

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.

Dodging the Stockholders

CAN you imagine the newly elected head of a \$600,000,000 corporation running away from town and hiding from the stockholders of the corporation immediately after his election because he does not dare be present when he names the principal employees who are to serve the corporation? Such a move certainly would not inspire confidence on the part of the stockholders in their new executive. It would be more likely to inspire receivership action.

Yet that is exactly what the head of the \$600,000,000 corporation known as the city of Indianapolis has done. John L. Duvall is dodging around in Illinois because he does not dare to face the men who elected him mayor of Indianapolis. This is not so much an indication of weakness on the part of Duvall as it is an indication of the deplorable state of affairs into which Indianapolis has been allowed to drift.

Party politics has failed as a means of insuring competent city government. The system has been given a fair trial and it does not work. No man can be a good mayor if he has been hanging around his neck a millstone of campaign promise and obligations. He can not be his own master.

Indianapolis deserves more than it is getting in the way of city government. It deserves to have its municipal affairs conducted under the direction of the best available man, unencumbered by political obligations, and free to use his own best judgment in the administration of affairs which should be surely business.

Other cities are pulling themselves out of the political mud by means of the city manager form of government. This form has been tried long enough that we KNOW it works. The political form has been tried long enough that we KNOW it DOESN'T work. Indianapolis has the same opportunity and the same ability as other cities to right the wrongs that exist in its government.

We hear much about boosting Indianapolis. The biggest boost that could be given the city would be a sound and sensible city government.

Will Submarines Be Outlawed?

FOLLOWING the tragedy of the M-1, lost off the English coast with all on board, the British are again agitating for the abolition of subs.

Now if you didn't know the British you might be inclined to call them quitters. But you know better. They are not quitters. They are not afraid to die. Then why the move to outlaw submarines on the ground that they are dangerous?

The answer is very simple. Britain has never got over the scare the German U-boats gave her during the World War. She came within an ace of being starved into submission. It was a mighty close shave and the ever-present thought that the next time the enemy might turn the trick is a constant nightmare to her.

Britain today fears two weapons of war: the submarine and the airplane. Her "splendid isolation" has gone forever, thanks to aircraft, while a powerful enemy with enough subs could quickly bring her to her knees by starvation. She would joyously see both these instruments of war outlawed, and admits it.

But will they be? Hardly. Aircraft is destined to serve in the future as peacetime common carriers— instruments of commerce. They will not be outlawed any more than automobiles. Yet overnight these commercial ships of the air can be turned into devastating engines of war. While as to submarines there are certain countries to which they offer very positive advantages. France, Italy, Germany, Russia and Japan, for example.

Japan, though an island like England, considers the submarine one of her most effective weapons.

Don't Be a Dumbbell

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

HOPE she is a beautiful dumbbell," a new mother is alleged to have said when she found that her baby was a daughter.

One gets the inference, of course. Beautiful and dumb. They tell us that girls, in order to be happy, should always come that way. But how untrue that is.

Out of the whole world of women there are, after all, only a very small number of beauties. The vast majority of us are only passably good looking.

It is indeed wonderful to be given the high gift of beauty, but in spite of everything said upon the subject, beautiful dumbbells are seldom happy. The dumbbells weep oftenest and most loudly; the dumbbells are forever asking for something they

can not have and whining because they are denied. It is the dumbbells who get married and divorced most regularly. It is the dumbbells who go up and down the earth making grief for themselves and others.

Brains are as great an asset for women as for men. Only people of intelligence get any true happiness out of life. For unto them is given a vision that the dumbbells never glimpse. And while women of force and personality may not often grab the millionaires, still in the last analysis they get more richness out of life than dollars can ever give.

We praise too highly the physical loveliness which fades and think too seldom of the mental and spiritual charm which vanishes not.

We women have come to believe that our chief aim in life is to get

a man—and perhaps it is—but we should at least make it our ambition to get one who is worth the getting, and certainly he who would marry us for our face alone is not that sort.

And the dumbbell who never gets her man—sometimes that too happens—is the most miserable of human beings, while there are plenty of women with brains who can and do live very comfortably and happily without men.

Do not wish ever that your daughter be beautiful and dumb. Of that combination have come some of the worst fizzes of human existence, of such a partnership is crime often born. Wish for beauty if you will for your girl, but pray God that He temper it with some brains!

When will the "Student Prince" be played here? Week of Nov. 16, at English's.

Tattered Flag at School

Mr. Fixit

Let Mr. Fixit solve your troubles with city officials. He is The Times representative at the city hall. Write him at The Times.

Another instance of a tattered American flag on display was reported to Mr. Fixit today.

