

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.

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.

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?

REPRESENTATIVE GREENWOOD of Indiana has introduced bills in Congress asking an appropriation of \$330,000 for postoffice buildings in three cities in his district—Blanchard, 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.

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 a 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 Sciotto, 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 the glass 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, the name or design is then etched out of the wax by means of a knife.

I saw a reference recently to Daniel Webster's "ith 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

countrymen in the South.

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.

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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 2:8.

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 shepherds 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 angelic 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 stress. Visitants from the heavens do not appear to us because we 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.

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Opens Tonight

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 gear and trembling, from Uncle T.S." 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 that 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."

Heads of Bethlehem were chosen for the visitation of the heavenly messengers who came to announce the birth of the world's Messiah.

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.

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' deepest 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.

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

"Vintage of Forty Nine" stars Gordon and Don 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. Pathé News, a comedy, and topics of the day are given.

OTHER THEATERS TODAY

Other theater today: William Faversham in "Foot-Loose" at English's; 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 Opens" at the Colonial; "A Woman of the World" at the Apollo; "Mannequin" at the Ohio, and a complete new show at the Isis.

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

On Jan. 1, 1910 there were 19,229,338 horses in the United States. On Jan. 1, 1925 there were 17,589,000 horses, a decrease of 1,631,338 in fifteen years.

We

Wish You a

Very Merry Christmas

and a

Happy New Year

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