

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.

Not Much Choice

THE voters of Indianapolis will elect a mayor Tuesday, thus perpetuating the political system of government of the city as opposed to the business system.

The voters must choose between two men, John L. Duvall, banker, county treasurer and politician, and Walter Myers, attorney and politician. Regardless of who is elected, the city government after the first of the year will be conducted for political purposes, just as it is conducted now and has been conducted for years. If Duvall is elected, it will be controlled by one group of politicians. If Myers is elected, it will be controlled by another.

The Duvall campaign is being conducted by George V. Coffin, political boss, and supported by William H. Armitage, political boss. The Myers campaign is being conducted by William Clauer, a remnant of the old Bell-Perron organization, and supported by most of the men who were members of that crowd.

Some effort is being made to convince the voters that Coffin is not nearly so powerful in the Duvall organization as many believe. But the effort is not convincing. At the meeting of the United Protestant Clubs at Cadle Tabernacle Saturday night George S. Elliott, head of the Marion County Klan, denounced Coffin. Duvall, who followed him on the platform, did not mention Coffin. A few minutes later the Sunday edition of the local Republican organ appeared on the streets with a column-long statement by Coffin, speaking as head of the Duvall organization, and insisting on the election of Duvall. Alongside his statement was one by Duvall. Up to the present writing Duvall has not denied that Coffin is the guiding influence of his campaign.

Myers has not denied that he is supported by the crowd which the newspaper that is backing him with so much enthusiasm now attempts to send to the penitentiary a few years ago. Myers will not deny this fact and if he is elected some of the old crowd doubtless will find its way back to the city hall.

There is just this distinction between the Myers following and that of Duvall, and it is so fine a distinction that possibly it does not mean much. The Duvall organization is headed and controlled by a single individual, a political boss powerful enough to appoint a United States Senator and to boss the government of the State of Indiana. There is real danger that this boss will control the city administration if Duvall is elected. On the other hand, the Myers organization has no outstanding boss, but it has within its ranks a number of men who have been more or less discredited.

In other words, the objectionable feature of the Duvall organization consists of the presence of one man, who apparently is all-powerful. In the Myers camp it consists of an unorganized group without much leadership, which might or might not become all-powerful.

As between the two, the voters of Indianapolis probably would take fewer chances in electing Myers—if there is such a thing as one political administration being better than another political administration.

A Transportation Dilemma

MOTOR bus lines, operating between cities in different States, are free to conduct their business as they see fit. They can run when they please, charge what they please, and suit themselves about equipment. State public utility commissions have no control over them. The United States Supreme Court has held that such traffic is interstate commerce, and that the States have no authority to interfere.

The Federal Government has done nothing about regulating interstate bus lines. Students of the transportation problem are skeptical about the advantages of a system of Fed-

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 Building, 322 W. New York Ave., Indianapolis, D. C. Indiana. Letters of inquiry and names of persons to whom answers can be given will be forwarded. All other questions will receive a personal reply. Under no circumstances will be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor.

Why are half-cut ships without their heads?

The head is very large and takes a great deal of room in packing for the market and in handling. The head has no food value and so it is discarded.

How much compensation can a dependent father or mother of a man who served in the World War receive? Can compensation be received from more than one son?

Pension or compensation is provided by the Federal Government for the dependent parents of men who fought in the World War. The pension to a dependent father is twenty dollars a month and the same is paid to a dependent mother. If both father

and mother are dependent the compensation is thirty dollars a month for the two. Compensation can only be paid, however, on the service of one son.

Is the bite of a tarantula dangerous?

It was formerly supposed to be fatal to life but recently it has been proved that the bite is not dangerous.

When should fruit and walnut trees be pruned?

In the spring before the sap begins to rise. This is also the best time for spraying.

With what people did the crackle glazes or enamels originate and how are they made?

Crackle glazes or enamels probably originated with the Chinese and are produced in the following manner: the glazes or enamel after application to the ware is deliberately made to craze. Coloring materials

such as cobalt, iron oxide, copper oxide, are rubbed into the cracks. The coloring material is retained in the craze marks, thus giving an old, cracked appearance. Any good glaze or enamel may be used for this purpose.