DEAR MR. FIXIT: I am a student of the Arsenal Technical High School and respect, Old Glory.

On the flagpole of a school at Market St. and Arsenal Ave. winds an old, tattered American flag that is in reality only a number of red, white and blue threads. It is torn to shreds and so dirty its colors are hardly conceivable.

I would like to know to whom I should apply for a removal of the object and the replacing of an American flag, one not a disgrace but an honor.

MIDGE.

Mr. Fixit is sure a few words by the pastor of the church that operates the school would result in action. Try it.

DEAR MR. FIXIT: Please ask the street commissioner if he hasn't a

few bricks he could put in the holes at Sanders and S. East Sts. Those poor holes went through one winter and the past summer and I feel sorry for them.

Of course you know I am speaking two words for the holes and one for my car.

HOOSIER TRAVELING MAN.

Your letters always are welcome, Mr. Traveler. Harry Stevens of the improved streets department promised an early investigation.

DEAR MR. FIXIT: How do I join the Legion here? What post do I look for?

OVERSEAS VETERAN.

See Frank H. Henley, Indiana department adjutant. He will accept your dues and assign you a post.

Do You Know?

The city will pay \$4,200 to publish one ordinance, the new building code.

DEAR MR. FIXIT: Please ask the street commissioner if he hasn't a

RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

TWO CENTS FOR TRANSFERS

THE Indianapolis Street Railway Company is petitioning the public service commission for authority to increase its transfer charges from 1 to 2 cents. Failure to earn expenses and fixed charges under existing rates is the company's plea.

Over a year ago the company, facing a mounting deficit, was granted a fare increase. The rate schedule then adopted was expected to fatten revenues \$500,000.

It didn't. The higher fare only produced an increase of \$100,000 in yearly revenue.

Income still fails to catch up with outgo—for the first nine months of 1925 street car operations resulted in a deficit of \$7,235.46 company officials say.

The proposed doubling of transfer rate. It is estimated that increase will boost receipts \$100,000 annually and will lead the harried trolley system out of its fiscal wilderness.

But will it?

Experience has shown that an increase in fares is offset by an increase in customers. A sort of squirrel-in-the-ceiling performance gets nowhere.

The plight of the street car line doubtless should arouse sympathy. Indianapolis can't dispense with electric transportation. It would be disastrous to have the system starve to death on its hands. And since 1919 the company has not paid a dividend on common stock and has passed seven quarterly dividends on preferred. That road inevitably leads to the junk pile.

The fundamental trouble is not inadequate rates but too few passengers. Henry Ford has demonstrated that the way to increase profits is to lower prices and widen the market. So while the Street Railway Company might secure temporary relief by doubling price of transfers there is little assurance that relief would be permanent. Its real problem is to woo back lost patrons. That can't be done by sandbagging present customers.

The conscientious motorist would get no place but over the hills to play with the dandies in company with other dandies if he tried to observe all the State and local automobile regulations. He fails an easy victim to every hick constable and officer who has a sudden rush to the head of minor infractions.

For instance, Indianapolis has an ordinance prohibiting more than three persons in the driver's seat. How much is that ordinance enforced? Perhaps some day a crusade will be ordered against that particular sin—and the carnage will be awful. Normally the ordinance slumbers amid the cobwebs, along with a lot of other forgotten traffic rules.

Fewer irritating, inconsequential rules would simplify the problem of automobile regulation from the standpoint of enforcement and the motorist would have greater respect for the law.

Where does the Indianapolis taxpayer get off when the wrong is settled? In the end he pays no matter whether the county or city is victorious.

Marion County and the City of Indianapolis are not separate geographical entities; they are pretty much off the same place.

Six-sevenths of the taxable values in Marion County are in Indianapolis and the city has a larger proportion of the county's population.

The taxpayers of both city and county are practically identical.

The resident of Indianapolis is the fiddler for both governments.

So when city and county carry their bridge dispute to the courts the Indianapolis taxpayer sues himself to settle the vital question whether he should pay for the bridge out of his right hand pocket or his left. And pays the cost of prosecuting and defending the suit. He doubles in brass and meets himself coming and going.

The doctor approaches and greets both the boys, and he tells them there's really no fear. "You fellows are helpin' by stoppin' all noise, and I'll sure tell your buddy you're here."

"Say, Doc," comes reply, "do the best ya know how, to help get our pal back in trim. Our football team's waitin' to play, an' somehow, we can't get along without him."

Just two little youngsters stand there alone and watch, 'stead of havin' their play. The home of their buddy's a strict quiet zone, 'cause the youngsters have made it that way.

... .

