

# The Indianapolis Times

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No law shall be passed restraining the free interchange of thought and opinion, or restricting the right to speak, write, or print freely, on any subject whatever.—Constitution of Indiana.

## A Great Man Is Dead

HERE died at a country home northwest of Indianapolis Wednesday night a plain Hoosier.

Instead of columns of obituary and black headlines and many pictures, Samuel M. Ralston would have preferred that his death be announced by some such expression as the foregoing. But the fellow citizens of Senator Ralston saw in this plain Hoosier a great man. And he was beloved because he could be a great man and still be a plain Hoosier.

He walked with kings yet kept the common touch.

He served his people long and well. He did not seek honors, but when his party and the voters called him he responded as long as his health and strength permitted.

The administration of Samuel M. Ralston as Governor of Indiana was one on which the State can look back with satisfaction. It was a good administration. Following his term in office Mr. Ralston retired to the practice of law.

But in 1922 his party needed a candidate for the United States Senate who could win. It naturally chose Ralston as the man. For weeks he declined to be a candidate and not until almost the last minute, when he thought no other candidate would enter, did he consent to make the race. Another candidate entered, however, and Ralston said that if he had known of his entry he himself would not have been a candidate. In the election he defeated the brilliant Albert J. Beveridge and went to the Senate.

Then came the Democratic national convention at New York. It was deadlocked. A contest of unparalleled bitterness proceeded from day to day in Madison Square Garden, while the world looked on. The party leaders were in despair. They saw the chances for victory in the November election, seeming so bright a few weeks earlier, steadily growing dim. A man on whom all elements could unite was desperately needed.

But Senator Ralston was not at the convention. He was at his country home looking

after his flowers and at his office looking after his law practice. He was nominally a candidate for the nomination. His friend of long years, Thomas Taggart, had made him that and Indiana's loyal thirty delegates were voting regularly for his name. But that, as he and others understood, was only a detail of the process of nominating a candidate. Presently the confusion would end and his thirty Hoosier friends would vote for the strongest candidate.

But a flood of messages from New York to the Ralston home ended all this. Their unanimous import was that Ralston himself must take the nomination. It had been found that he alone was satisfactory to a majority of the delegates.

Then this plain Hoosier did what probably no other American statesman ever had done. He refused to be the nominee. He avoided a real chance to become President of the United States. He made it clear that if the convention were to unite on him he would be compelled to decline the honor.

Senator Ralston was moved by one consideration. He felt that he was not the man for the nomination or for the office. He knew that time had worn away his strength, that his powers were unequal to the strain of the high office, unequal perhaps even to the strain of the campaign.

Modest by nature, he did not belittle his own capacity. He had the best of reasons for believing he had proved a worthy Governor of his own State. His four years in the State House had been one of constructive achievement. Recognition of this had been given by the State when it sent him to the Senate. But he knew the years had told on him and he could not give comparable service in the White House.

The temptation was strong, but he put it aside. A unique episode in our national history. An almost unexampled instance of self-sacrifice. A great man.

Senator Ralston is dead. The event he feared might occur in the White House has come on his little farm.

## Secretary Weeks' Resignation

THE resignation of Secretary of War Weeks from President Coolidge's cabinet, long expected though it was, will be keenly felt in the Army.

Not that anything demanding genius arose during his term in office, but the Army always felt it had in him a friend who would go the limit in its behalf. And he did.

Just as happens after every war, a wave of economy-at-any-price struck Congress leading to the demand in certain quarters that the Army be greatly reduced and that less and less money be spent on its upkeep. Secretary Weeks bitterly fought this plan whenever it cut in so closely as to threaten, in his opinion, the national defense.

Too ill to sit at his desk at the War Department in Washington, he even found the strength to go to Swampscott, where the President summered, to plead the cause of the Army and the national defense against any too drastic cuts in appropriations.

Secretary Weeks' resignation will affect the Army largely on sentimental grounds for, since he was stricken months ago, his going has been considered merely a matter of time.

