

The Indianapolis Times

ROY W. HOWARD, President.
FELIX F. BRUNER, Editor.
Member of the Scripps-Howard Newspaper 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 3590.

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.

A Cup as a Symbol

SO Franklin is to receive a \$200 loving cup after all! We wonder what the town will do with it. Really, one can imagine nothing more useless than a loving cup, unless it be municipal parades or beauty contests in which loving cups are awarded.

The cup in question, you remember, was awarded for the best float in the municipal Halloween parade. It was said to have been worth \$200. When the cup arrived at Franklin it was discovered to be worth about \$5. Franklin naturally resented receiving a \$5 cup. It wouldn't look well on the mantel when it began to tarnish.

But all is saved. A mysterious group of business men, who refuse to let their names be known, have collected \$200 to buy a new cup.

The incident of the cup simply emphasizes the extent to which some individuals will go in the name of "boosting the home town." Nothing in the world ever was accomplished by a "greater home town parade" or most of the other so-called booster movements. The only way to develop a community is to get down to brass tacks and work at it. Actual accomplishment usually is in exactly inverse ratio to the amount of red fire burned in a given movement.

If all the energy wasted by so-called boosters who make speeches and eat luncheons and wear badges and attend dinners in a city the size of Indianapolis were devoted to useful effort the city would lead the world.

The Franklin cup is a fitting symbol of results achieved by these means.

Speeders and Fines

CHIEF RIKHOFF arrested a speeder. He said the speeder was traveling through a city street at the rate of seventy miles an hour. Rikhoff charged him with going forty-five miles an hour. We don't know why.

The speeder was taken into city court and fined \$15 and costs. The chief kicked because the fine was too low. Fifteen dollars certainly isn't much of a fine for a speeder who is a potential killer. Something might be accomplished if a judge could go out and arrest a speeder once in a while. Perhaps his honor would not be so lenient.

All of which reminds us of Chief Rikhoff's recent threat to enforce a ten-mile speed limit in the downtown district. The limit, by the way, is not being enforced. You can't enforce a ridiculous rule or even a ridiculous law.

But what effect would the ten-mile speed limit have had on the young man whom the chief said was driving seventy miles an hour? Would he have traveled any more slowly than he did under the present twenty-five-mile rule? It isn't likely. It's the speeder and the reckless driver who should be punished—not the sensible driver.

WHEAT prices have gone up. Didn't the President say everything would be all right with the farmers?

THE island of Yap has been devastated by a tidal wave. Its total disappearance a few years ago would have solved a lot of problems.

A TEMPERATURE of 24 degrees was reported in Florida. Simultaneously, a temperature of 23 degrees was reported in Indianapolis. The "publicity persons" will have a hard time making much of one degree.

Mt. Athos Is Wet

THE Near East Relief has inadvertently broadcast the astounding news that Greece is wet. In fact it has gone so far as to transmit an invitation from a Greek Governor calling attention to the wetness of Mt. Athos. Some "busy publicity person" is blamed for giving America this surprising bit of information.

Dr. Shumaker should investigate immediately. It may be a violation of the rules of some group of dry sleuths to mention the fact that there is a spot on earth where wine can be obtained. At least, that is the impression that would be gathered from the rumpled that is being stirred up about this bit of publicity.

Of course, no one believes that the Near East Relief is opposed to prohibition. But why all the fuss? Everybody knows that wine is consumed in Europe. And everybody knows that anyone who has enough money to go to Greece has enough money to obtain his wine right here in Indianapolis, if he is inclined to violate the prohibition law.

Poolrooms and Paroles

POOLROOMS as breeders of crime still are under fire in Indianapolis as one after another of the city's youthful criminals blame poolroom environment for their troubles. Judge James A. Collins of Criminal Court suggests that license fees for poolrooms be increased and that the proprietors be put under bond to bar minors from their places. It is a sensible idea.

There is nothing essentially wrong about a poolroom. The trouble is with some of the people who frequent poolrooms. In these places crime plots are hatched, much as plots to buy booze are hatched by youths of a little higher social status in country clubs and cafes. The difference lies in the fact that the poolroom boy frequently goes out and commits a hold-up sometimes with fatal consequences; while the other youth goes out and drives an automobile while he is drunk, sometimes with fatal consequences.

Both boys usually land in jail. In the case of the poolroom boy, he usually receives a light sentence followed by a parole. In case of the other boy, his influential father frequently maneuvers things so that even a parole is unnecessary.

The trouble with both systems lies in the fact that too many boys who get away with it once are likely to repeat. It looks easy to them.

Hopeful

A BUSINESS man was telling an acquaintance why he had sent his daughter to a small "freshwater" college.

"I figured that the college itself didn't make such an awful lot of difference," he said. "After all, all any college can do is bring out what's already in the student."