What is the best biography of Woodrow Wilson so far published?

It would be impossible to say which of the many lives of Wilson is the best. Indeed, this is entirely a matter of opinion. Among the outstanding ones already published might be mentioned that by his secretary, Joseph P. Tumulty, which had a wide sale and proved very popular; one by Josephus Daniels, one by David Lawrence, one by William E. Dodd and one by Eugene C. Brooks. There is one about to be published by Ray Stannard Baker who is the only biographer who has had access to Wilson's private papers.

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A Sermon for Today

By Rev. John R. Gunn

Text: "Canst thou bind the sweet influences of the Pleiades?"—Job 38:31.

MOST inconspicuous, least brilliant, and yet most observed, best known, best beloved of all the star groups in the heavens, are the modest, soft-shining Pleiades. Astronomers tell us that the sun, in its annual journey through the circle of the zodiac, reaches and is projected into that little star cluster of the Pleiades about the middle of the month of May, the season of excellence of flowers and of the earth's greatest beauty, and in olden times people believed that it was "the sweet influences of the Pleiades" that gave to the sun at this time his genial power and through him to our earth her gorgeous robes of glorious flowers and her aromatic

earthly fragrance. Their influence is to multiply and spread. So it is in the world of human life. Every good thing you say and do yields an influence which possesses an element of self-propagation.

Like the Pleiades, you may not be

very brilliant or conspicuous, but in your lowly position, living a quiet,

simple life, speaking a kind word

and doing a good deed whenever you

can, you may send forth into the

world an immeasurable influence for

good, an influence that will be for

ever registering itself in manifold

forms and in places you never sus-

pect.

All this Job must have had in

mind when he asked, "Canst thou

bind the sweet influences of the

Pleiades?" Here is an apt metaphor

of human life. There is no way to

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RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

OUT OF DEBT

ICHMOND, Ind., today pays off the last of the bonded indebtedness—maturing between 1930 and 1940—on its municipal electric light plant. The enterprise also has a cash surplus of \$50,000 to meet depreciation charges.

Three years ago this plant was like the average municipally managed utility. It was run down at the heel, in debt \$387,000, piling up a deficit, and giving poor service. Today it is out of debt, the service is good, and it is selling cheaper than the rates in any other city in Indiana. It is said that

the metamorphosis wasn't the result of a miracle or of the waving of a wand by a good little fairy.

For three years the plant has been operated as a business enterprise on a non-partisan basis. The manager and his subordinates have been picked on the strength of their knowledge of electrical rather than political machines—and have been kept in their places regardless of the ebb and flow of city politics.

Such astonishing results can be accomplished by the introduction of business methods and nonpartisanship in municipal affairs in Richmond how much more could be accomplished by an non-partisan business administration of city affairs in Indianapolis with its \$7,000,000 budget.

How likely are we get such an administration at the election tomorrow? Are George V. Coffin and other astring machine politicians sweating themselves transparent for that purpose or for the usual municipal spoils?

DAREDEVIL DRIVING STUNTS

HANDCUFFED to the steering wheel of his automobile, a stunt driver is now engaged in an attempt to drive 100 hours through the streets of Indianapolis without stopping his car or resting. He has performed the feat in several cities.

Another stunt driver, the so-called "blindfolded auto marvel," is scheduled to drive today through downtown Indianapolis while blindfolded. He is said to have driven blindfolded a mile a minute on dirt roads—without damaging anything but a speed law.

These two stunts ought to be very edifying to the peaceful burghers of Indianapolis. Our national speedsters and reckless drivers don't make our street traffic sufficiently spicy and thrilling.

Just what do such freak stunts demonstrate? They don't test out any new feature of automotive engineering or prove the motor car's economy of operation or dependability. They advance the automobile industry about as much as a leap from the monument with a parachute would help aviation.

A motorist slightly blinded with a few inches of moonshine is considered a menace to other street traffic. He is arrested and charged with reckless driving and a string of liquor offenses as long as his arm.

A locomotive engineer is prohibited from remaining at his throttle longer than sixteen consecutive hours. It has been proved that a longer period dulls his alertness and makes him unsafe in an emergency. And a locomotive runs on private rails, not on city streets. Automobile driving calls for as much alertness and perfect coordination of brain and hand as running a locomotive.