In Weeks' absence from Washington, Dwight F. Davis of Missouri had been acting Secretary of War. He has now been raised to cabinet rank. He should be able to carry on successfully. In fact, as acting Secretary of War he was largely instrumental in having President Coolidge appoint the special board now investigating the aircraft row raised by Colonel Mitchell.

Mostly since Secretary Weeks' illness the armed service of the country has been pretty badly shot to pieces by internal rows and differences of opinion.

In restoring harmony and efficiency in his own organization, at least, the new Secretary of War may well find his first job already cut out for him.

## Searching Automobiles

THE Indiana Supreme Court has ruled that promiscuous searching of automobiles for liquor is illegal. It could have made no other ruling in view of the provisions of both the Indiana Constitution and that of the United States, which specifically provide for the sanctity of the property of innocent persons.

Perhaps this ruling of the Supreme Court, which held in favor of a motorist, even though evidence showed that he had two quarts of intoxicating liquor in his car, will have the effect of causing roaming horse thief detectives and officers to use a little more discretion in their molestation of innocent persons on country roads.

The court said:

"The authority of a peace officer, without a warrant, to arrest a person engaged in actual commission of a felony, and to search him and his vehicle for articles recently or at the time being used in its commission, depends upon whether the officer has reasonable and probable cause to believe and act on the belief that a felony is being or has been committed by such persons or by means of articles that are in the vehicle or on the person searched. • • •

"But an officer who has not learned through the exercise of his senses of sight, smell, hearing, etc., or from other reliable source of information, facts that would justify a reasonably prudent person in believing and acting on the belief that a felony is being committed in his presence, or has been committed, of which evidence is contained in the automobile, can not lawfully search all passing automobiles to discover and apprehend violators of the law.

"Such action constitutes an 'unreasonable search' of the person and effects of the driver of the automobile forbidden by the Constitution of the State of Indiana."

This opinion merely reaffirms a rule of law as old as the Constitution itself.

## RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

### MARDI GRAS CELEBRATION

JOHN F. WALKER and his co-workers are up to their necks in plans and publicity for the Mardi Gras celebration which will be a regular downtown Halloween party in Indianapolis. The State at large is invited to come and make merry.

Halloween is of peculiar interest to small boys—and others not so small. They feel that it is one occasion in the year when they should be allowed to cut loose and enjoy themselves.

They generally do, but too often the carnival spirit degenerates to mere destructive pranks. To the peaceful householder with movable possessions Halloween is apt to be a night of anguish. He is run ragged keeping the goblins from carrying off his property piecemeal.

Already police authorities in Hoosier cities are issuing warnings against Halloween depredations. The Chief of Police of Elwood has announced that any boy caught in Halloween mischief in that city will be jailed. Similar edicts will be promulgated hither and yon in the next two weeks.

Nevertheless All Souls' Eve will come and go and will be observed in the customary manner. There will be a certain amount of harmless pleasure mixed, as usual, with destructive pranks of the occasion can't be stifled by official frowns.

The proposed Mardi Gras in Indianapolis may not make the city bigger, busier or better. But as a civic celebration it will be worth while. Colorful and entertaining, it will give the Halloween carnival spirit full scope for its imagination without the necessity of heaving brick through the neighbor's window to make a large evening.

Other women present gave darning socks, making beds and dusting as their pet aversions. All agreed it wasn't the big household tasks but the small irritating jobs that got on their nerves.

They are no different than the common run of folks in that respect. Most any man can storm a trench, commit a murder, or attack any of the larger affairs of life with enthusiasm under the proper incentive. But he hates the drudgery of detail and the small, necessary tasks. He would rather go out and slay a mess of dragons for dinner than hang a picture or shake down the furnace.

But unfortunately the ordinary human being can't make life just a succession of big jobs; the irritating little tasks are bound to creep in. Even George Washington couldn't devote all his time to being father of his country. He had to stop occasionally to wash his face and his socks had to be darned like those of other mortals.