Recall that remark the next time you hear our colleges assailed because of too much football, too many dances, too much drinking, etc.

A really intelligent, ambitious lad is going to get his education even if his college does have a lot of distracting outside activities. And a dumbbell won't get educated no matter how soberly he may be cloistered.

A CHICAGO woman accuses her husband of having forty-nine wives. He would have to shop early.

A Sermon for Today

By Rev. John R. Gunn

Text: "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night."—Luke 2:3.

It was while these shepherds were abiding in the field attending to their flock that the heavenly host appeared unto them, announcing the birth of the Christ-child and chanting their hosannas of peace on earth and good will toward men.

These men were busy at their common task. They were doing just what they ought to have been doing—"keeping watch by night over their flocks." Had they been carousing in some place of frivolity, had they been gadding about in idleness, had they been sleeping at home when they should have been awake in the fields, they would never have seen the angelic singers or heard their song of "good tidings of great joy." It is always so. It is to people who are doing faithfully and well their plain and simple duty, that heavenly revelations are made.

These shepherds were a very simple people. This, too, is significant. It was not to a select circle from the influential centers of the

world's life that the angels chanted their hosannas, but to a band of quiet, hearty, homespun shepherds. It seems strange that shepherds and not princes should hear the heavenly birth-song of the king of kings. But most of those who have seen the opened heavens and heard the angel-chorus have been everyday people.

The shepherds were silent, thoughtful men. They spent much time in meditation as well as work. "While I was musing the fire burned," said the shepherd-psalmist. These men mused. They were students of the sky. They were ready for the heavenly visitants that came to them that night as they were keeping watch over their flocks.

There is in this a significant lesson much needed in this day of rush and hurry, of anxious strain and mental unrest. The shepherds do not appear to us because they do not scan the sky. The greatest revelations of spiritual truth are vouchsafed only to the quiet and thoughtful. This was why the shepherds of Bethlehem were chosen for the visitation of the heavenly messengers who came to announce the birth of the world's Messiah. (Copyright, 1925, by John R. Gunn)

RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

SHOP EARLY; MAIL EARLY

THE Indianapolis postoffice Tuesday handled more mail—1,654,747 pieces, according to Postmaster Bryson, who personally counted it, we suppose—than ever before in its history. The previous high mark was hung up Monday with 1,000,822 pieces. Nine-tenths of the deluge was outgoing mail—mostly Christmas stuff, belated Christmas cards and gifts.

"Shop early and mail early" has been the Christmas slogan for years. It's a lovely motto. But, judging from the inundation of the postoffice and the crowds of pop-eyed, desperate shoppers swirling through downtown stores yesterday and today, the motto has made scarcely a dent in the last-minute Christmas rush.

Procrastination is a great human accomplishment. We don't like to do today what can be put off until tomorrow. We even get to our own funerals on time unless we are carried.

Human inertia is the most solid fact in the world. Because of it the world doesn't really move—it is pushed. Maybe next year we will all do our Christmas shopping early—but we can't do it this year. In a few hours we don't do it at all. Which reminds the writer. He must dash out, purchase gifts and mail 'em. Another big day for Mr. Bryson.

HATCHING A TRUST

CHICAGO capitalists, it is reported, are negotiating a \$50,000,000 merger of Indiana quarries in the Bloomington-Bedford district. If plans are consummated approximately 75 per cent of the stone output of the district will be controlled by the combine.

As more than 60 per cent of the building stone used in the United States comes from the limestone quarries of the Bloomington-Bedford area in the Hoosier State a pretty sizable trust is apparently in process of hatching.

A few years ago the prospect of such a merger would have caused a shiver of apprehension down the spines of populists and "common people." The cry of "monopoly" would have been raised from coast to coast and the tocsin would have sounded summoning the trust-busters to do their stuff.

Now a \$50,000,000 merger that will put the control of a necessary building material in the hands of a single corporation is given only inconspicuous notice in the newspapers. No popularity-seeking politician froths at the mouth and views with alarm. No steps are taken to prevent the consolidation.

The trust-busting days are past. The country no longer fears big business just because it is big. Even Standard Oil no longer has to sneak down the alleys to escape the mob.

THE PORK BARREL BEGINS TO ROLL

REPRESENTATIVE GREENWOOD of Indiana has introduced bills in Congress asking for appropriation of \$330,000 for postoffice buildings in three cities in his district—Bicknell, Sullivan and Vincennes. Other Hoosier Congressmen are similarly seeking to plant Federal buildings—a dozen or more—in their districts.

As usual when Congress meets, the scramble for Federal buildings is on—the pork barrel begins to roll.

