

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.

From a Farm House at Pekin

IT really is too bad that John L. Duvall, mayor-elect, can not move the seat of the government of Indianapolis to that farm house near Pekin, Ill., to which he fled following his election. It would be much pleasanter for him, because it is inaccessible to all but such leading politicians as the Hon. William H. Armitage.

It will not be a pleasant reunion when Duvall returns to Indianapolis. He has put himself under obligations to too many persons. There is the Ku-Klux Klan, which contends it elected him, and there is George V. Coffin, who contends he elected him, and there is Armitage, who contends he swung the negro precincts and elected him.

The trouble is that the Klan wants all the appointments and Coffin wants all the appointments and Armitage wants at least his share. Obviously each one can't have all the appointments. Duvall, following the usual procedure of politicians who have found themselves in such a situation, has tried to pass the appointments around. The result is that everybody is sore.

Of course, there might still be some benighted individual who would contend that the public welfare should have something to do with the appointments. But this individual probably is one of the many who did not even take the trouble to vote on election day.

How long will the voters of Indianapolis submit to a system that makes possible such occurrences as the present Duvall mess?

'Human Husks'

Ajury at Littleton, Colo., has disagreed on the question of whether taking the life of a mentally and physically deformed human being is murder. Following the disagreement, the State has dismissed charges against the father who deliberately took the life of his daughter, described as a "human husk," and the father today is a free man.

The question is an old one and one about which there always has been much discussion. It is no nearer solution than ever. Dr. Osler, a famous scientist, is frequently quoted as having advanced the theory that persons over 60 years old should be chloroformed. That is the extreme side of the case and obviously Dr. Osler was not serious.

On the other hand, there have been many scientists and some social workers who have advanced the idea that the most humane treatment of such "human husks" as the girl who was killed by her father should be painlessly done away with. Our insane hospitals are full of such "human husks," many of whom apparently are incapable of any mental reactions. They are burdens to themselves and to the world.

Of course, the idea of putting such persons to death is horrible to most people. But the subject of really humane disposition of such "human husks" is an interesting one.

An Economist's Views on Taxation

SECRETARY MELLON has amassed many millions in banking and in aluminum, oil, whisky and other industries. He is easily among the first dozen of the country's practical big business men. His views on taxation are entitled to a respectful hearing.

There is, however, no reason to regard Mellon as an oracle, or to accept his recommendations as the final word on taxation. It should be remembered that Mellon's reactions are unavoidably those of a man who was born immensely rich, who has accumulated greater riches, and whose experiences in taxation have

An Ideal Newspaper

By Harry Daniel in The Thrift Magazine.

MANY well meaning persons who are not engaged in newspaper work have been trying recently to persuade the newspapers either to eliminate all crime reports or print them some place back with the dandruff and lumbago announcements.

As a matter of fact, crime news is a cheery commentary on the triumphs of civilization. One reason so many of us are always missing our trains or getting carried by our corners on street cars is because we find the exploits of our faithful criminals of such absorbing interest.

It is not the obvious that intrigues us. It is the unusual, the unexpected. If the president of the First National Bank puts a school boy on the head or presides at a drive for near-sighted poets, we find ourselves incapable of excitement. But if the same banker should kick a school boy through a plate glass window or toss a bomb into a herd of near-sighted, far-sighted or second-sighted poets, the very timbers of the building would be wrenched

stamp out automobile accidents, boll weevil, war, the radio lecturer and whooping cough! Even Congress happily, might be suppressed by a united press refusing to run any congressional speeches ahead of the indictment and complete loss of newspaper. And what, mayhap, will the ideal newspaper then print? Manifestly, the managing editor of that halcyon day will have for his front page make-up an array of facts and fables much as follows:

Column 1—Description of the flora and fauna of the upper Wabash valley. Column 2—Interview with grocer's boy on bringing home the bacon. Column 3—Description of the wreck of the Hesperus by an eye witness. Column 4—President Harrison's views on the Canadian seal fisheries. Column 5—List of school children who have been neither tardy nor absent since January 1. Column 6—Vivid pen picture of how the tooth-pick was invented.

