

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.

School Board Election

REMEMBER when you go to the polls next Tuesday that one of the most important jobs you have to perform is the election of a school board ticket. The school board spends hundreds of thousands of dollars annually and the schools are perhaps the most important institutions in the community. Election of a school board is just as important as election of a mayor.

Remember, also, that the school board election is NON-PARTISAN. Politics has no place in the conduct of the schools. Formation of slates in the school board election is just another form of politics. The groups who support slates are just as much political parties as are the groups labeled Democrat and Republican.

Get acquainted with your school board candidates. The Times has printed the records of each of them and if there are any candidates you do not know, this paper will help you to learn about them. After you are acquainted with the candidates, go to the polls and vote for those you think will serve the community best. Vote for INDIVIDUALS.

Play Fair!

THE Times is not for John L. Duvall for mayor, but this newspaper does believe in fair play, even in politics. Criticism of Duvall because he, as county treasurer, retained the interest on Barrett law funds is unfair. This interest has been looked upon as a part of the remuneration of the county treasurer and until the Legislature amends the law it probably will continue to be so considered.

Several years ago the Legislature enacted a law eliminating the fee system then in operation in most of the county offices and placing the officials on a salary basis. The Times advocated this law long before it was enacted. But for some reason, the Legislature, while fixing the salary of the county treasurer at \$5,000 a year and doing away with most of his other compensation, permitted him to retain the interest on Barrett law funds. It is said this interest runs as high as \$30,000 a year. That is too much compensation for the county treasurer. Being treasurer is not that big a job.

Nevertheless, every preceding treasurer has pocketed this money, and most of them have pocketed considerable more. Why jump on Duvall because he is doing it? The Legislature, not the treasurer, is to blame.

Opponents of Duvall have enough material to defeat him in his association with George V. Coffin, Bill Armistage and others of our prominent political gentry who wish to obtain or retain a part of the spoils of the city administration. Why manufacture an issue?

The Peking Parley

NINE nations are now in conference at Peking considering China's demand for justice. Better late than never.

For close on to a century the great powers have simply shoved a gun down China's throat and taken what they wanted.

The indications are that some of the powers are still inclined to continue along these lines. If such is the case then the best thing the United States can do is to cut loose from their rotten company and, if necessary, stand by China alone.

According to the United Press, Washington seems to have some such idea. We hope so. Though certain of the powers do not appear to have waked up to the fact, the day is gone when profit can be had by bulldozing China. To the contrary, the country that sticks by her today will be richly repaid tomorrow by being in on the ground floor of Chinese trade developments now about due.

The people who are making most money in China today are the Germans. Why? Be-

cause they no longer treat the Chinese as slaves, but cooperate with them. They take the Chinese in as business partners and are profiting accordingly. Good will is as necessary in the Orient as anywhere else.

Ask the Japanese what they think of it. They have played the bully. In 1915 they virtually tried to annex China at the point of a gun—the old stuff. They failed. They are boycotted there today in a business way. They have a hard time selling goods labeled, "Made in Japan." Today, in a sort of panic, they are changing tack. They are moving heaven and earth to make friends.

Britain, too, for nearly a century has bullied China. Whether she has yet seen the light we do not know. But she will, some day, or her blindness will cost her dearly. Russia has seen it and is attempting the German plan.

As for America, China regards her as a real friend. We must continue to justify her faith. In the first place, it is the right thing to do. It is the just, the moral, the honest thing. In the second place—if you want to put it on a dollars and cents basis—it will pay us well. China is not only a land of yesterday but, above any spot we know of on earth, she is the land of tomorrow.

To throw away our present advantage as China's friend now would be worse than a blunder. It would be a crime against morals and against business.

One State or Forty-Eight

SOME of the Governors who are endeavoring to stampede Congress into abolishing the Federal inheritance tax have failed, perhaps, to consider every phase of the subject. The idea that the States should collect the inheritance tax naturally appeals to them. Some may have hidden away in their minds the notion that, once the Federal tax is removed, they can remove the State tax also and so attract millionaire tax dodgers, as Florida is so proud of having done. Of course, all the States can do that if there is any advantage in it.

But there are certain States, at least, that should do a bit of thinking before they follow the lead of their Governors. These are the numerous States of large natural resources which are now being developed or exploited by outside capital. When the big Eastern capitalist dies what State will collect the inheritance tax on his estate? Not the Western, middle Western or Southern State out of which his wealth came, but the State in which he maintains his residence. A few States could collect the bulk of all such inheritance taxes.

One essential element in the theory behind the inheritance tax is this: That some men by foresight, energy and fortunate circumstances turn the natural resources of the country to their own financial gain. They amass huge fortunes. This is considered fair enough. They have the vision, the courage, the intelligence and are entitled to the reward. But they die, in due time. Then the right of their relatives to all that these pioneers have garnered is questioned. The pioneer's claim, according to this theory, passes to some extent with his passing. His wealth has come from the soil and the people. Draining huge fortunes from the rest of the country for the perpetual use of idle families in New York or Palm Beach is not sound national economics.

