

The Indianapolis Times

ROY W. HOWARD, President.

WM. A. MAYBORN, Bus. Mgr.

Member of the Scripps-Howard Newsprint Alliance • • • Client of the United Press and the NEA Service

• • • Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Published daily except Sunday by Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-220 W. Maryland St., Indianapolis. • • • Subscription Rates: Indianapolis—Ten Cents a Week. Elsewhere—Twelve Cents a Week. • • • PHONE—MA in 2300.

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.

To the Stockholders of a Big Corporation

THIS is addressed to the 77,000 voters of Indianapolis who did not go to the polls Tuesday, and to all other voters who went simply out of a sense of duty and not because they believed the outcome of the election really would make any particular difference. In other words, we are addressing the majority of the voters of Indianapolis.

You are stockholders in a great corporation. Your monetary holdings may be large or small, but every one of you is interested. This is a mutual corporation. It is organized for one purpose and one only, and that purpose is service to the stockholders. You stockholders employ the men and women who operate the affairs of this corporation which, by the way, is among the biggest in the country. These men and women are sworn to serve you stockholders and you only.

But the affairs of this corporation, representing an investment of more than six hundred million dollars have been mismanaged. Instead of being operated for the benefit of all the stockholders it is operated for the benefit of the officers and employees and their friends. They are spending your money, paid in by assessment, for the purpose of furthering their own ambitions. Service to the stockholders is incidental.

Think of it. A \$600,000,000 corporation operated for the benefit of the officers and employees and profit and service for the 350,000 stockholders only incidental! Why don't the stockholders immediately remove these officers and employees and substitute men and women who have the interest of the stockholders at heart? The answer is that this corporation is a governmental unit and not a business in the usual sense of the word. The corporation we refer to is, of course, the city of Indianapolis.

Supposing the same state of affairs prevailed in a bank, or in an insurance company, or in any corporation representing a large capitalization and intrusted with the expenditure of large sums of money. The stockholders and depositors would be storming the doors.

A city is not essentially different from any other kind of big business enterprise. It is organized for one purpose, that of serving the public. It should be operated on this basis. Its government should be organized along the same lines as the management of any other business. Other big cities have recognized this fact and have adopted the city manager form of government. Indianapolis eventually will do the same thing.

When Coolidge Goes to Congress

PRETTY soon President Coolidge must read to Congress another annual message. He is now giving thought to what he will put in it.

It is an important matter. The success of any President depends largely on his ability to obtain the cooperation of Congress in carrying out his policies. The present generation of voters witnessed how successful a President could be in the first four years of Woodrow Wilson's Administration, when more constructive legislation was passed, probably, than in any other four years of the Government's history. It witnessed likewise how unsuccessful a President could be in Wilson's second four years, when—excluding his war measures—he met rebuff at nearly every turn.

Measured by this standard, Coolidge has all his success yet to achieve.

In the matter of the coming message he might, if he followed his ideal of economy, simply write a note saying: "See my message of two years ago." For the recommendations of his first message to Congress have failed almost completely of adoption.

COOLIDGE, in his contact with Congress, thus far has come off badly. Leaving out the unprecedented manner in which Congress forced him to dismiss corrupt and incompetent members of his Cabinet and forced him to withdraw one nomination thereto, and considering only the purely legislative side, Coolidge has got the worst of it. Here is the record:

In his message of December, 1923, Coolidge recommended our adherence to the World Court. Nothing has been done.

He recommended the Mellon tax plan, giving primary consideration to the big fellows and secondary consideration to the little fellows. Congress turned the proposal around, giving first consideration to the little fellows and less consideration to the big.

He recommended the abolition of the right to issue tax-exempt securities. Nothing done.

He recommended further legislation to aid the consolidation of railroad systems and

entire reorganization of the freight rate structure. Nothing done.

He recommended the strengthening of the coast guard fleet to enable it to deal more effectively with liquor smugglers. Fleet strengthened.

He recommended civil service classification for first, second and third-class postmasters and repeal of the four-year term. Nothing done.

He recommended a separate department of education. Nothing done.

He recommended registration of all aliens. Nothing done.

He recommended a refusal of the bonus to soldiers. Passed and repassed over his veto.

He recommended legislation giving him authority to name a coal commission "empowered to deal with whatever emergency situation might arise." Nothing done.

He recommended Government reorganization legislation. Nothing done.

He recommended that farmers, for the most part, be left to work out their own salvation. For the most part they have been so left.

He recommended the appointment of a committee to determine whether or not and to whom, if any one, Muscle Shoals should be sold. Committee appointed.