Now! From the standpoint of mob psychology, we are not interested in Calvin and Alvin till someone gives them arsenic.

The argument is advanced by some theorists of police court phenomena that constant public reports of crime encourage the base instincts through the power of suggestion. Take away the printed incentive and crime will cease, just like that. If this be true, then, by virtue of the same logic, demonstrated through the medium of an innocuous and toothless press, why not at one fell swoop, as it were,

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THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

A Sermon for Today

By Rev. John R. Gunn

Text: "Set your affection on things above, not on things of this earth." Col. 3:2.

SOME years ago a prominent literary man was teaching a school in the Far West. He found that his boys were wasting all their leisure time reading "dime novels." To break this up, he made a bargain with them. For one month he gave them their choice to go back to the dime novels, or vice versa. The boys unanimously voted to banish the trashy literature. They no longer cared for that rubbish which had once fascinated them, because a higher fascination possessed them.

Herein is the secret of triumphant Christian living. We escape from the world only as we rise above it and "set our affections on things above, not on things of the earth."

(Copyright, 1925, by John R. Gunn)

largely been in the nature of warding off the encroachments of the taxing power.

It is interesting to note the views of another sort of tax authority, Prof. Ernest Minor Patterson of the Wharton School of Finance of the University of Pennsylvania. Professor Patterson approaches the subject, as a student and an economist, from the standpoint of the country at large. His ideas are set forth in a recent issue of *The New Republic*.

Space will not permit examination of the intricate arguments advanced in support of Professor Patterson's conclusions. Their variance with the recommendations of Secretary Mellon, however, are at once apparent. Patterson says:

1. Income tax publicity should not be repealed.

2. Federal expenditures are increasing, rather than decreasing.

3. The national debt should be reduced with all possible speed.

4. Rapid liquidation of the debt is not injuring business and cannot do so.

5. Lower rates of income tax are not bringing higher yields but lower, particularly from large incomes, and the rates actually paid are much less than commonly believed.

6. Income taxes should not be reduced at all, but if they are, reductions should come in the lower and not in the higher brackets.

7. Inheritance taxes can be most satisfactorily handled with the Federal Government cooperating, and are a justifiable and democratic way of obtaining revenue.

Think Many Times

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

THE PRESIDENT of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs says that every man should think twice before picking his wife.

Making it half a dozen would be safer yet.

To a man nothing is quite so important as the sort of wife he gets. Of course, you can't tell boys this and expect them to believe it, but it is very true that the women men marry either make or mar their whole existence.

Some men are strong enough to rise to great heights either in business or the professions tied to women who only handicap them and never give any aid in their struggles. But even to these the greatest thing in life is lacking, no matter how many dollars or how many laurels they may accumulate.

A weak woman can destroy her husband's strength; a mercenary woman can sap his honor; a complaining woman can ruin his disposition; a cold woman can harden his heart; a foolish woman can deaden his spirit; a mean woman can destroy his soul.

A majority of men who lead happy lives and climb up in the world will attribute a large portion of their success to their wives. And this is not merely a chivalrous gesture; they mean it.

I doubt whether the dear old Pilgrim fathers, to whom we point with such pride, would ever have mustered up the courage to stick in young America without the Pilgrim mothers to bolster them up now and then.

The pioneer wives and sisters and daughters are even more responsible for the development of this nation than the men who hewed the forest paths into the wild.

Every man who has gone into the wilderness and there built a civilization; every leader who has blazed new trails of thought; every earnest struggling soul who has climbed a hair's breadth above his station, has a woman to whom he looked for inspiration and aid, and in most cases she was his wife.

There are many ways in which the gods bless men, but no one thing else has ever been given to any man that means as much to his happiness, his success, or his soul, as the right sort of a woman to marry.

SALARY CUTS TO STAND

THE State legislative finance committee, which recently trimmed some of the fat off the State salary list, much to the agony of Statehouse circles, is expected to let the salary cuts stand, despite the ruling of the attorney general that the body cannot change salaries heretofore fixed by law.

