

The Indianapolis Times

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shall be passed restraining the free interchange of thought and opinion, or re-
the right to speak, write, or print freely, on any subject whatever.—Constitution of

Shortridge Sale

THE Shortridge High School property marks another step in the progress of Indianapolis school building program. After delay, largely due to opposition, the has disposed of the property for \$641,000 to the State Life Insurance Company. The any plans to erect a \$750,000 building on site. Money received from the Shortridge will be used for erection of much-needed school buildings.

The school program, as it now exists, calls for erection both of new grade school and new high school structures. The high school program calls for a new Shortridge, a side school and a high school for colored students. In this way the city is working in an orderly manner toward smaller high schools distributed over the city. This plan is much to be preferred to the large central high school system. It is unfortunate that the city has as far as it has in the development of Technical High School. Instead of concentrating 5,000 pupils in one school, as has been the case at Technical, the city would have been better served by a number of neighborhood schools.

Incidentally, the proposed erection of a building on the Shortridge site is particularly pleasing. This property is directly across the war memorial plaza and the new building will mark the first development of the Pennsylvania St. side of the plaza. The Meridian St. side already is being rapidly developed with the building of such structures as the Elks Club, the Indianapolis Athletic Club, the Spink Arms Hotel, the Chamber of commerce building and the proposed Scottish site Cathedral.

Senatorial Humor

THE year 1925 in America was as filled with interesting events as there were days in the calendar.

Calvin Coolidge was inaugurated President of the United States.

Four great Americans died: Robert M. La Follette, William Jennings Bryan, Samuel Gompers, Thomas R. Marshall.

The giant dirigible Shenandoah collapsed with great loss of life. A Navy squadron failed in a brave attempt to fly to Hawaii. Col. William Mitchell was court-martialed for insubordination.

Secretary of State Kellogg enforced new and un-American regulations against the visit of distinguished foreigners to this country and gave the world an unnecessary scare concerning Mexico.

McMillan attempted to explore the polar regions by airplane. A tornado devastated the lower Ohio Valley. A crime wave swept the cities and caused eminent citizens to join anti-crime organizations. Florida real estate ran amuck. Dempsey signed to fight Will's at a distant date and Pittsburgh took the world's championship away from Washington.

Bob La Follette, Jr., was elected to succeed his father and Jimmy Walker was appointed mayor by Al Smith. John W. Weeks resigned as Secretary of War.

A baby was born to Alice Longworth.

Red Grange left school to make his fortune.

Senator Burton K. Wheeler was acquitted in ten minutes of charges on which the Justice Department had worked a year. Then the charges brought against him in Washington were quashed.

Wayne B. Wheeler publicly thanked God on Thanksgiving day for "prosperity under prohibition." The coast guard went to war on the rum fleet; some of the rum-runners lost their booze and some of the coast guard their reputations. Prices remained stationary.

All these were interesting and some were important, but the one outstanding event remains to be mentioned:

A young teacher named Scopes was put on trial at Dayton, Tenn., for violating a State law against teaching the theory of evolution. Nothing much happened to the young man and the statute still remains on Tennessee's books, but the trial and the discussion it evoked throughout America, it seems to us, formed the outstanding occurrence of the year 1925.

The trial didn't prove that the theory of evolution is correct, nor did it establish the Book of Genesis as the one accurate account of mundane beginnings. It didn't even reconcile, in all minds, these two stories of creation. But it did do this: It sounded an alarm that awoke millions of Americans to the dangerous tendency of the times. It revealed the degree to which bigotry and intolerance were fastening themselves on our national institutions. It renewed the determination that the mind and the spirit of the people shall be kept free. It struck a mortal blow for liberty of opinion and conscience.

True, the country court at Dayton found young John Scopes guilty, but there is reason to believe that its action was one of the last triumphs of our American intolerants.

We sincerely hope that the charges against the highway department cannot be substantiated. We hope that there is an adequate explanation of the action of the commission in obtaining and selling without competitive bids thousands of dollars' worth of abandoned war material. We would like to hear the explana-

A Sermon for Today

By Rev. John R. Gunn

Text: "That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been."—Ecc. 3:15.