That summarizes the important suggestions in his message of two years ago and what happened to them. The President must now make these suggestions all over again and make them sound new, if possible.

An Odd Invitation to Mr. Duke

ACCORDING to a story going the rounds in North Carolina, the late James B. Duke received a very special invitation to come home to die. When it appeared that his days on this earth were numbered a delegation of North Carolinians waited upon him at his New Jersey home. They suggested they would like to have him breath his last as a resident of the commonwealth where he was born and where he accumulated the larger share of his fortune.

NOT LIKE THE BOOK

THE Indianapolis indorsers of photoplays are disappointed that the moving picture "Romola," does not exactly follow George Elliott's famous novel of that name, from which the movie was taken. They will write to the producer of the picture voicing their gripe.

The reasons for this odd invitation were partly sentimental, but mostly practical. The committee, so the story goes, pointed out that if Mr. Duke died while maintaining his home in North Carolina the State treasury would gain several millions dollars. The inheritance tax law of North Carolina provides a tax of 6 per cent on bequests of more than \$1,000,000 to immediate relatives. The tax on the Duke estate of approximately \$150,000,000, the bulk of which went to a 13-year-old daughter, would have netted well over \$5,000,000 to North Carolina if the late tobacco magnate had had his residence in his native State when he died.

It was argued that Mr. Duke owed much of his wealth to North Carolina and that if an inheritance tax must be paid that State should get the benefit. It is said he found the argument appealing, and was making preparations to go home to die when death overtook him in New Jersey. As a result of that accident New Jersey will benefit handsomely from an inheritance tax which Mr. Duke seems to have been disposed to give to North Carolina.

If news of his illness had reached Florida, a committee from that enthusiastic State might have appeared to urge Mr. Duke to come and die there—free of charge. If advised in time, South Carolina, the source of a liberal share of his fortune which was acquired through electric power development, might have been able to present some distinct advantage to be had in dying there.

The case of Mr. Duke suggests a new field of competitive State activity which barely has been scratched. Unless there emerges from the present tax parleys in Washington a plan to equalize State inheritance tax rates, an era of cut-throat State competition is in sight.

And even if the various State tax rates are equalized there will still remain the problem which faced Mr. Duke, that of finding himself unable, by the accident of domicile, to transfer his inheritance tax to the State which had been his principal partner in the making of his fortune. Until it is possible to bequeath inheritance taxes, as well as the property on which the taxes are assessed, there will remain an essential injustice in the system of collection of death duties by States. Although the question of expediency may overshadow that of justice, it cannot completely obliterate the fact that a man's fortune is more entitled to the tax on his estate than the State in which he happens to have his home when he dies.

He recommended the abolition of the right to issue tax-exempt securities. Nothing done.

He recommended further legislation to aid the consolidation of railroad systems and

A Sermon for Today

By Rev. John R. Gunn

Text—"That ye may be strengthened with power through His spirit in the inward man."—Eph. 3:16.

JOHN MILTON said: "There is nothing that makes men rich and strong, but that which they have inside of them. Wealth is of the heart not of the hand." Not what you hold in your hand, but what you hold in your heart—that is the true wealth, the wealth of enriched and strong manhood.

In his "Apology," Socrates, the great philosopher of ancient times, says: "For I do nothing but go about trying to persuade you all, old and young alike, not to take thought for your persons, or your properties, but first and chiefly to care about the greatest improvement of the soul." There is much need for persuasion along this line in these days. (Copyright, 1925, by John R. Gunn

RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

DRY LAW VIOLATIONS

ATORNEY GENERAL GIL LIOM, in a recent letter to the prosecuting attorneys of the State, states that in May and June—the first two months under the new Indiana dry law—there were 5,098 prosecutions in the State on liquor charges.

Booze is without a serious rival as the leading Hoosier crime. Obviously Indiana isn't quite bone dry despite the Legislature's intention. However, judging from the number of arrests, officers are hopefully welding their mops.

In the two months' total of violations, given by the attorney general, only 1,200 cases involved charges of making, owning a still, transportation, blind tiger and selling. More than three-fourths of all charges were for possession or intoxication.

Attempt to enforce prohibition by pursuing and arresting earnest private drinkers has resulted in a vast number of cases—but doesn't prohibit. It's like trying to quell a typhoid epidemic by chasing and shooting each individual germ.

Three-fourth of the stuff now being drunk is colored alcohol, say Washington dry authorities. Little whisky is coming out of government-controlled warehouses, they say, and the output of moonshine stills is comparatively negligible.

