

The Indianapolis Times

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

Shortridge Sale

THE sale of the Shortridge High School property marks another step in the progress of the Indianapolis school building program. After delay, largely due to opposition, the city has disposed of the property for \$641,000 to the State Life Insurance Company. The company plans to erect a \$750,000 building on the site. Money received from the Shortridge sale 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 buildings and new high school structures. The high school program calls for a new Shortridge, a new 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 not done as far as it has in the development of the Technical High School. Instead of concentrating 5,000 pupils in one school, as has been done at Technical, the city would have been better served by a number of neighborhood schools.

Incidentally, the proposed erection of a new building on the Shortridge site is particularly pleasing. This property is directly across from the war memorial plaza and the new building will mark the first development of the Pennsylvania St. side of the plaza. The new building on the Shortridge site is particularly pleasing. This property is directly across from the war memorial plaza and the new building will mark the first development of the Pennsylvania St. side of the plaza. The new building on the Shortridge site is particularly pleasing. This property is directly across from the war memorial plaza and the new building will mark the first development of the Pennsylvania St. side of the plaza.

Senatorial Humor

SENATOR SHIPSTEAD, by way of having a little fun and at the same time pointing a moral, has introduced a bill which treats the farming industry exactly as the Esch-Cummins law treats the railroad industry. In fact, he has taken the latter act and simply substituted the word "farming" for the word "railroad" throughout.

When asked about it, he takes pleasure in admitting that it is unsound economically. That, he says, is because the Esch-Cummins law is unsound economically.

His bill would fix prices for farm products in just the manner that rates are fixed for the railroads—a definite return on the valuation of the farm.

Shipstead ought to get a good speech out of his bill, anyhow. He can say that the valuation of a farm is easily ascertainable from the county tax records. Prices then won't be too high because the farmers don't make their tax returns any higher than they have to. The lower the farmer makes his tax return, the less return he'd get on his crops, under this plan. The higher the price for potatoes, asked by the farmer, the higher the taxes he'd have to pay.

It really sounds a whole lot sounder than the Esch-Cummins act, as you study it. For, after years and years of expensive investigation, a fair valuation—to say nothing of the real value—of the railroads has not been found yet.

Highways and Politics

FOR the most part, we agree with the Indiana Farm Bureau Federation in its statement concerning the State highway commission. Certainly the highway commission should not be controlled by any political group and if a movement to bring about such control is in progress, the citizens of Indiana should see that it does not succeed. The federation says the movement to control the commission was brought about by D. C. Stephenson. Of that we know nothing. If it is true, it is mighty serious. No one now wants the affairs of any State department controlled by Stephenson. It is unfortunate that this feeling did not always exist.

The Farm Bureau Federation points out that various charges have been made against some of the highway department, particularly against John Williams and Earl Crawford. It points out that these charges have not been proved. That is true. They have not been proved. Neither has it been shown that the State board of accounts and the Marion County grand jury were wrong when they made the charges. No opportunity has been given for anybody to prove anything.

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 explanation.

tion. The commission has not been given an opportunity to make its explanation in court.

On the other hand, charges have repeatedly been made that a political conspiracy against the highway department exists. These charges have no more been proved than have the charges against the highway department. Certainly The Times in all that it has said has had no political motive. We have simply insisted and we expect to continue to insist that the charges made against the highway department either be proved or dropped. As long as they are neither proved nor dropped, the State of Indiana is in the position of employing men, who are under indictment charged with commission of a felony, to handle millions of dollars of its funds, and the men themselves certainly are not in a comfortable position with indictments hanging over their heads.

The Indiana Farm Bureau Federation stated our viewpoint exactly when it said:

"The charges against Crawford and Williams have never been proved. They ought to be proved or declared false immediately in justice to the men and in justice to the people of Indiana."

The statement further says: "The Farm Bureau will be the first to denounce these men if serious charges are proved against them."

We will go even further than that and say that The Times will be the first to rejoice if a fair trial shows there is no basis for the charges.

All we ask and all that the citizens of Indiana have a right to ask is that this highway controversy be cleared up as speedily as possible.

A. D. 1925

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 men amuck. Dempsey signed to fight Wills 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 needed 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 little triumphs of our American intemperance.

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 concerned 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.

As you begin the new year, facing again the same old temptations, trials and sorrows, just remember that time in your experience when God was near, most tender, most sweet, most soul-sufficing, and be sure that He stands beside you ready to renew that blessing in all its fullness whenever you have the same need.

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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 their 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.

The report gives property owners on the street, who are resisting payment for the improvement, additional ammunition.

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 paying jobs and compel exact adherence to the specifications. Contractors are often honest, but the city has learned by experience that paying 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?

Other theaters today offer: "The Musical Box Revue" at Engh's, "Spanish Dances" at Keith's, "Circus Friends at the Lyric, burlesque at the Broadway, "Joanna" at the Circle, "Sporting Life" at the Apollo, and a complete new show at the Isis.

