

The Indianapolis Times

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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 3500.

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.

Military Training

HERE is a lot of smoke about a recent pamphlet by Winthrop D. Lane opposing military training in the schools. The pamphlet is indorsed by men like Senators Borah and Norris, former Governor Sweet of Colorado, Bishop McConnell of Pittsburgh, Rabbi Silver and other religious leaders and famous women like Carrie Chapman Catt and Jane Addams.

It gives useful facts about schools and colleges where military training is taught.

It also contains this statement: "The purpose is to make soldiers. It is not training in citizenship."

With the implication of this statement, that learning to be a soldier is no business of an American citizen, this newspaper entirely disagrees. The phrase "American citizen" itself would be meaningless today had not a very considerable proportion of able bodied white men living here in 1776 taken to soldiering mighty earnestly and quite effectively in the War of Independence. It would mean something very different from what it means today had not the same thing happened in the war to preserve the Union. They were good citizens who avenged the sinking of the "Maine" in the war with Spain, and who fought, or stood ready to fight, against the German Kaiser and what he stood for in 1917-18—the better for every bit they knew about how to shoot and do the other jobs a soldier has to do.

The plain fact is the whole theory of first class American citizenship is based on the willingness of the able bodied male who bears that title to be the best sort of soldier he can be, in time of need, in defense of his country's territory, its good name and its ideals—which are all his own because of his citizenship. You might as well tell a man it is no business of his whether he catches pneumonia, and that therefore he should not keep fit and study how not to, as to say what this pamphlet says, which is in effect this: That it is no business of an American citizen whether or not this country gets licked, and himself unnecessarily killed or maimed, in some future quite possible war for want of new recruits who know in advance such simple things, for instance, as how to keep grit and rust out of the breech mechanism of a Springfield rifle, how to march in company without treading on each other's heels, or how to keep their digestion working on a field-kitchen diet.

The words "quite possible future war" are used advisedly. It is time enough that the American people as a whole understand that the war which ended—perhaps "recessed" would be a better word—in 1918 did not clear up all points of difference between ambitious war-trained and, where their own interests are concerned, more or less conscienceless world powers, in Europe and elsewhere; that the part that this country played in it did not result in any general feeling of good will toward us; and that our prosperity subsequent to 1918, as well as the political mistake of our aloofness from the League of Nations, has greatly aggravated the general feeling of ill-will against us.

For these reasons this newspaper feels that military training in the schools, provided it is of any real military value, is a good thing and should be encouraged.

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point is simply that young men in schools and colleges should be encouraged to learn what they can about the grim business of soldiering, and that their parents should not oppose them in this; and that competent military teachers should be available in the publicly supported institutions.

This newspaper believes that pacifists and other dissenters from the established order, whether for political or religious reasons, have every right to live in this country, to send their sons to school, and to have them graduated from any publicly supported school or college without taking any military course that they object to.

This nation is a big one, with plenty of room and plenty of useful work to do, for all sorts. The watchword of this nation, in its schools, its courts, and all public institutions, must ever be "tolerance." This is in fact the principal American ideal which it is important we are reasonably prepared to defend.

Farmers Reject Coolidge Plan

THE American Farm Bureau Federation listened attentively to President Coolidge's speech in Chicago, applauded his promise to assist cooperative marketing, sat silent while he praised the tariff and then, when he had left, got down to business.

One item of business was adoption of a resolution that pledged support to a bill for a government export corporation to handle surplus American grain.

This action was in direct disregard of the President's advice. He had just declared the proposal to be unsound economically, and had insisted that cooperative marketing is the way out for the farmer.

The trouble with the President's substitute remedy, as the farmer sees it, is that it looks to the future instead of the present. Development of cooperative marketing is a slow, difficult process. But meantime there are mortgages to be met and fifty cent corn won't meet them.

The farmer wants help and he wants it now. Congressional politicians, with their ears to the ground, felt the frost taking hold of the grass roots following Coolidge's Chicago speech. They recognized instantly that his negative program had found no favor. Congress is likely to act in sympathy with the resolution adopted by the Farm Bureau Federation.

The Senate Rules

THE House of Representatives having gone back to the tyranny of Speaker Cannon, with members of the majority party mere yes-men under the iron rule of the committee on rules, it is all the more important that the Senate retain its independence.

If Vice President Dawes were to have his way about amending the rules, the tendency would be toward control by a mere handful of Senators. As it is the Senate is more representative of popular will than the House.