Sullivan, Bicknell and other Indiana towns in their class are probably entitled to postoffice buildings costing \$100,000 or more. Scattered throughout the country are many smaller and commercially less important towns with imposing Federal buildings costing double that sum.

But does the postal business in such cities justify the expenditure? Is a \$100,000 postoffice in a 5,000 population town good business? Even Henry Ford wouldn't last long if he conducted his business in that extravagant manner.

No wonder the postoffice department accumulates a deficit of \$45,000,000 a year, operating a service which if privately owned would be the most profitable business in the country. It tries to live up to its buildings, provided by pork barrel Congressmen.

Congressmen shed tears over the oppressed taxpayer and talk convincingly of economy in Government. But how they do love un-

The SAFETY VALVE

It Blows When the Pressure Is Too Great

By The Stoker

We have just received a copy of "Calvin Coolidge, The Man Who is President," by William Allen White, with the autographic legend—"In fear and trembling, from Uncle Phil." It does seem a pity for any man of parts to write a life of Coolidge.

As Henry Clay said in 1850: "Sir, I would rather be right than be President."

Speaking of the impending dog fight over the location of a Roosevelt Memorial over against the Lincoln Memorial in Potomac Park in the D. C., we move to amend the there be no memorial erected at public expense to any public man until he has been dead sixty years.

HINTS FOR THE CITY MAN

"Bacon rinds, rubbed on fruit trees, will keep rabbits from 'barking' them."

He and his sister had been brought up to be kind to animals. They had been taken as a special treat to see the big movie spectacle where the cruel Roman Emperor has the Christians massacred by the lions in the arena. Up to this time the little boy had seemed to enjoy the show but at this point he began to weep. Appropriate remarks were made to soothe him; but his parent had missed the point. Finally it came out. "That lion hasn't any Christian," he wailed.

One of the singularities of our postal rates is that it costs 8 cents to send a book from Washington to New York while a package of the same weight will go to Italy for 4 cents. Don't ask us why.

The young Senator from Montana, Mr. Burton K. Wheeler, is now accused by the Department of Justice lawyers of violating the "unwritten law" about public land permits. We knew the "unwritten law" had something to do with virginity but didn't know it covered virgin lands.

Cooks, maids and household workers, says a dispatch from Moscow, will be paid according to the earnings of their employers, and not according to the service rendered, if a proposed regulation is made law. What a wow John D.'s cook would have under such an arrangement!

OTHER THEATERS TODAY

Other theaters today offer: William Faversham in "Foot-Loose" at English; Stella Mayhew at Keith's; "Dancing Pirates" at the Lyric; burlesque at the Broadway; "The Scarlet West" at the Circle; "Pretty Ladies" at Zaring's; "When the Door Opened" at the Colonial; "A Woman of the World" at the Apollo; "Mannequin" at the Ohio, and a complete new show at the Isis.

Opens Tonight



Sarah Truax

When William Faversham opens a three-day engagement tonight at English's in "Foot-Loose" Sarah Truax will be seen in the leading role opposite the star.

What's New on the Stage

The Eleven Musical Misses have been secured by the Palace Theatre to present the headline entertainment on their special Christmas program which will be given the last half of the week.

In addition to the five acts of vaudeville and the feature film the Palace orchestra will give a number entitled "The Toy Shop" and a two-reel fantasy, "Santa Claus," will run especially for the children.

The eleven syncopators provide the newest of popular songs and also give "The Evolution of Dixie," a special descriptive piece. Dorothy Henry is seen in several toe and acrobatic dance numbers.

Ned Norworth and his company stage a singing and dancing revue whose keynote is "color-pep and originality."

Mason and Cole have named their offering "Spring." This comedy episode reveals Misk Cole as a hysterical young woman.

"Vintage of Forty Nine" stars Gordon and Spain in a series of Rube comedy characterizations made only to provoke laughter.

One of the better known stage and screen comedians is Nick Cogley, who appears in his sketch "The Striped Man" in which he plays the role of an escaped convict.

"The Pace That Thrills" is the photoplay with Ben Lyon and Mary Astor. Scenes showing veteran race drivers who have appeared many times at the Speedway are in the film. Pathe News, a comedy, and topics of the day are given.

A WOMAN'S VIEWPOINT

Secrets Not to Be Sold

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

NEWSPAPER reporter says that the world awakes breathlessly the matrimonial behavior of a certain European count and his rich American wife, who have recently arrived in this country.

Well, hardly that. The world pretty generally can guess what will happen, and it should have known long ere this.

For this same noble at the time of his marriage to the heiress wrote and sold numerous newspaper articles relating the tale of their hectic love affair. He pictured the beautiful story of their devotion and outlined in detail the cooling love passages which took place between them. He laid bare what he called the innermost secrets of their hearts, and sold for cash what he insisted was the supreme romance of his life.