It seems the fairest of all taxes to assess some of this unearned wealth for the needs of the Nation. The people have come to believe so, despite silly labels, such as "tombstone tax," that opponents have applied.

It is a sound tax and a fair tax. The only question is whether it should be collected by the Government or by the States. There is talk of States' rights, but some States will never get their right to a part of their wealth through a State tax. New York will collect on fortunes made in forty-seven other States.

A Sermon for Today

By Rev. John R. Gunn

Text: "He begetteth a son, and there is nothing in hand."—Ecc. 5:14.

True greatness is not determined by the circumstances surrounding one's birth. Solomon was born in a palace. Jesus was born in a stable. Yet, when Jesus began his public ministry he stood on the site of Solomon's palatial birthplace, and said: "Behold, a greater than Solomon is here." Doubtless this declaration, coming from the son of a carpenter, sounded ridiculous to the people who first heard it. But considering it today in the light of nineteen centuries of history, we know it was true. Jesus was incomparably greater than Solomon—greater in character, in wisdom, in his ideals of life, and in his achievements.

You may count it a fortunate thing if you were born amid pleasant and happy circumstances; but that fact is no promise that you will achieve a worthwhile destiny. The capacity to become great may be passed down from sire to son, but greatness is not hereditary. There are many people who were born well, but who have never amounted to much in the world.

They boast of the blue blood that flows through their veins, but they never bestir themselves to any heroic action. I despise to hear people prating about their noble birth while living a trifling and useless life. A member of the English nobility once said to an American: "I don't like your country." "Why?" asked the American. "Because," said he, "you have no gentry in America." "What do you mean by gentry?" the American asked. "Oh," he said, "I mean a class born of the nobility who live at ease and without work." "Ah," said the American, "you are mistaken about my country; we have a very large class of gentry in America, only we call them by another name—we call them tramps."

People who are forever bragging about their ancestral nobility and who think they are entitled to live at ease and without work, deserve nothing better than to be put in the tramp class.

It is not so much where or how you were born, but the character you build and the manhood you develop, that determines your position in the world.

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RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

BUDGET STILL BUDGES

THE annual paroxysm of transfers of money from one fund to another—to keep the city departments that have exhausted their budget appropriations going until the end of the year—has begun. Eight such transfer ordinances were presented to the Indianapolis city council Monday night.

A beautiful, businesslike budget system is presumed to exercise a restraining influence on our municipal expenditures. But our city budget is largely pomp and vain show. When funds allotted for a specific purpose are exhausted, money is transferred from another fund and the spending goes on unabated.

All very legal, of course, but how does that easy transfer system encourage departmental economy?

Joseph Hogue, city controller, announced about a year ago, when fund transfer ordinances were springing up on every side, that in 1925 city departments positively would have to keep their expenditures within the budget. It was a noble resolve. Apparently it didn't mean anything, for a year later the council is harvesting the usual crop of transfer ordinances, just as if Joseph had not spoken.

Some transfers of funds may be required as the result of unexpected emergencies and unforeseeable expenditures. But ordinary diligence in framing the city budget should make such cases rare. In the Indianapolis budget emergencies have become settled habits. Funds are continually transferred with little excuse.

Consequently about the only restraint our municipal budget exercises over municipal expenditures is the moral restraint of an occasional frown. The budget budgets, the taxpayer squirms, and economy is only a pious hope.

JUST ORDINARY PEOPLE

FREDERICK HUSEMANN, president of the German Miners' Union, a visitor to Indianapolis Monday in his tour of America to study the coal-mining industry, emphatically declared the German workers want peace.

"If Germany goes to war again she will do so against the will of more than 5,000,000 members of the working class," he said. "Only a few young boys and old fools entertain the spirit of war."

That may be subtle Teutonic propaganda. But it sounds fair enough and quite likely is not far from the facts.

Representation of any German as a peace-loving individual may shock some of us Hoosiers. We have been encouraged in the belief that all Germans were horns, helmets and armaments and breathed fire and brimstone. We picture them as goose-stepping daytimes and plotting nights, over their beer, to blow the earth to cosmic dust.

Perhaps that picture served in wartime. Quite certainly it no longer fits any except a few conspicuous, irreconcilable junkies. It is not surprising that most Germans are more interested in prosaic jobs, Saturday night, the girl next door and such things than in war, glory and slaughter. They are human beings just like the mine-run Americans, who are so immersed in inconsequential, everyday private affairs they don't know whether Locarno and Chang-Tso-Lin are perfumes or drinks.