Since the test of Republicanism in the House is to blind obedience to the President, the effect of control of both houses by the Republican National Committee would be to surrender the legislative function of government into the hands of the executive.

Speaker Longworth and his Committee on Rules may throttle independent thought in the House for the time being, and pigeon-hole all bills that little oligarchy doesn't like, but in time enough Republican Congressmen will grow tired of ring rule to do to Longworth what they did to Cannon.

In the meantime it is up to the Senate to save the rights of the legislative branch of government from executive usurpation.

Big Profit Made By Booze Stores

Editor's Note: This is the tenth of a series of articles by Mr. Gardner reporting the operation of liquor laws in the various provinces of Canada.

By Gilson Gardner

Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada (By Mail)—A million and a half dollars profit was announced by the Manitoba liquor commission for the first eight months of its operation. This profit was distributed pro rata to the cities of the province in proportion to the amount of their taxes.

This has proved a popular feature of the law in the cities. The second fiscal year of the act is expected to show a greater profit and a proportionate rebate to taxation.

In several of the other provinces the profits go into the general treasury of the province without any special provision bringing them back to the cities.

The license plan of Manitoba enables the authorities to check up on individual consumption. Every license has a serial number and the purchases are all credited to the serial number, so if anything happens to call attention to the matter, the commission can readily find just how much John Smith has purchased in a week, a month or a year. If it looks like more than he can personally consume and preserve his

sobriety, the commission may act accordingly.

The usual question asked is: does

Ask The Times

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Editor

Of what derivation is the name Kuen and how is it pronounced in English?

The name Kuen is of German origin. The old form may have been Kuhn, which means bold, daring, fearless. The umlaut—two dots over a German vowel—is used to indicate a short sound, which in English is designated by a conjunction with "U." The word Kuen (two dots over "U") in German would be spelled Kuen in England and pronounced almost like "Keen."

Who decides what the bridesmaids at a wedding shall wear?

The bridesmaid's costume is dictated by the bride. Whatever the bride wishes her maids to wear they must conform to as nearly as possible

the plan result in more or less drunkenness?

The news editor of the principal local paper, the Free Press, replied to such a question:

"So far as I can see there is no increase certainly in public drunkenness. I have heard talk of young people, girls and boys, drinking; but have seen nothing of it and am inclined to think such stories exaggerated. I doubt in any case if it has anything to do with our plan of dealing with the liquor problem.

"There is only way in which one might find an indication of increased drinking in the home. It might be found that arrests for driving an automobile while under the influence of liquor had increased. I am inclined to think they have. But we have nothing official on the subject. The police are very strict with such cases. The driving license is suspended for six months and it is not unusual to give the man seven days in jail, in addition to a fine.

"On the whole the law seems to be working to the general satisfaction of the community."

Ten days ago an Indianapolis pedestrian was struck by a car. The pedestrian was struck by an Indianapolis

and was

A Sermon for Today

By Rev. John R. Gunn

Text: "Learn first to show piety at home."—I Tim. 5:4.

A WHOLESALE atmosphere in the home is required for the development of good character. Look into your own home. What kind of atmosphere prevails there? What kind of chance have your children growing up in such atmosphere? In your home life are you giving your children a fair chance to develop as they ought to develop?

The greatest peril to the child today is the lack of piety in the modern home. Evidence of this lack is seen among all classes, high and low. The elements of the true home are lacking, not only in the tenement house, but in the so-called home on the fashionable street. The truest home may exist in the most commonplace and unpretentious hut, while in the palatial mansion there may be the poorest sort of home. In many households the father is worldly, the mother is a society butterfly, and the little ones are left to the care of some

irresponsible and incapable person. In many homes the training of the children consists of manners, refinement and propriety, rather than morals, religion and piety. The ruling passion in some households is the love of money, and the only attention the little folks get is to be rushed off to school in the night. Growing up in such homes, breathing such an atmosphere, children become wayward and wasteful, or mean and selfish.

Most of our great men have come from very humble homes, but they were homes that breathed a pure, wholesome atmosphere. I am not preaching a gospel of environment. I know good men often come out of the worst of environment, redeemed and transformed by the grace of God. But everybody knows that the home atmosphere usually determines a child's character and destiny. In view of this fact, parents who are concerned for the future well-being of their children, should "learn first to show piety at home."