When a man is accused of crime in England and Canada he is held guilty until proved innocent? Both English and Canadian jurisprudence presume a man accused of crime to be innocent until he is proved guilty, and in criminal cases the guilt of the defendant must be established beyond a reasonable doubt. The accused, according to that system of jurisprudence, is clothed with the presumption of innocence which abides with him throughout the trial.

What is "sienna" and "umber"? Sienna is a ferruginous ochraceous substance, fine and smooth, used as a pigment in both oil and water painting. The finest is obtained from Italy. Umber is a natural pigment somewhat resembling ochre, but darker and browner, due to the presence of oxide of manganese. Raw umber yields a brown paint, while burnt umber has a redder tinge.

What was the first name of the General Putnam of Bunker Hill fame? Was it Israel or Rufus? Israel Putnam won fame at Bunker Hill. His cousin, Rufus Putnam, was also an officer in the American Revolution.

Who invented the cream separator? The invention is credited to Carl Gustaf Patrick De Laval, a Swedish inventor and engineer, who, in 1878, patented a cream skimmer, the forerunner of the modern centrifugal cream separator.

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Free Trip to Chicago for Best Charleston Dancer



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

Position No. 1 Put left foot in front of right, then pull right back of left.

Position No. 2 Put right foot in front and step forward with left, twisting on ball of left.

Position No. 3 The knee step: Right hand on left knee and left on right knee, pushing knees out and in.

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 has passed the House and is now before the Senate.

By Roscoe B. Fleming

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—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.

Just as significant as the figures, however, is the struggle between opposing theories of taxation, and the victory of one of them.

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-

come and inheritance taxes were lowered. They were defeated.

They argued that the action of the bill in cutting off from direct income taxation some 2,300,000 persons was a mistake, because if direct taxes are imposed, all citizens should pay something, no matter how little, to their government.

The opposing theory, which seemed to be held by Administration leaders who framed the tax bill, favors the sales tax or other taxes which would bear more or less flatly on all alike, but which the taxpayer would not realize he was paying.

It is interesting in this light to review the cuts in income and inheritance taxes given by the House bill, compared with those in war and sales taxes.

The bill will eventually reduce Government revenues about \$335,000,000. The figure of \$325,000,000, which was generally used, is the loss in next year's revenue alone. Inheritance tax cuts, estimated ultimately to be at least \$55,000,000, and gift tax cuts, estimated at \$7,000,000, will become effective later.

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—\$253,575,000.

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

And these latter include the repeal 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 tax 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 exemptions.

"Our present law exempts over 110,000,000 from the tax. Is it not folly, therefore, to divide in half the small remainder?"

Hull argued that all war taxes ought to be removed, including that on autos, before income taxes were lowered materially. He argued for a super-tax and inheritance tax rate of at least 25 per cent.

But the bipartisan steam roller rode over him.

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THE Charleston in all its glory is really coming to town.

It is going to be taught to the readers of The Times in a way that 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 Editor Ace Berry of the Circle, the lessons by Miss Melrose will appear each day in The Times, until the entire series of 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 then go down to the Circle 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.

A Woman's Viewpoint

Should Married Women Flirt?

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

"WHY," asks a concerned young husband, "do so many married women these days carry on clandestine flirtations with other men?"

Largely, we would imagine, because their husbands won't flirt with them.

One thing which we are too inclined to overlook in our estimate of the changes wrought by the jazz age is the radical transformation in the status of the married woman. Her horizon has widened perhaps more than that of any other individual.

It is no longer possible for a man to marry a woman, incase her within his four walls and then step in to see her only when the notion strikes him. The twentieth century wife simply does not "stay put" any more, and the quicker the men find this out the easier will be their job and the lighter their eventual trial.

Most of these eager young married women who still go about with that "come hither" look in their eyes, are merely full of the joy of living. Many of them do not have enough to keep them busy; they have long hours of leisure. Their imaginations are full grown and flourishing, and their love of attention and romance just as intense as it was before they became brides. The most of them start out their lives honestly wanting to do the right thing and to fulfill their marital obligations.

But what the husbands of these women too soon forget, alas, is that their wives are still and will ever continue to be hungry for love. They have not forgotten the delights of being wooed just because they are wed. They have, too, a constitutional horror of "settling down" into commonplace matrimonial life, for this is the giant bugbear about which they have as often been warned.

And so what is more natural if the husband forgets to bestow loving little attentions upon them, than that they should accept them from other sources if they are offered?

And many a poor little girl wife gets scorched and seared when she starts what is at first her innocent little game with fire, and many a man remembers too late that love is "woman's whole existence."

For the jazz age is quite as upsetting for husbands as it is for wives, you may be sure of that. What in nature for the husband is sauce for the goose also in these enlightened days, and if it has become necessary that we women watch and pray unceasingly to keep life's romance, this labor does not devolve exclusively upon us as many a husband has already found to his sorrow.

THE FUTURE AHEAD—
AND MAY IT BE A PROSPEROUS ONE FOR YOU.

Use Your Credit We Trust You

WINDSOR

JEWELRY COMPANY

135 N. Illinois St., Lyric Theatre Bldg.