Maybe even beyond the point where people won't escape the irritating little tasks. They may have to polish up their halos, brush their wings, and keep their harps in tune. So all they can do about the irritating little jobs is to grin and bear them.

There is the cue for Indianapolis to step forward and claim them. It has what they are seeking—central location, excellent labor conditions, unexcelled distribution facilities, and low rents.

Still Indianapolis is not altogether a paradise for rent payers. Rentals for certain classes of property may be low, but modern apartments and dwellings aren't being offered to prospective tenants for a song. Rent day to the average family man is still distinctly blue.

What the city gains in low industrial rents is more than offset by high domestic rents.

### THE JOYS OF BANKRUPTCY

THE Retailers' National Council, meeting in Indianapolis Tuesday, complained of the misuse of the bankruptcy law by small debtors. They would restrict the joys of legal insolvency to those whose debts are \$500 or more.

Legal absolution for liabilities incurred beyond the debtor's ability to pay is a comparatively modern invention. In old Roman days the unfortunate insolvent was at the mercy of his creditor, who could seize his goods, chattels, wives and children and hold them in slavery. An unextinguished debt descended from father to son.

Even in presumably enlightened England imprisonment for debt was common until less than 100 years ago. Many of England's brightest literary stars flickered in the debtor's prison.

It is doubtful if imprisonment, slavery or similar harsh measures imposed any higher standard of commercial honesty than prevails today when any debtor can take a bankruptcy bath and start life again pure and clean.

It is very annoying, of course, for a trusting creditor to have a small debtor—a working man or a farmer—bust right in his face with a few hundred dollars' liabilities. But there is no ethical distinction between such a small debtor and one who is a million dollars in the red. The only difference is size.

In either case it is a fruitless task to try to get blood out of a turnip.

Why not continue to treat all insolvent debtors alike? If a Governor of Indiana, with liabilities amounting to millions above his visible assets, can be released from his financial obligations by the bankruptcy law, why shouldn't a day laborer, who owes more than he can pay, have the same privilege? Inability to pay, not the size of the debt, is the determining factor in bankruptcy.

### Tom Sims Says

A bachelor is a man who can't even enjoy staying away from home.

Money won't get you into society, but lack of it will put you out.

At beauty shows, all of it does.

An old golf club and a new husband make excellent rug beaters.

You can have your ups and downs and still be on the level.

A man is known by the head he keeps.

Women who roast others are not always good cooks.

All the world quits a quitter.

Some neighbors will borrow anything except the baby.

A drink in hand is worth two in the bushes.

There is a difference between arguing and talking things over. Arguing only proves who can argue the best.

We heard a man raising Cain with his wife because he made her mad.

The chances are you wish you were in some one else's shoes because you don't know they hurt.

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## THE SPUDZ FAMILY—By TALBURT



## Friends Pay Tributes to Ralston

Personal friends, business associates and political acquaintances today paid tribute to the late Senator Samuel M. Ralston.

THOMAS TAGGART, one of the best-known Democratic leaders in the country, who had been a close friend of Senator Ralston for years, said: "In the death of Senator Ralston the State of Indiana and the Nation have lost one of its greatest men. Senator Ralston was not only a great statesman, but was also a great lawyer. He was a Christian whose heart was full of love for his fellow man, and he was loved by all who knew him."

Senator Ralston was a man of great courage and did not hesitate to express his honest convictions. In the passing of Senator Ralston, I have lost one of my dearest friends. SENATOR JAMES E. WATSON—Samuel M. Ralston was an honest man and a noble citizen. Since pity was the guiding principle of his life, in all of his acts, both public and private, he was controlled by the utmost good faith. He always believed what he said and said what he believed. In private life he was faithful and true.

He was a good Governor and his short service in the Senate gave promise of exalted service in that body. He was an upright official and a faithful public servant associated with him justly mourn his untimely departure from among us.