If in city traffic the 100-hours endurance feat and the blindfold driving stunt aren't reckless driving—against which the police occasionally warn—what is?

THE HERO CROP

HARRY NAUMAN, a crossing watchman at Hammond, Ind., has been awarded a bronze medal by the Carnegie hero fund commission. At the risk of his own life he snatched a woman from the tracks in front of a speeding passenger train.

He was the only Hoosier to be awarded a medal at the fall meeting of the Carnegie commission which recognized thirty-two acts of conspicuous heroism.

The hero crop is short this year. Last fall forty-eight Carnegie medals were awarded—nine of them to residents of Indiana.

The hero crop ever short?

No doubt Harry Nauman and the thirty-one other winners of medals were heroes and deserved public recognition. They unhesitatingly risked—and in many cases lost—their lives for others. But true heroism is not easily re-

duced to statistics and medals in the Carnegie commission manner.

In tense moments of excitement and spiritual exaltation almost any man will storm a trench or perform deeds of daring. Such a one is, of course, a hero. But so are many who have never dashed into the water after an imperiled bather or attracted the public eye. Many who face adversity undaunted and carry on uncomplainingly through their daily drudgery are truly heroic.

Heroism is of the soul not the body. The stuff of which heroes are made does not always show

on the outside.

MATRIMONIAL SLIP KNOTS

LAST year the marriage business in Indiana declined, according to statistics compiled by United States Department of Commerce. Marriages in the State in 1923 numbered 40,971, while in 1924 there were only 36,368 couples united.

But comparing the two years, divorces—according to the report—more than held its own. In 1923 one divorce to every six and one-half marriages; in 1924 one to every five marriages.

There's record for sociologists to view with alarm. The ratio of divorces to marriages in Marion County for the two years will give them additional quivers. Here in 1923 and 1924 there was approximately one divorce for every three marriages.

Truly in the Hoosier capital matrimonial knots seem to be slip knots.

The large and growing number of divorces in this country worry public press and social authorities. The divorce evil, they say, is wrecking American standards of morality, the homes, and will smash American civilization. Unless it is checked, the more lugubrious say, another generation or so will see our national morals no better than those of the harlot and white-slaver.

Certainly the country's divorce record is not cheering; too many matrimonial knots founder from trivial causes, such as burned hot cakes, snoring or an Easter hat. But only a small percentage of divorces are sought for such trivial reasons.

Over 80 per cent of Indiana's divorces are obtained by wives. Cruelty, failure to provide, abandonment and drunkenness are the principal grounds. Who will say that a wife isn't entitled to freedom from the marital yoke for any of those causes?

Probably there is just as much conjugal happiness in country as ever, only less disposition to martyrdom in intolerable unions. Wives no longer suffer in silent abuse and mistreatment. They have decided they are human beings with some personal rights, not doormats.

Just a few such as moonshine, a few inches of moonshine to make an evening dress.

Being hurt at times isn't half so painful as going through life afraid to try anything.

It is easy for a girl to find a husband. Her difficulty is finding a single man.

The things you neglect do not matter half so much as the neglecting of them does.

Character is about like muscle. If you are not called upon to use either it becomes soft and flabby.

The fellow with a grinch wishes he wasn't.

Among the symptoms of love are a vacant feeling inside and an enlarged vocabulary.

A hypocrite is a man who eats clover to make his friends believe he has had a drink.

A man is known by the company he keeps from yawning.

Are you broke, or did you have your winter coal charged?

Talking about what big fires they have in hell won't make a little boy want to go to heaven.

There is one bad habit worse than all the others. It is the habit of forming bad habits.

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A Thought

So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.—Eph. 5: 28.

All other goods by fortune's hands are given; a wife is the peculiar gift of Heaven.—Pope.

THE SPUDZ FAMILY—By TALBURST



FAIL TO GET BALLOTS

Clauer Says Democratic Voters Get Empty Envelopes.

Charges that seven of ten Democratic voters in one precinct who applied for absent voters' ballots failed to receive them were made by William E. Clauer