

The Indianapolis Times

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The pride of thine heart hath deceived thee.—Obad 1:3.

Where there is much pretension much has been borrowed; nature never pretends.—Lavater.

NO MEAN POLITICS

13. Where Are All the "Sinister Influences?"

HERE are a number of things missing in this present campaign for mayor. They still are shaking down city employees for campaign contributions and going through some of the other usual motions.

But thus far we have heard nothing about "sinister influences." An Indianapolis city campaign without "sinister influences" is out of the ordinary to say the least.

Of course, there is a reason why we don't hear about the "sinister influences" any more. In previous campaigns the term "sinister influences" has usually been applied to one particular faction of the Republican party—that faction which includes, among others, Bill Armitage.

It isn't that the influence is lacking this time. It is merely a case of it being applied in favor of another candidate. Now that we have a Lemeke-Armitage-Jewett-Shank-Indianapolis News faction the term "sinister influences" seems to be barred in the editorial sanctum where it once was so popular. It is simply the old story of whose ox is gored.

To paraphrase a not unknown expression—"sincerity, thou art a jewel."

Then there is another thing missing. Thus far there has been no committee of one hundred, sponsoring the cause of "good government and clean politics." You remember the last committee, the one which did so much to defeat Boyd M. Ralston.

If such a committee is formed this year, we hereby nominate for the chairman Hon. William H. Armitage.

Crippling Our Navy

YOU may not believe in government ownership or operation of anything. You may believe all things they told you about the Government's alleged incompetence in handling the railroads during the war. You may never have seen the naïve admission of the American Shipping Bureau that the real danger in government operation of the merchant marine is not its inefficiency, but its increasing efficiency.

Leaving all these things out, you do believe in adequate national defense. Everybody believes in that.

Off the Golden Gate, aboard the Pacific fleet, waiting the zero hour, April 15, when their dash begins for the coast of Hawaii, are American naval officers who see the connection between the Government's merchant fleet and national defense. Perhaps you can see it through their eyes. If so, you will see that the Nation's naval strength in time of war does not consist solely of battleships, cruisers and submarines. An essential part of the naval force is composed of auxiliary vessels, the vessels that carry troops and supplies. These vessels must be controlled, officered and manned by men under the Navy's orders, in time of war. They must be as loyal from stem to stern as any first-class battleship. Their officers should be reserve officers in the Navy, their crews should be reserve seamen.

This week in Washington, by a vote of four to three, the United States Shipping

Board, which seems to be trying to get rid of the American merchant marine before its efficiency is proved any further, sold five such vessels. The vessels were operating on a profitable route from San Francisco to the Orient. They were sold for a song and for a pitiful tune, at that. One-sixth, their cost—paid by you in taxes—was the price they brought.

The buyer of these five excellent trans-Pacific liners is the Dollar Steamship Company. Acquisition of the vessels gives this company practically a monopoly of the carrying trade from the Pacific coast to the Orient, but that, while worth consideration in itself, is apart from the question of national defense.

The question which concerns the American Navy and yourself, as an advocate of adequate national defense, is the relation of the five ships to the American people. Under the sale contract the Government loses all control over the vessels at the end of five years. The Dollar Steamship Company operates under various flags. During the World War it operated under the British flag. It may have had every justification for doing so, but the fact remains that our naval strategists now have reason to wonder where America will obtain its needed auxiliary vessels if war ever should come on the Pacific. If you are serious in your urging of adequate national defense, you will join in the wonder.

Should the Navy be crippled just to uphold some one's theoretical fear of government operation?

Can German Republic Survive?

GENERALLY hailed as a republican, rather than as a monarchist victory, it seems to us that the recent German elections were anything but.

Last fall some 30,000,000 Germans cast their votes for members of the Reichstag. All parties polled their maximum.

In the presidential election the other day only about 26,000,000 votes were cast. Some 4,000,000 electors remained at home. Of those who voted, only half favored the republic. The others, save for a million and a half communists, favored a monarchy.

Now it may be assumed that, inasmuch as there was some doubt as to the fate of the republic, every sincere republican cast his vote in its favor. The communists, more than likely, also cast their maximum vote. The non-voters were almost certainly monarchists who refuse to vote for the republic but who, at the same time, have enough gumption to realize that the time has not yet come for a restoration.