If it persists in its determination court action by some of the aggrieved officers is probable. Those attached to the State pay roll are earnestly and tearfully in favor of reducing the cost of State government, but they don't want the spirit of economy to settle on their own salaries.

Perhaps the committee erred in some of the proposed revisions. Nevertheless it attacked a difficult problem with commendable zeal. If it made mistakes they were of the head, not the heart—and its schedule should be adopted without material alteration.

Indiana taxpayers want less costly government. They can only get it by reductions in State expenditures. Campaign oratory won't do it.

A major fraction of the money spent for maintaining the Indiana State government goes for the pay of employees and officers of the various departments, boards, bureaus and institutions. Under the circumstances it would be a weak-kneed economy effort that would ignore the salary list.

If the present administration is as addicted to economy as claimed it must reduce the number of State employees or the remuneration of some. It can't effect a great deal of saving by more careful oversight of the lead pencils and erasers supplied various departments.

It would be too bad if some of the holders of State posts would refuse to accept salary cuts and would resign in consequence. But that wouldn't hamstring State government. Doubtless George V. Coffin, if sufficiently urged, could find others for the vacated places.

REIGN OF TERROR

BOOKER DAVIDSON, 19-year-old colored youth, arrested by the police Tuesday, admitted that in three nights he had attacked, beaten and robbed nine women pedestrians. Each night he had stolen an automobile for use in that night's business.

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We are naturally the slaves of the best, the brightest, that we know. Nothing can deliver us from the fascination of earthly things, but the higher fascination of heavenly things.

The best way to overcome temptation is to transcend it. The best way to conquer mean and narrow selfishness is by that nobler and grander selfishness which is ready to lose its life for the sake of the life eternal. The best way to escape peril of worldliness is to set your affection on the immortal treasures and delights of the world above.

"Set your affection." Mark the word "set." You at once see the force of the word. You need not let your affections run riot. By the exercise of your will you can direct and fix your mind and heart on things above. Let this be done, and you will find yourself more and more possessed by the higher fascination of the upper world.

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RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

is mired up to its waist in mediævalism—not much better than forging clanking chains on the unfortunate and consigning them to dark dungeons.

MORTGAGES ON THE OLD HOMESTEAD

CHALES L. KETTLEBOROUGH, director of the legislative reference bureau, and statistician extraordinary, reports that Hoosier farm and city real estate was mortgaged for over \$600,000,000 at the close of last year. An increase of \$10,000 over the mortgage indebtedness the previous year.

The figures seem to indicate that the old homestead is sinking more deeply into the mire of debt.

But the situation is not so desperate as it seems. Despite the portly total of indebtedness, farm mortgages in the State only amount to 10 per cent of the assessed valuation of farm property, and mortgages on city property to 21 per cent of the assessed valuation of city real estate.

And Hoosier farmers, during the year, paid off a larger percentage of their indebtedness than the city property owners. Apparently the farmers are coming out of the woods.

Mortgages aren't really as bad as they are painted. In the "East Lynne" type of "drammer" the mortgages are depicted as a villainous creature with waxed mustache. It always pounces on the old homestead in the worst blizzard of winter and throws poor Nell and her pa and ma out into the snowdrifts to the accompaniment of quavery music.

Actually real estate mortgages are not of reptilian nature, anxious to squash innocent householders and husbandmen to raw omelet. They are hard working members of society, indispensables financial instruments. Without their assistance many city and farm renters could never graduate into the owner class.

It is only when mortgages are incurred for needless luxuries, and become aids to extravagance instead of thrift, that they growl, show their teeth, and give the hapless borrower nightmares.

'Cave Men' Going to Shake Mean Hoof

WABASH College shelves are going to strut their stuff Saturday night, Nov. 21, at Crawfordsville.

Posters on display here tell all about it.

"Bring Your Bob-Haired Bozo to Wabash's First and Finest Blanket Hop," the card advises.

And it carries the further information that the purpose is to furnish "Football Togs for Fighting Football Fellows," and that "Peyton's Passionate Peerless Pastimers" will provide the jazz.

And to cap the climax Charlestons are promised relief if the agility of the dance discomforts.

"Checkroom and Showers for Charlestons," says the card.