

## The Indianapolis Times

ROY W. HOWARD, President

WM. A. MAYBORN, Bus. Mgr.

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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?"

THERE 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 Lemcke-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 clear 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 naive 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 sum, 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 re-establish the monarchy without foreign intervention.

## ASK THE TIMES

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times Washington Bureau, 1322 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. Postage paid in stamps for reply. Medical, legal and other advice cannot be given, nor can extensive research be done. 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 \$34,155,550, 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 stakes?

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

What points should be included in discussing the food value of any material?

In order to make a fair statement

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 hard wood 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 squares 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

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.

## '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, is studying engineering at 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 foot-ball 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 nifty 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 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 Borrows show the troubles of a book agent. Baker's last act is in spots. The movie is "cornered" with Marie Prevost.

At the Palace today and Saturday.

## Stage Verdict

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

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## 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 Chaplin, as "the Spirit of

Jazz," will perform an original ec-

centric dance.

Edward LaShelle will appear in

one of the final numbers of the

play as the Prince of Volstedia.

The production is the largest ever

attempted by the Indianapolis Ad-

vertising Club, a cast of more than

sixty persons being used in the

various acts.

Other theaters today offer: Houdi-

ni in Keeth's, "My Men 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.

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