The outstanding fact that the world is slowly learning is that most people, regardless of language and nationality, are just ordinary people—breath and surface remarkably like you and me.

THE FUTURE OF TRACTION LINES MAYOR SHANK and other dignitaries were guests Monday of the Union Traction Company on the inaugural run from Indianapolis to Ft. Wayne in one of the new, luxurious steel coaches purchased by that line for fast through service.

Hizoner, at a luncheon given the party in Ft. Wayne, waxed enthusiastic over the ride and new equipment. "I want to say right here," he declared, "that the day of the interurban is not over, as some of the bus operators would like to have us think. It is just beginning."

Perhaps he wasn't prophesying, merely paying for his dinner. But

there was truth, nevertheless, in his remarks. A traction line possesses inestimable advantages over its motor bus competitors. Its operation is independent of weather conditions and it has its own private right of way.

Using public highways, motor buses are limited by State laws to a speed of thirty miles an hour. With the growing congestion of the highways there is little likelihood of that limit being raised. And the exigencies of other traffic limit the size of motor buses.

Traction lines, with their private right of way, are not so restricted. Roadbeds and safety are the only limits to the size, luxuriousness and speed of their cars.

Fast schedules and comfort are what travelers want whether they travel by train, boat, bus or trolley. A traction line that offers prospective patrons clean transportation service of high speed and all creature comforts embodied in the most modern equipment won't have to wait to high Heaven about bus competition. It can meet competition.

BUSINESS IS GOOD

INDIANA'S corn crop this year will be the biggest in twenty-five years, according to M. W. Justin, statistician for the U. S. Department of Agriculture. He estimates that it will total 205,000,000 bushels—77 per cent greater than the 1924 crop.

General business conditions in the State are about 19 per cent better than a year ago, reports Dr. Edle of Indiana University, to the State Chamber of Commerce.

Building and engineering contracts awarded in Indiana during September amounted to \$15,078,000, states the F. I. Dodge Corporation. This is an increase of 142 per cent over September, 1924.

Not only in Indiana but throughout the country are there evidences of increasing prosperity. One day last week 2,522,300 shares changed hands on the New York Stock Exchange. Million-share days, once regarded as phenomenal, follow each other in rapid succession. So far this year almost double the number of shares have been bought and sold on the floor of the Exchange than during the corresponding period in 1924.

Meanwhile the cotton crop in the southern States will, it is estimated, reach 15,228,000 bales this year—an increase of 1,500,000 bales over 1924.

Business is good. There is no feverish boom on. Americans have merely ceased to worry about who won the war and who is going to pay for it and are devoting themselves to development of the country's resources. Industrial, mineral and agricultural. We are minding our own business with considerable profit.

Gray Hairs

By Hal Cochran

It's always the little old mirror that bares the fact that a person is getting gray hairs. As age comes upon you, you look in the glass and see that the change slowly's coming to pass.

A wee little touch of the gray, by your ears, will set you to thinking back over the years. You wonder what causes the gray to creep through. Is age really telling its story on you?

You worry 'bout whether you've worried or not. And, is that to blame for the grayness you've got? The real thought, perhaps, that your mind will unfold, is just the idea that you're getting old.

And yet, after all, if you'll laugh at the gray, and know there's no harm in your turning that way, you still can go on in a youthful-like fling, for grayness of hair doesn't mean a blamed thing.

You're only as old as you act, after all. When spirit comes knocking, just answer the call. Arouse all the pep that you're leaving unused, and then, through your grayness, you still can feel young.

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Tom Sims Says

A cynic is a man who doesn't realize just how much obliged he really should be for living.

Maybe nickel cigars would be even cheaper if they didn't have to make them fireproof.

When a man leaves his wife she hasn't lost half so much as she thinks she has.

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THE SPUDZ FAMILY—By TALBURT



Radio Releases Are Taking on Regular Winter and Christmas Time Appearance

By Walter D. Hickman

PHONOGRAPH records follow the seasons and now they have on their winter attire.

Odeon has just announced the release of eighty-two Christmas selections in foreign languages. So on Christmas morning you can go to foreign lands and share in the music that is played upon such an occasion.

The artists on these numbers are prominent in Europe. One of the numbers include "Silent Night," sung by Emmy Betterdorf. The number on the other side is announced as an organ solo.

This song is also on a Victor as done by Schuman-Heink. This number is popular all year round, but it gets more popular around Christmas and Easter time.

Okeh announces four numbers from the Music Box Revue. They include "Tell Her in the Springtime," "Tokio Blues," "In the Shade of a Sheltering Tree" and "Listening." This company of the Music Box is now on tour of this country.

A NEW PIASTRO

Michel Piastro has just released a new Brunswick record. On one side you will hear "Irish Lament" and "Serenade," in G Major by Arensky. The pianoforte in both cases is by Maurice Madelle. This violinist, Piaastro, is becoming very popular in the Brunswick catalogue.