If government would concentrate their efforts on the big sources of alcohol supply and the wholesale and retail dealers in booze the earnest private drinkers—whose imbibings now make up the bulk of our liquor violations—will dry up of their own accord. Prohibition can never be enforced by merely chasing thirsts.

NOT LIKE THE BOOK

THE Indianapolis indorsers of photoplays are disappointed that the moving picture "Romola," does not exactly follow George Elliott's famous novel of that name, from which the movie was taken. They will write to the producer of the picture voicing their gripe.

The reasons for this odd invitation were partly sentimental, but mostly practical. The committee, so the story goes, pointed out that if Mr. Duke died while maintaining his home in North Carolina the State treasury would gain several millions dollars. The inheritance tax law of North Carolina provides a tax of 6 per cent on bequests of more than \$1,000,000 to immediate relatives. The tax on the Duke estate of approximately \$150,000,000, the bulk of which went to a 13-year-old daughter, would have netted well over \$5,000,000 to North Carolina if the late tobacco magnate had had his residence in his native State when he died.

It was argued that Mr. Duke owed much of his wealth to North Carolina and that if an inheritance tax must be paid that State should get the benefit. It is said he found the argument appealing, and was making preparations to go home to die when death overtook him in New Jersey. As a result of that accident New Jersey will benefit handsomely from an inheritance tax which Mr. Duke seems to have been disposed to give to North Carolina.

If news of his illness had reached Florida, a committee from that enthusiastic State might have appeared to urge Mr. Duke to come and die there—free of charge. If advised in time, South Carolina, the source of a liberal share of his fortune which was acquired through electric power development, might have been able to present some distinct advantage to be had in dying there.

The case of Mr. Duke suggests a new field of competitive State activity which barely has been scratched. Unless there emerges from the present tax parleys in Washington a plan to equalize State inheritance tax rates, an era of cut-throat State competition is in sight.

And even if the various State tax rates are equalized there will still remain the problem which faced Mr. Duke, that of finding himself unable, by the accident of domicile, to transfer his inheritance tax to the State which had been his principal partner in the making of his fortune. Until it is possible to bequeath inheritance taxes, as well as the property on which the taxes are assessed, there will remain an essential injustice in the system of collection of death duties by States. Although the question of expediency may overshadow that of justice, it cannot completely obliterate the fact that a man's fortune is more entitled to the tax on his estate than the State in which he happens to have his home when he dies.

He recommended the abolition of the right to issue tax-exempt securities. Nothing done.

He recommended further legislation to aid the consolidation of railroad systems and

that the matter of property is to be treated indifferently, but men need to be persuaded that a man's life consists not in the abundance of the things he possesses. Not that the care of the person is to be neglected, but men need to be persuaded that the thing of paramount importance is the culture of the soul. The soul must be developed, if we would attain to spiritual manhood, as surely as the body must be developed, if we would attain to physical manhood.

Paul writing to Timothy speaks of a "gymnastic unto godliness." In our day much attention is being paid to gymnastics devoted to physical culture. This is well enough. But to be a Jack Dempsey in the realm of the physical and a pigmy in the realm of the moral and spiritual, is to be a monstrosity rather than a man.

(Copyright, 1925, by John R. Gunn

THE SPUDZ FAMILY—By TALBURST



Ask The Times

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times Washington Bureau, 1220 16th St., N. W., Washington, D. C., inclosing 10 cents in postage for reply. Medical, legal and other questions will receive an extended research. All other questions will receive a personal reply. Under no circumstances will any name be used. All letters are confidential.

Who was Sir Roger Casement? An Irishman who was captured while attempting to land on the Irish Coast from a German submarine during the World War. He was tried and executed as a German spy.

Where in the Bible is the quotation about sparing the rod and spoiling the child found?

Proverbs 13:24 reads, "He that sparing his rod hateth his son; but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes."

What railroad owns the largest steam locomotive?

The largest steam locomotive is said to be owned and operated by the Virginia Railroad. It is a Mallet-compound type and working single has a tractive power of 176,000 pounds. The locomotive alone weighs 634,000 pounds and with the tender 898,300 pounds.

Tune in on WFBM (268)



NO NEED to worry about the children when you send them to the grocers after dark for a forgotten item.

No need to be afraid when hubby is late in getting home.

Those new lamp columns in your neighborhood bring safety and cheerfulness to your street. They add to the appearance of your city and make property worth more.

The stranger is well impressed with the appearance of your city when it is well lighted.

"Light is the best policeman."

Merchants Heat & Light Company

An Electric Utility devoted to the Best Interests of those whom it serves.

"THE DAYLIGHT CORNER"
INDIANAPOLIS