WITH the passing of the old year and the beginning of the new, we naturally become conscious as to what the future holds in store for us. None of us can foresee with certainty the particular events that may take place in our lives during the year ahead. But there is one thing we can be reasonably sure about, "that which is to be hath already been." As you think of the future I would have you hope for the best. I would have you look forward to the future with hopeful promise and ambition. But at the same time I would not have you shut your eyes to the probability that your future is going to be in many respects very much as your past has been. You are going to have other temptations, other difficulties, other sorrows, just as you have experienced in the past. The sad experiences of the past will likely be repeated in the future.

But there is no occasion for uneasiness in the contemplation of this probability. Recalling these sad experiences, you will recall also how precious was God's presence and help in the midst of them.

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RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

BARRING FROM CITIZENSHIP

R. C. MINTON, legal advisor of the Thirteenth prohibition district, says steps will be taken to bar the dozen aliens, arrested in Tuesday's spectacular liquor raid in Indianapolis, from United States citizenship. The dozen have taken out first papers only.

That may be a stern penalty to inflict on booze law violators. But it's about as effective in drying up the illicit liquor traffic as a shake of the finger.

There is no provision in the law whereby alien bootleggers and blind tiger operators can be deported and kept out of the country because of anti-prohibition activities. So barring them from citizenship is at most a sensational gesture that doesn't interfere with their business.

There is much beer running, mule making, and booze peddling done by aliens, who care nothing about the Federal Constitution or the law of the land. Probably something ought to be done about it.

However America wouldn't be made dry if every law-breaking alien was shot at sunrise. Most of the alcoholic thirst in the country is American born—strictly a native product. The chief prohibition problem is that thirst, not by whom or how it is gratified.

Of course, paving should comply with the plans and specifications. Such standards are drawn to insure the quality and durability of the work, not to give the city engineer and his office force training in English composition.

The time to make sure pavement is of proper width, thickness and quality is while the work is in progress, not after it is laid and hardened. Once down, it is more or less permanent. It can't be erased and done over like a chalk mark on a blackboard.

To prevent contractors from skimping their work and to insure the taxpayer a dollar's worth of pavement for a dollar, the city of Indianapolis employs inspectors to watch paving jobs and compel exact adherence to the specifications. Contractors are often honest, but the city has learned by experience that paving jobs will bear watching.

Where were the inspectors while the Eugene St. pavement was being laid? Were they on the job as well as on the pay roll, or were they just posed as part of the municipal scenery? The pavement is not up to specifications. How come?

Yesterdays' Entertainers will start the New Year off with fun, comedy, and entertainment when it headlines the Palace theater today.

Nine syncopators among whom is the featured saxophonist Allan Quick are offering jazz selections. Walter Bradbury is the acrobatic dancer whose numbers are an added novelty of "Tunes and Steps."

A former musical comedy star, Marie Sabott, is now in vaudeville offering her musical comedy playlet "It's All a Fluke" with the Bradley sisters and Jack Thompson. Miss Sabott plays the role of a theatre usher who falls to sleep over a program. Her dream is acted out.

"The Weigh of a Flapper" is the song and chatter skit presented by Grey and Byron near the weighing machine.

Leon's Ponies are said to be a delight for the children. This act is one from the Big Tops.

Blue Bert Kenny, who has appeared here many times is making a return engagement with a new sketch. This comedy folk novelty features Kenny as I. M. Nobody and Bob King.

"What Fools Men" is the photo play with Lewis Stone and Shirley Mason. Pathes News, a comedy, and topics of the day are the short sketches.

Other theaters today offer: "The Music Box Revue" at English's "Spanish Dreams" at Keith's, "Chocolate Friends at the Lyric, burlesque at the Broadway, "Joanna" at the Circle, "Sporting Life" at the Colonial, "Womanhandled" at the Ohio, "A Kiss for Cinderella" at the Apollo, and a complete new show at the Ida.

MR. FIXIT

Street Lights Are Desired
on Sheffield
Ave.

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

Sheffield Ave., from Washington to Ohio Sts., may be a perfect lover's lane, but citizens would prefer illumination. Mr. Fixit learned today.

DEAR MR. FIXIT: Please see

what can be done for a light on Sheff-

ield Ave. There are none between

Washington and Ohio Sts.

As the trees are so large and numer-

ous, it makes the street a very unpleas-

ant one in the evening. C. M. H.

J. W. Hensley, engineer in

charge of street lighting, will rec-

ommend to the board of works

that a light be installed.