It is notorious among those who know their Germany that many Germans who now support the republic are openly monarchists at private. Even high officials in the republican government are known to be monarchists at heart. Treachery? They do not think so. To the contrary, they feel they are helping to "carry on" the necessary business of government until "der tag" when it will be practical to put king or emperor back on the throne.

Meantime Germany will continue as a republic. At the end of this month there will be another presidential election. Again millions of monarchists will stay at home and allow a coalition of all parties which favor the republic to squeeze by with a narrow majority.

When will "der tag" come? Just as soon as Germany is certain that she can establish the monarchy without foreign intervention.

'Mike' Studied Engineering but Turned Out to Be Female Impersonator on Stage

By Walter D. Hickman

It wouldn't surprise me one bit if some of our American colleges would not open a course of female impersonation as an elective course of study.

Lionel Ames, known as "Mike" on the university campus, went to the University of Michigan to study engineering, but he found new talents—that of female impersonation. For three years Mike was the leading "lady" for the university shows. Years ago this sort of entertainment would have no legitimate place in college life. The football players generally made the tour. Ames succeeded in wearing skirts so well that he is now in vaudeville. Today he is giving his idea of "pretty females" at the Palace. He has fifty gowns but is still the amateur in stage business. He finds it difficult to keep the care-free college campus spirit which is the only excuse for such college shows.

He is now a professional and a young one at that. If he continues this sort of work, he must learn the

Stage Verdict

Palace—In Doc Baker's "Protein Revue," the Palace has the honor of presenting one of the best variety revues of the season. Here is a revue full of talent and beauty. This man can change his clothes more rapidly than any other artist on the stage today. Should not be missed.

tricks of showmanship. He must become the sincere artist of character creation. There have been many female impersonators on the stage. The novelty is passed except when they come from our best colleges.

Doc Baker, who changes costumes more rapidly than any other artist on the stage, is the real big merit winner with his revue at the Palace this week end. If there was nothing else on the bill than Doc Baker, he

would be worth the price of admission.

He has developed the protean revue art to a high artistic stage. He has the assistance of seven girls and two splendid eccentric male dancers. Baker's new revue is of high order. One of the revue treats of the season. Splendid and beautiful.

Old time material and old time delivery surrounds Kelly and Pollock. Raymond and Geneva open the bill. I was late getting in the theater and missed this act. Goss and Borrowers show the troubles of a book agent. Rather slapstick in spots. The movie is "cornered" with Marie Prevost.

At the Palace today and Saturday.

MANY SURPRISES PLANNED FOR ADVERTISERS' SHOW

A surprise part in the Advertising Club's annual frolic at the Murat theater, Saturday night, April 4, will be played by Herman L. Earnest.

He has appeared in many local theatrical productions. A comedy role has been assigned to him in the Advertising Club show, the nature of which is to be kept secret until his appearance on the stage.

James G. Thomas, Indianapolis tenor, is to play the part of Rafael Contino, the sculptor who produced the statue of Helen of Troy, about which the plot of the play is woven.

Staley Chapin, as "the Spirit of Jazz," will perform an original eccentric dance.

Edward LaShelle will appear in one of the final numbers of the play as the Prince of Volstead.

The production is the largest ever attempted by the Indianapolis Advertising Club, a cast of more than sixty persons being used in the various acts.

Other theaters today offer: Houdini at Keith's, "My Men Leave Home" at English's, Bernard Granville at the Lyric, "Charley's Aunt," at the Circle, "Excuse Me" at the Apollo, "The Dressmaker From Paris" at the Ohio and a complete new movie bill at the Isis.

All Aboard

What a heap of haste is showing. Say, where's everybody going? Was there ever such a hubbub in the Nation? Men in doorways shouting loudly. People passing by them proudly. Yes, there's much ado in any union station.

"All aboard for this and that place!" Comes a man with glowing fat face, who is lugging both portfolio and grip. You can tell that he's a drummer who stops off most every summer, for the town is on his everlasting trip.

In the jam the crowd near mothers. Little tots hang on to mothers. There's a rush for day coach seats when trains arrive. Men who sell both fruit and candy, through the train are always handy, and the general scene of action is alive.

What a lark to read the faces of the people in such places. I have done it as they've in and outward poured. Meeting friends and old relations is the thrill in union stations, and the catch-word of all is, "All Aboard!"