If I were the youngster there, sick in his bed, I feel that I'd find it quite hard, to find better friends, when it's all done and said, than the two little pals, standin' guard.

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GIRLS AND BRAINS

RAYMOND SANDERS, county attendance officer, says that in Marion County schools outside of Indianapolis girls make higher grades than boys. And more girls than boys are enrolled in the township high schools while the reverse is true in grade schools.

He has made no real discovery. It has been quite generally suspected in late years that girls have brains and assimilate edu-

T. R. Jr.

News Items—Theodore and Kermit Roosevelt, following in the footsteps of the mighty hunter, who was their father, have found the ancestor of the sheep, known as the ovib-polli, and are looking for an armored rhinoceros with one horn. (With apologies to "Jaberwockie.")

Beware the armored rhino, son, With jaws that bite and horn that blows; Look out for ovib-polli, shun The ferocious tattered nose.

He took his heavy grip in hand. Long time the curious foe he sought;

He rested by the tum-tum tree And stood awhile in thought.

And as in oillish thought he stood, The rhinoceros, with eyes of flame, Came whiffling through the dusky wood.

And burbled as he came.

One two, one-two, and through and through,

He shot the rhino in the back; He left it dead and with its head He went galumphing back.

The Mistakes of Kellogg

By William Philip Simmons
ASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—About W the head of Secretary of State Frank B. Kellogg a storm is brewing which, scheduled to break about the time Congress convenes next month, may blow him out of the Cabinet.

In office a bare eight months, Secretary Kellogg has been the center of four international incidents which brought down upon this country much criticism and ridicule. Which constitutes nearly, if not quite, a record: One major blunder for every six days.

Incident No. 1 was the gassing of Count Michael Karolyi, former president of the Hungarian Republic, whose published program and whose struggle to free his people from the Hapsburgs gave him the George Washington of his country. First applied by Secretary Kellogg in the face of nation-wide protests.

Incident No. 2 was Kellogg's threat to Mexico. This gesture interpreted by the Mexicans as a thinly veiled

threat to let revolutionists work their will on the Calles government unless it treats Americans as Washington wishes.

Incident No. 3 was Kellogg's ban on Shapurji Saklatvala, British Member of Parliament, just two days

before he was to have sailed for Washington to be present at the Interparliamentary Union conference to which he was a bona fide delegate.

All his arrangements had been made, including the American visa to his passport, when Secretary Kellogg suddenly ordered the visa canceled presumably on the ground that he is a communist.

Incident No. 4 was Kellogg's refusal to allow the wife of Count Karolyi to come to this country, even as the private guest of Mrs. Ralph Strassburger, wife of a Pennsylvania millionaire and as regular Republicans.

What Does Coolidge Think?

Exactly what President Coolidge thinks of all this is not known. Apparently his attitude is that as long as Kellogg is Secretary of State, Kellogg must be given his head. He, the President, will not interfere.

That seems to be the substance of what Ralph Strassburger learned when he called at the White House personally to appeal to the Kellogg ban on Countess Karolyi.

Nevertheless Secretary Kellogg's arbitrary slamming of the door in the face of foreign visitors fails utterly to jibe with President Coolidge's public utterances.

"Tolerant in the broadest and most inclusive sense, a liberality of mind, which gives to the opinions and judgment of others the same generous consideration that it asks for its own," the President said at Omaha less than a month ago, is an ideal which "may not be given to finite beings to attain, but it is one of the less one toward which we should strive."

Conflict in Ideas

Many members of Congress view the gassing of Karolyi, the big stick method with Mexico, the barring of Saklatvala, and the exclusion of Countess Karolyi as being in direct conflict with Coolidge ideals and out of all harmony with the President's convictions expressed in the Omaha speech which the whole nation warmly applauded.

It is understood that Senator Borah, Republican of Idaho, will push for the repeal of the immigration law which gives one man, or a handful of men, the power arbitrarily to exclude foreign visitors merely because it may be that they don't think as we do. It is not a question of sympathy for communistic, socialist or any other shade of political opinion, but of the right of free speech and tolerance which many feel endangered.

Speed of a Baseball

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information writing to The Indianapolis Times Washington Bureau, 1020 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. Questions sent in stamps to reply. Medical, legal and marital advice cannot be given and extended researches cannot be made. All other questions will receive a personal answer. All letters are confidential.

Can the speed of a throw base ball be determined accurately?

The only method known is by a specially constructed motion picture machine that takes 66 pictures a second. According to tests made by this method an expert pitcher throws a baseball 210.07 feet a second or 2 2/5 miles a minute.

How wide is the Strait of Gibraltar at the narrowest part?

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