Those who enjoy male quartet singing and the radio and the phonograph proves that there are many of them, will be interested in a Brunswick release by the Criterion Male Quartet.

The record includes "The Unclouded Day" and "Life's Highway to Heaven."

Carl Fenton's new Brunswick number sars "Dreamy Carolina Moon" and "So Long, I'll See You Again."

Brunswick also offers Isham Jones in two hits, "I'm Tired of Everything" and "You Got 'em," both fox trots.

Okeh has a winner in two fox trots by the Melody Shells. The record includes that best seller, "I'm Knees Deep in Daisies" and "Brown Eyes, Why Are You Blue?"

BERT ERROL DOES SOME GOOD TALKING Bert Errol, English impersonator

of women, now at Keith's, has his idea about his profession.

Here is Errol's idea on the question:

"There is no art so misunderstood among the public as that of the female impersonator. No road to theatrical success is more difficult."

"I hate the miming, unhealthy impersonator who uses the cheap mannerisms of cheap women, dressing himself in giegaws and tinsel. But I believe it is possible for a man to impersonate with some consideration of the female character, in the same way as he might play the melancholy Dane. The man who plays Hamlet is not melancholy away from the stage."

"Othello does not rant and rave when the curtain goes down. In the same way, the same female im-

personator does not extend what is merely an amusing trick of acting to unnecessary and unhealthy extremes when he takes off the wig, when he becomes himself again.

"Thus I want the public to take my work as I present it an amusing, unserious play about an amusing and unserious idea."

"First of all, I want folks to understand that I do not take impersonating in the least seriously. To me it is an arch entertainment and I like to impress upon my public the tremendous difference between a female impersonator and a feminine impersonator."

"The first is a legitimate art which started in England when Shakespeare's women characters were played by men. In Japan, China and the theaters of earlier Elizabethan, England, the female impersonator was a recognized part of the theatrical profession."

"But I don't want you to think in the same way of the feminine impersonator, who gloses his eyes and does what the Americans might call 'Put Across the Theda Bara Stuff,' that is silly."

"Please remember the vast difference between being a feminine impersonator and intelligently trying to portray, with the legitimate art of the theater, characterizations of women."

"There is an immense difference. I have established it on the stage and can rely on the intelligence of the audience to see the difference and acknowledge it."

Indianapolis theaters today offer: "The Gorilla" at English's; Bert Errol at Keith's; Paramount All Star Revue at the Palace; Western-hold's radio ship at the Lyric; "The Pony Express" at the Apollo; "The Midshipman" at the Ohio; "Kentucky Pride" at the Colonial; "The Beautiful City" at the Circle and "Bustin' Through" at the Ida.

A Thought

Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbor.—Zech. 8:16.

RUTH is strengthened by observation and time; pretenses by haste and uncertainty.—Tacitus.

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, 1422 New York Ave., Washington, D. C., enclosing 2 cents in stamps for reply. The Indianapolis Times will not accept any payment for answers to questions. All letters are confidential.—Editor.

What were the names and nature of the acts taxing various articles in the American colonies that finally led up to the Revolutionary War?

First an act, passed in 1733, known as the molasses act. It placed a tax of 6 pence a gallon on molasses. It was followed by the sugar act of 1764, placing a tax on sugar, and a year later by the stamp act, that put a duty on all legal documents and almanacs. The stamp act was repealed in 1766, but was followed in 1767 by the Townshend act that put a tax on tea, glass, paper and painter's materials. That act in particular incensed the colonies. It provided that some of the proceeds

should be used to pay the salaries of colonial governors and judges, and ordered the trial of revenue cases to be heard before judges without the presence of juries. The act, instigated the Boston tea party, after the colonies had protested to England, without avail, against the injustice of the tax.

Do grapefruit trees have to be grafted to bear fruit?

It is not necessary to graft grapefruit in order to make them bear, but in order to know what kind of fruit is to be produced. It is never at all certain what a seedling will produce, for each seedling is different.

What are the provisions concerning the admission of Canadians to the United States?

Native born Canadian citizens are freely admitted into this country. They are not considered as "immigrants." If they come with the in-

tention of residing permanently they have to pay a head tax of \$5, payable to the immigration officers at the border port of entry. The quota limitation does not apply to them. They are, however, subject to physical examination, and may be barred from admission if found to be infected with contagious or other dangerous disease.

How many Federal penitentiaries are there in the United States and where are they located?

There are only three federal penitentiaries. They are located at Atlanta, Georgia; Leavenworth, Kansas, and McNeil Island, Washington.

What is the proper pronunciation of the word "Versailles"?

In English it is pronounced "Yer-salls," the "e" being like that in fern. In French the pronunciation is "Verr-sa-ye," the "a" being as in "art."



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