Tom Sims Says

By James W. Dean

The bones of a mastodon have been found in New York, probably proving the ancients had taxicabs.

Now that a radio swindle has been reported the grouch will report radio is at last nearing perfection.

Maybe a Chicago boy is working as a laborer in his millionaire dad's factory. Any way they say he is.

Atlantic City will fine drunks according to their breaths, but one pleading bay rum may escape by a hairbreadth.

Two Colorado mountains are moving. One has moved 100 feet. May be a sign of spring restlessness.

Recent Army tests show that shooting at airplanes is about like throwing rocks at birds.

More farm relief is planned. Running a farm seems to pay about as well as sending a boy to college.

Professional baseball season has started. It is where we hire men to take our exercise for us.

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Try, Try Again

"A resolute man can accomplish almost anything."
"Except keeping his hair from falling out."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

THE GOD OF SPEED

By M. E. Tracy

WE GO fast, and want to go faster, but whither?

What's the meaning of all this hurry, this running up and down Main St., this driving out into the country and back again?

Motion is not necessarily movement. A fly can cover miles in a pint dipper, but he doesn't get anywhere.

Such stepping on the gas, such joy riding, such a buzzing of engines and tooting of horns! What does it all signify?

Are we traveling in circles, or do we have some definite objective in view?

It makes business good, says somebody, and that is true, but is not the ultimate good of business determined by the purpose it serves?

The theory that a thing is justifiable if it makes business good will not hold water.

Such a theory would excuse the purchase of bootleg whiskey because it gave bootleggers employment, or cause him made work for somebody.

No. We must find a better excuse than the consumption of oil to warrant all the mileage, all the accidents, all the deaths.

Worse than the waste of time and material is the sacrifice of life which this orgy involves.

No ancient deity was ever glutted with such a welter of slain victims as we are laying on the altars of the god of speed.

No ancient temple ever garnered

In New York

By James W. Dean

NEW YORK, April 3.—Only a dozen times in the past forty years has the great bell in the Broom's Street Tabernacle tolled. The man who tolled it those years was Henry Perceval.

The last time till now was Nov. 11, 1918, when peace for the world was proclaimed. It tolled when America entered the war. It rang its dirge for the sinking of the Lusitania.

The booming of the bell always has meant the coming of some great occasion of which the whole world knew. So when it rang the other day many stopped in wonder. Newspapers were bought and the front pages scanned for news of great importance.

Finding nothing unusual in the papers some made their way to the tabernacle. There they learned that Henry Perceval, humble sexton, who had herded the march of the world for forty years, was dead and the bell was tolling for him.

For four weeks he waited in a hallway and took the cream off two bottles of milk left in the early hours by the milkman. Also he took two crullers from the bag left each morning by the baker. Weeks later while calling on a young lady her mother remarked that she was glad that the milk and doughnut thief was leaving her alone. More weeks later, and the milk thief and the girl were married and the mother was told of the identity of her son-in-law. Today the milk thief is a successful man, well known and popular in the newspaper business.

Mike Casazza, a taxi chauffeur once broke his arm cranking a machine. The other day his car stalled in the middle of traffic at Eighth Ave. and Thirty-fourth St., and despite the imprecations of a traffic cop and other drivers he refused to touch hand to the crank. He kicked it till the engine started.

ASK THE TIMES

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1223 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. Enclosing 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.

Does the Bible mention Jesus Christ as being present at the Lord's Supper?

All the Gospels except John make mention of Jesus' presence there.

What causes cracks on the tops of cakes?

They may be caused by too hot an oven. The crust sets rapidly and must break when the cake rises.

What is the total mileage of roads and trails that have been constructed within or adjacent to the National forests?

To July 1, 1924, a total of 8,706 miles of highway had been constructed at a cost of \$24,185,850, and a total of 15,875 miles of trails costing \$3,657,831.

How can one magnetize a hammer which is used to set and drive tracks?

Tap it against the most powerful magnet available. An electro-magnet is best because it is usually much stronger than a permanent magnet.

What does the term "freeman," as applied to persons living in the early days of the colonization of the United States, signify?

To be made a freeman meant that the person had served his term as an indentured servant and was free.

at least three points should be considered: Fuel value, mineral content and vitamin content. The first is measured by calories, the second by weight, but as yet no means has been devised for measuring vitamins.