Quite naturally such things culminate in the divorce court. For true love is ever reticent and never seeks such publicity as this.

One reads these days so many so-called confessions, a large number of them coming from literary lights who need never stoop to such efforts to get their productions in print.

And the general public reads these things with its tongue in its cheek. It may be silly, but it is never foolish enough to believe that the man or woman who loves another can ruthlessly dissect the emotion that sways the heart, or would subject the object of its adoration to the glare of publicity.

But we Americans are fast losing the fine quality of reticence which marked the characters of noble men and women of bygone generations. We are mad about money, and to get money we will resort to any device, even, it seems, to broadcasting our souls' dearest secrets. And when we would make our love the means of obtaining gold, we have indeed sunk to the bottom of the pit of materialism.

Perhaps this is one reason why so little lasting love can be found in our matrimonial records today. We have continued to debase a noble passion, and have deliberately slain a beautiful spiritual attribute.

True love is a gift of God to mortals and when we seek to commercialize this loveliest of our possessions, it is but fitting that it should take flight and leave us with shattered illusions and divorce courts overflowing.

How rapidly is the number of horses in the United States decreasing?

On Jan. 1, 1910 there were 19,329,338 horses in the United States. On Jan. 1, 1925 there were 17,659,000 horses, a decrease of 1,670,338 in fifteen years.

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 Bureau, 1325 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. Send your question on a separate card, and we will give you an extended research, be undertaken. All other questions will be given a personal reply. Unsolicited requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor.

Where was Ricardo Cortez, the movie actor, born?
In Alsace-Lorraine, France.

What is the derivation and meaning of the name "Snodgrass"?
It is of Anglo-Saxon origin. "Snod" means "smooth or trim," therefore the name means "smooth grass."

Can you name five or six of the best known woman novelists of America?

Among them might be mentioned: Willa Cather, Edna Ferber, Edith Wharton, Zona Gale, Mary Roberts Rinehart and Kathleen Norris.

I saw a reference recently to Daniel Webster's "7th of March speech." What particular speech was referred to?

On March 7, 1850, Daniel Webster delivered a powerful speech in the United States Senate on the proposed compromise on slavery, in which he opposed the views of the abolitionists and of all who in any way desired to restrict slavery. The one great aim of his speech was to smooth over the differences between North and South. It has been charged that this speech was a virtual recanting of his political opinions for the purpose of aiding his

presidential aspirations, but the charge seems unjustified. Webster simply followed out his other speeches in favor of the Union. This speech, by winning other northern Senators to support the compromise, probably delayed secession for a period of ten years.

What ship brought the body of the Unknown Soldier to the United States? When was it placed in Arlington national cemetery? Who originated the idea?

The ship was the Olympic. Dewey's flagship at the Battle of Manila in 1898. The body rested in state at the Capitol in Washington while many thousands filed by in single procession. It was then taken to Arlington in a great funeral procession and the body was laid to rest on Armistice day, Nov. 11, 1921. The man who originated the idea of commemorating the Unknown Soldier was Prof. Antonio Sciortino, a noted artist of Rome.

How are names and designs etched on glass?

There are three methods: First, by means of an engraving wheel, which requires some manual skill. Second, by means of a sand blast, making a stencil of the name, fixing this on the glass, and then, by means of a blast of air, blowing sand on the glass. Third, by using hydrofluoric acid. The glass is covered with beeswax or paraffine wax, of some acid resisting ink or varnish; the name or design is then etched out of the wax by means of a knife,

and the glass dipped in hydrofluoric acid, which eats away the glass at those parts where the wax has been cut away.

Are there any tracks in the United States where whippet races are held regularly?

Such tracks are maintained at Miami, Fla.; Atlantic City, N. J., and several other places.

What is Mandel fur?

A registered trade name for the pelts of Mediterranean sheep.

Does the President of the United States hold a rank in the Army superior to that of a general?

He is commander-in-chief of the Army and Navy of the United States and therefore superior to a general.

Is there more than one kind of tubercular test applied to cattle?

There are three kinds, the technical names for them are: subcutaneous test, ophthalmic test and intradermal test.

Where is Fly River?

Fly River in Papua rises in the Victor Emmanuel Mountains near the western border of British New Guinea, an extensive island north of Australia, and flows in a southeasterly direction, entering the Gulf of Papua by a delta, at about 8 degrees, 40 minutes, south latitude. It is one of the largest known rivers of Papua and is navigable for upwards of 600 miles. Its chief tributaries are the Strickland and the Allice.

We Wish You a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Brunswick Shop

124 N. Penn. St.

With Best Wishes for Your Happiness at Christmas and the New Year

The Hatfield Electric Company

"The House Electric"

Maryland at Meridian