GOVERNOR ED JACKSON—In the passing of Senator Ralston our State and Nation has suffered a very great loss. He led an active life, a large part of it in a public way. To all the duties of life he has addressed himself in an energetic, capable and sincere manner. He made a great record as Governor of the State of Indiana and will be remembered as one of the great Governors of our State. He has also made a splendid record throughout his service in the Senate. He has always been held in the highest esteem by his associates, and these with whom he came in contact.

CHARLES A. GREATHOUSE, Democratic national committeeman from Indiana—Senator Ralston was a great, upright and conscientious leader. His wonderful record as Governor and as a United States Senator stands at a monument to his name. The wonderful moral fiber of Senator Ralston and his ability to feel the heart throbs of the people, with whom he was always sympathetic, made him a leader in whom all the citizens of the State were proud.

JOHN L. DUVALL, Republican nominee for mayor—Senator Ralston's death is a serious loss to the entire country. With his death the country and the State sustains the loss of one of the greatest statesmen, ever known. It will be hard to find a man as honest, true and straightforward as Senator Ralston to fill the senatorship.

MAYOR SHANK—I never knew a man closer to the people. I knew Senator Ralston twenty years. He was kind and courteous to all. Industrious by nature, he has performed great service for the citizens of Indiana he represented so long through his years in public office. His loss is a severe blow to the people of Indiana.

JAMES M. OGDEN, city corporation counsel—When I started the practice of law, Senator Ralston was kind to me and gave me valuable counsel. He was especially brilliant on cross-examination. In politics, Senator Ralston believed the same principals of squareness and justice as in private life should prevail.

JOSEPH L. HOGUE, city controller—We of the Republican party loved Senator Ralston for his honesty and sincerity and knew him as a most honorable opponent. His sympathy with his fellow man was especially characteristic of this great and good man.

DR. CARLTON B. McCULLOCH—The record of Samuel Ralston is an outstanding example of what our country offers to a man who brings

to its service the homely but essential virtues of honesty, industry and intelligence.

As a young man without opportunity, he made them. Without exceptional education, he acquired it. Unknown in the beginning, he drew around himself friends and admirers in increasing numbers until he was known and loved throughout the United States. His career has been one of successive promotions in the public service, and these came not by chance, but truly because he discharged so well each trust committed to his hands that his countrymen turned to him each time for further and greater service. His country has lost a great statesman, his party a great leader and his fellow citizens a sympathetic and loving friend.

FRANK S. FISHBACK, president Chamber of Commerce—The thing about Senator Ralston's life which most impressed me was the way his old friends clung to him as yet passed by. The longer his friends knew him, the closer they became to him and the better they liked him. I never had the pleasure of knowing Senator Ralston personally, much to my regret, but I knew him as a public figure that I admired and whose loss I deplore.

WALTER MYERS, Democratic nominee for mayor—In the death of Senator Ralston, our State and Nation suffer an irreparable loss; and for that loss we mourn. In the political world appraised him as a man of fine ideals and practical considerations. His character was true as the ring of steel. A kindly neighbor, a loyal friend and a public man of marked ability, his was the life of constant service.

M. BERT THURMAN, collector of internal revenue—In the death of Senator Ralston, Indiana has lost another of her noted citizens. He has served his native State in the capacity of Governor and Senator with marked distinction, and all Hoosiers should be grieved at his untimely death.

## 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, 1332 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. Unsubscribed requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor.

Can you tell something of the life of Emil Waldeuter?

He was born at Strasburg, Dec. 9, 1837. He was a pupil of the Paris Conservatory of Music, studying un-

der Marmontel and Laurent. Later he was employed in a piano factory, and then became pianist to the Empress Eugenie. His first waltzes, "Jules or Paines" and "Manola," were published at his own expense, and were such a success that he devoted himself exclusively to the production of similar things. He became director of the court balls, besides making tours to London, Berlin, Vienna, etc. Eventually he

orchestra, but also arranged for the piano. He died in 1915.

What is the meaning of the word "velocipedestrianism?" This is the adjective form of the word and means one who rides on a velocipede.

What is the tax on cigars sent to Germany?

They are taxed at the rate of 7,500 gold marks per hundred kilograms.

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