DEAR MR. FIXIT: Why is it so

easy for Federal officers to arrest

bootleggers and the policemen fail

to see them on their beats?

CITIZEN.

In justice to the district police-

men, prohibition agents without

uniforms, unknown to the liquor

sellers, find it easier to buy booze

than the man in uniform who

passes several times a day. How-

ever, it's certain there is consider-

able winking on the beats.

No doubt for the future devel-

opment of the southeastern part

of the city that section should

have as many traffic outlets as

possible across the tracks to

Washington. Another prolonged

battle in prospect.

No doubt for the future devel-

opment of the southeastern part

of the city that section should

have as many traffic outlets as

possible across the tracks to

Washington.

But it's too late to attain the

Free Trip to Chicago for Best Charleston Dancer

THE Charleston in all its glory is really coming to town. It is going to be taught to the readers of The Times in what is new and original, and no one but the queen of the Charleston, Miss Mildred Melrose, who is also known as the "Original Miss Personality," is going to explain and illustrate each step.

Miss Melrose, who will be the featured stage attraction at the Circle, starting Sunday, is coming to Indianapolis after a series of sensational engagements on the west coast.

Through arrangements completed with The Times and Managing Director Ace Berry of the Circle, the lessons by Miss Melrose will appear each day in The Times, until the entire set of nine lessons is published, while, in addition to this, the Circle Theater will inaugurate a Charleston contest next week for cash prizes of such proportions that they are worth fighting for.

The winner will also receive a trip to Chicago, with all expenses paid, for participation in the national championship Charleston contest, to be held in the Windy City later in the season.

It is planned to present contestants at different performances each day, and announcements regarding the exact time will be made the next day or so.

The entry list is still open for those who wish to participate in the contests, and the Charleston Manager at the Circle Theater awaits your name as an entry.

Read Miss Melrose's lessons in The Times each day, learn how to dance the Charleston, and leave your name and address with the Charleston manager.

You will be notified when to appear, and then you will have your opportunity to carry away one of the big gold prizes, or in addition you may be the fortunate one to make that trip to Chicago.

Opportunity is knocking. The Charleston has come to town.



Miss Mildred Melrose illustrating the first three positions of the Charleston for Times readers.

Position No. 1 Position No. 2 Position No. 3

Put left foot in front of right, then pull front foot and step forward with left, twisting on right back of left.

Another lesson tomorrow.

Who'll Pay the Taxes?

Editor's Note: This is the fourth of six articles by one of The Times' Washington correspondents, designed to take the new federal tax bill apart and show what it contains. The bill passes the House and is now before the Senate.

By Roscoe B. Fleming

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Analysis of the House tax reduction bill, which will be taken up soon by the Senate, has shown that the bill is immensely favorable to the larger incomes and fortunes, and does little for the small taxpayer.

While the opposition hauls the program this way and that all the streets will remain closed indefinitely and the whole elevation project will sit on its haunches. They can't eat their cake and have it too.

One theory, held generally by progressive students of taxation, is that taxes should be graded according to ability to pay them, and should be imposed directly, giving the taxpayer a direct interest and stake in his government.

The income taxes and inheritance taxes are good examples.

Persons who believe thus hold that sales taxes and indirect flat taxes in general are to be used only in an emergency, such as war. Holders of this theory fought in the House for removal of all war taxes before in.

Setting the figure at \$385,000,000,

the cuts can be divided as follows:

Loss in income, super and inheritance taxes, which, as has been shown, relieve the very rich more than any other class—\$263,575,000.

Loss in indirect and "sales" taxes and war taxes—\$132,261,000.

And these latter include the removal of the taxes on jewelry, works of art and yachts, which relieve only the wealthy.

Cordell Hull of Tennessee also points out that the Fordney tariff of \$2,560,000,000, which he says bears more heavily on the poor than on the rich, is absolutely unchanged. He argued effectively against the exemption of 2,300,000 taxpayers during debate on the bill, as follows:

"All disinterested economic writers who are friends of graduated income taxation favor the theory that exemption should be at a point near the minimum of subsistence."

Many persons seem to imagine that the Federal income tax is the only tax in existence, and that their removal from the roll leaves them free of all taxation. This, of course, is hopelessly erroneous.

"A scientific, logical income tax structure always includes some of those with relatively small incomes, but only at nominal rates. It is dangerous to the permanency of the system to offer excessive