What is the heat value of a cord of wood?

The weight of a cord of wood varies so greatly, depending on the moisture content, that figures showing the heat value would vary considerably. A pound of average hardwood contains about 8,000 British thermal units of heat.

Where is the Custer battlefield located?

At the Crow agency, Montana, on the Crow Indian reservation. The agency is a railroad station on the Burlington Route. The battlefield is marked and is a national cemetery.

From where do most of the emeralds come?

Originally they came from the Orient, and especially upper Egypt. They are also found near Tokovaya in Siberia. Many of the gem varieties are from the mines of Muso in the United States of Colombia and from Emmaville, New South Wales.

What is the largest bell in the world?

The one in the tower of the famous Cathedral in Cologne, Germany.

What is meant by the "Australian ballot?"

It is a form of secret ballot on which the names of candidates for office are printed under party columns with square—or circles—in front of the party name and in front of the name of each candidate. The voter marks a cross in the square or circle representing his choice of

party or of candidates, and the ballot is then folded and placed in the ballot box. Under this system no one can know how a voter voted.

How many United States Senators are there?

Ninety-six, two from each State. They are elected in all the States directly by the people at general elections.

What is the tallest building in Italy?

St. Peter's Church in Rome. It is 448 feet high, but is not divided into stories.

Where was the Parent-Teachers' Association founded?

In Washington, D. C., February 17, 1897, by Mrs. Theodore W. Burney and Phoebe A. Hearst.

How are leaves bleached?

Mix 1 dr. of chloride of lime with 1 pint of water and add sufficient acetic acid to liberate the chlorine. Steep the leaves about 10 minutes or until they are whitened; remove to a piece of white paper and wash in clear water.

From what is the quotation "How to the line, let the chips fall where they will" taken?

From a speech of Roscoe Conklin at the national convention in Chicago, Illinois, in 1870, when General Grant was nominated for a third term. The exact words were "He will how to the line of right, let the chips fall where they may."

How long does it take the Civil Service Commission to get the markings of an examination paper?

This depends on the conditions in the examining division of that office. Sometimes the results of the examinations are ready in from a month to six weeks while at other times three or four months are required.

RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

CHILDREN AND THE STREETS

ONE child has been killed and three injured while playing in the streets in the last three days.

As a result, motorcycle policemen have been instructed to keep youngsters out of the danger zone.

Children found playing in the street will be taken to their parents, who will be warned. Those whose progeny are found a second time in the roadway will be ordered to juvenile court.

Strenuous measures are justified to preserve lives and limbs of little ones.

Time and again it has been proved that romping children and traffic don't mix.

Just now the vernal call of out-of-doors comes to childhood with irresistible force. Roller skates, baseballs and happy yowls break out on pavements which only recently were bare and cold.

Of course boys and girls must play. That is their inalienable right. And it is outdoors that health and red corpuscles race hand in hand. But streets are primarily for traffic, not for play-grounds.

It annoys a motorist to have a juvenile baseball game or a roller-skating party unexpectedly burst into bloom right in front of his radiator. He is likely to be unnerved and youngsters unjoined.

So the profits of street play are heavily commensurate with the risks. Youngsters shouldn't be permitted to pursue their inalienable right to the hospital or to extinction.

AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

THE Indianapolis Foundation has employed a psychiatric social worker to assist in the study and treatment of patients at the new psychiatric ward at city hospital.

One of the greatest blots on society has been heartless and barbarous treatment of sufferers from mental disorders.

They were long treated little better than beasts—the sole idea being to restrain them from damaging themselves and others.

They were locked up with felons and other social scum. Severely not sympathy characterized society's attitude toward them.

Mental derangement is not a crime. It results from disease, and properly treated in its incipency is often curable. But only in recent years has it been regarded as anything except an awful visitation of implacable Providence.

Many, with reason now hopelessly debilitated, could have been spared that fate if early symptoms had been recognized and corrective treatment given. Prevention not restraint is the enlightened method.

Establishment of the psychiatric ward was a most humane step in handling mental cases in Indianapolis. It removed these unfortunate from the stigma of the jail to a hospital, where they can be observed and treated.

A trained social-worker to aid in intelligent handling of cases should accomplish much. It will enable the hospital to apply the ounce of prevention that may save pounds of human tragedy in an asylum.

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