.

If they don't hurry up with last year's baseball probes they won't finish in time to start on this year's.

## NEW FORDS FOR RENT

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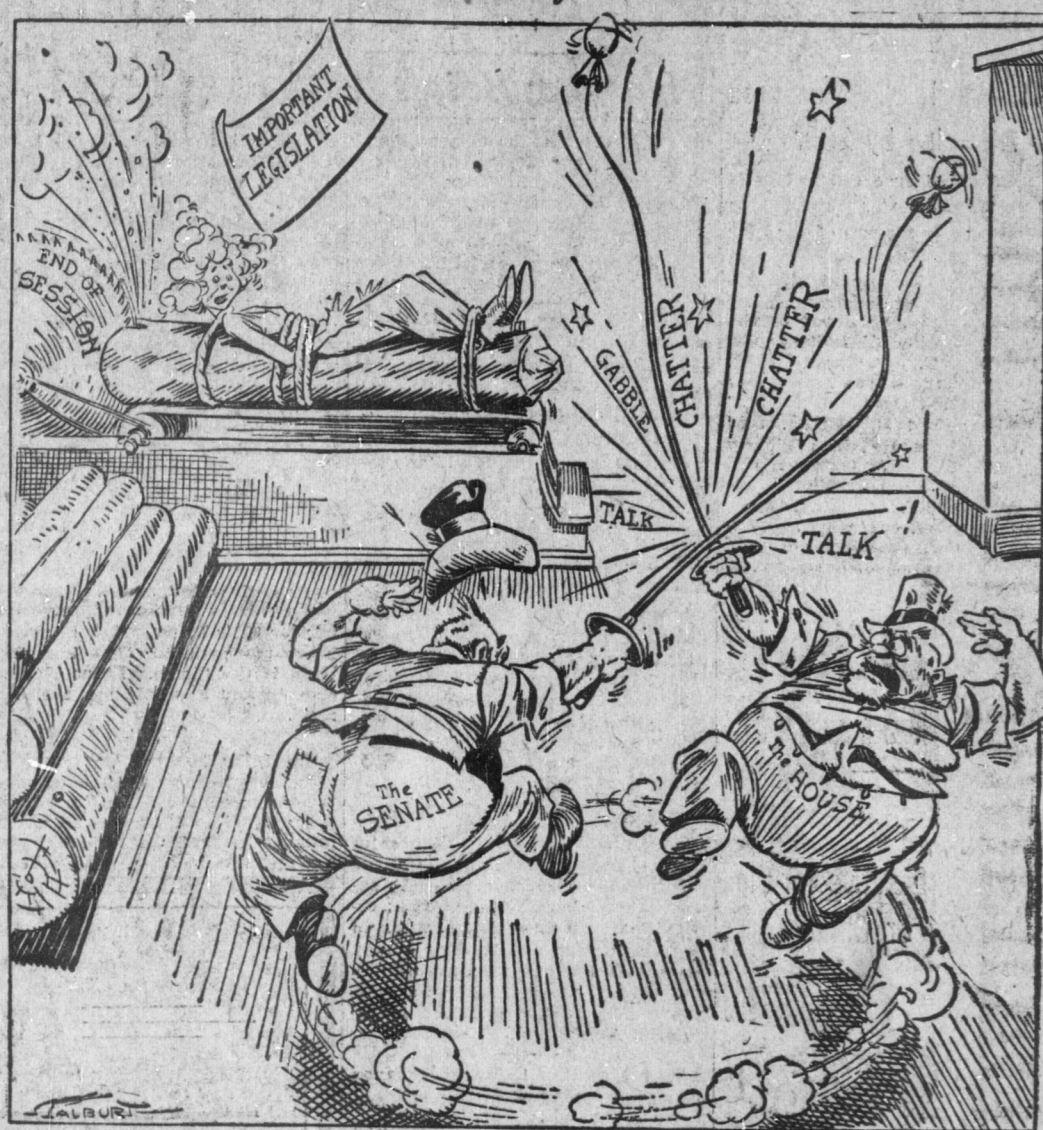
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Arrive Atlanta . . . 8:55 p. m. (C.T.)  
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J. H. MILLIKEN, District Passenger Agent, L. & N. E. R., Indianapolis.

# PENNSYLVANIA Railroad System

## The Perils of Pauline



## WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times Washington Bureau, 1323 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. Including 2 cents in stamps for reply. Medical, legal and marital advice cannot be given, nor can extended research be undertaken. All other questions will receive a personal reply. Unsigned requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor

Is the first 16-inch, 45 caliber gun made by the Navy Department still in existence and where is it now?  
It is now at the Naval Proving Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia.

What are the dimensions and area of Porto Rico?  
It is about 100 miles in length; about thirty-five in width and has a total area of 3,606 square miles.

Where was gold first discovered in Alaska and where was it first mined?  
First discovered at Sitka in 1876, but not mined extensively until 1880 at Juneau.

Should a girl extend her hand first when being introduced to a gentleman?  
Yes, this is proper.

Who is the lightweight wrestling champion?  
Jack Fisher of St. Louis, Mo., is recognized as the champion, although Bobby Roscoe also claims the title, and has challenged Fisher for a title match.

Can one buy Government bonds at present direct from the Treasury Department?  
No, they must be bought through a bank, a trust company, a Federal Reserve Bank or a broker, at the market value.

Can scorch be removed from wool and silk and the original color of the goods be restored?  
No.

**Wm. Bartlett**

21 North Illinois Street—Opposite Claypool Hotel

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