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Trying to Select the Ten Best Christmas Books

By Walter D. Hickman

Naming the "Ten Best Christmas Books" is a mighty big order.

But the order has been given and I will try to deliver it as best I can. In selecting my "ten best Christmas books" suitable for yuletide gifts as well as holiday reading, I do it with the understanding that I base my selection upon what I have read during the year.

My ten best Christmas book list includes the following:

"Arrowsmith," by Sinclair Lewis;

"Dark Laughter," by Sherwood Anderson; Boni & Liveright.

"The Private Life of Helen of Troy," by John Erskine; Bobbs-Merrill.

"The Mother's Apprecation," by Edith Wharton; D. Appleton & Co.

"The Man Nobody Knows," by Bruce Barton; Bobbs-Merrill.

"Recollections of Thomas Riley Marshall—A Hoosier Salad," published by Bobbs-Merrill.

"Parade on Parade," by Robert Forrest Wilson; Bobbs-Merrill.

"Women," by Booth Tarkington; Doubleday, Page.

"When We Were Very Young," by A. A. Milne; Dutton.

"The Life of Abraham Lincoln," in two volumes by William E. Barton; Bobbs-Merrill.

I ask nobody to agree with me on this list, but it represents more than a year's work on my part. In twelve months' time a book reviewer digests many books. Some cling to his memory; in fact, some of the characters nearly live in his brain box.

Other characters walk right out, the second they walk in. The same is true in real life among the people one meets.

My "ten best" list is given after much thought and mental controversy on my part.

Regardless of what the general verdict will be on the list, I am convinced that I have satisfied myself.

A Shopping List

On any Christmas list I would include the "ten best" listed above.

Here are a few other books suitable for adult Christmas gifts:

"No More Parades," by Ford Madox Ford. This novel is jumping to the front as a best seller.

"The Green Hat," by Michael Arlen. Enough said.

"The Fruit of the Family Tree,"

by A. E. Wiggam. A book that will make a fellow think, discuss and "cuss."

I am relying this season for Christmas book suggestions for children upon a list published by Beach's Bookshop in "Book Notes."

In the past I have found Beach completely correct in his recommendations.

Here is Beach's juvenile list:

"American Twins of 1812," Lucy Perkins

"Bad Child's Book of Beasts," Beddoe

"Bob Graham at Sea," H. H. Beaufort

"Cousins," by Bellamy Partidge

"The Flying Zoo," Hugh Lofting

"The Gallery of Children," A. A. Milne

"Plaistow Company," Illus. by R. C. MacLean

"Doge Corgi," Illus. by R. C. MacLean

"Songs of Youth," Kipling

"The Flying Street," Tony Sarge's Book

"The Red Diamond," Samuel Scoville, Jr.

"The Voyage of the 'USS Monitor,'" Frederic Collier

"When We Were Very Young," Milne

Books for Boys

I am relying upon the book department of L. S. Ayres & Co. for a list of books for boys.

The Ayres' list for boys includes:

"The Red Diamond," by Samuel Scoville Jr.

"Quinby and Son," by William Heyen

"Hold 'Em, Wyndham!" by Ralph Henry Barbour.

"Barry Locke, Half Back," by Ralph Henry Barbour.

"Right Half Hollins," by Ralph Henry Barbour.

"The Boy Scientist," by A. Frederick Collins.

"The Boy Scout's Book," by F. K. MacLean.

"The Voyagers," Padraic Colum.

"Questers of the Desert," James William Scott.

"A. J. for Andover," by Claude Moore Fries.

"The Flight for Annapolis," by Charles Donald Fox.

"Jordan Fairy Tales," by G. C. Cooper.

"Pook Cocco," by Margaret Williams Blaikie.

"Kingsley Ann's Whirling Pebbles," by John Grimes.

"The Happy Children's Stories," by John Grimes.

"Kingsley Ann's Alphabet Book," by John Grimes.

"Pretty Polly Perkins," by Ethel C. Calvert.

"Made to Order Stories," by Dorothy Canfield.

"Doctor Doolittle's Zoo," by Hugh Lofting.

"The Gateway to Storyland," by W. H. Hudson.

"The Disappointed Squirrel," by W. H. Hudson.

Thunder on the Left," by Christopher Morley, has been branded by some reviewers as his "finest novel."

"Jefferson and Hamilton," by Bruce Barton.

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