

## 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.

## The Booze Squad Controversy

THE new city administration has abolished the booze squad. It isn't a bad idea—unless the police department is to be divided into separate squads throughout, with a homicide squad, a hold-up squad, a burglary squad, an auto theft squad, and so on.

Perhaps with the abolishment of the booze squad the entire police force will take an interest in enforcement of the prohibition law. The only way to bring about law enforcement is to charge every man on the force with responsibility for enforcing all the laws and to see that he lives up to that responsibility.

Letting every man understand that he is equally responsible with every other man for the performance of his duty does away with the "let-George-do-it" attitude. If Chief Johnson goes through with his law enforcement promises it is safe to say that better liquor law enforcement will result than could ever be obtained through the maintenance of a booze squad.

## Real Boosting

BOTH Marmon and Stutz, the leading Indianapolis automobile manufacturing concerns, have been taking active steps to increase their business—and, incidentally, to boom Indianapolis.

This is the kind of city boosting that pays. It is the kind that gives men and women employment and thus adds to the permanent prosperity of the city. One factory working full time or overtime is of more benefit to the city than all the parades, red fire and oratory that ever were let loose on a community.

The way to boost the community is to get busy and work at producing prosperity. Actual work goes much farther than talk.

More power to Marmon and Stutz.

## Don't Get the Cart Before the Horse

NOW that President Coolidge has signified his intention to have the United States represented at the Geneva arms conference, it is important that we should not lose sight of what it signifies.

Reduction of armament is an effect, not a cause. Big armies and navies are the result of menacing international situations rather than the cause of them. Kaiser Wilhelm II created a big army and a big navy because his ambitions were so vast he knew he would run imminent risk of war in realizing them. France's big army was the result of her fear of Germany. Britain's stupendous navy was the inevitable result of her far-flung empire which, at any time, she might have to defend against rival empires.

And so the World War was not the result of big armies and big navies, but because of clashing international policies and fears.

The United States Army today is the smallest army of any great power on earth. Why? It is quite simple. We have no neighbors that can invade us, and we have no intention of invading any of our neighbors.

Today the United States Navy is as powerful as any on earth. Why? Again the answer is obvious. We have interests to protect overseas and our own extensive shores to defend. Measuring the menace as carefully as we can,

we rightly insist upon having a navy as powerful as any that could possibly attack us.

And so it goes. In 1922 we agreed partially to limit the size of our Navy. But, mark you, the five-power naval pact did not come until after a dangerous situation in the Pacific had been thoroughly discussed and cleared up by a number of international agreements.

So be assured of this: Whatever of arms reduction or limitation may be arrived at the next conference, it will be an exact measure of the world's sense of security against another war.

Disarmament is not, and cannot be, the mother of peace. It is peace that is the mother of disarmament. If we have disarmament of the mind, disarmament of the hands will follow for the world, including the United States, to work together toward international understanding.

## What Children Are Learning

READING, writing and arithmetic. They are on the wane in modern American schoolrooms, those three R's of yesterday.

Back in 1888, when youngsters were still taught to the tune of a hickory stick, school teachers devoted an average of 902 minutes a week to penmanship. Today the average time has been reduced to 567 minutes, according to an investigation throughout the country just completed by the National Education Association.

Arithmetic instruction during the last thirty-seven years has been reduced from 1,671 to 1,451 minutes a week; reading instruction, from 2,332 to 2,003 minutes; spelling instruction, from 832 to 598 minutes.

The time saved is being devoted to additional instruction in language, history, civics, geography, music and physical exercise, the investigators discovered. Instruction in social studies, including civics and history, has increased from 901 to 1,409 minutes. Physical training now gets 873 minutes as compared with 373 minutes a week in 1888.

The survey indicated that spelling bees would never again return to favor. Instead of requiring children to learn to spell such words as "chirography" and "nemonics," the modern school centers its spelling drills on the 3,000 or 4,000 most common words in the language, such words as "too," "believe" and "separate."

In geography the modern teacher never asks a student to answer such a question as "What peninsula is south of Siam?" A typical modern question is: "Geography of Baltimore; discuss advantages of location, industrial importance, commercial advantages and living conditions."

The National Education Association contends the modern system fits a child more efficiently for life as a useful and active-minded citizen.

THE President might solve the Bryson-Udike controversy by breaking his silence and saying "No" to Ralph.

CONGRESSMAN UDIKE persists in seeing President Coolidge. Knowing both of them, we'll wager Udike does most of the talking.

ISN'T it strange that in view of all these salary injunctions no State employee has enjoined the budget commissioner from increasing his salary?

## A Sermon for Today

By Rev. John R. Gunn

Text: "Now while Paul visited at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry."—Acts 17:16.

A WELL-KNOWN poet, a professor of Northwestern University, flees tragic life of city, goes to the forests of northern Wisconsin to seek the unspoiled society and surroundings of the woods. So ran a front-page announcement in a recent issue of The Times. The modern city, "with its emotional stress, its social complexity, its hot-house cooking, its jazy life, destroys happiness and manhood," declared the runaway poet. "I want to get away from it all," he said, "away from the shrieking taxicabs, the jazz bands, the jammed street cars, the mad hurlyburly, the stench and the smoke."

I have no word of censure for this poet. Let us hope that he may send across the street and saw a man crawling on all fours up the hill which is in the alley between Capitol Ave. and Church St. So you see the danger which exists.

MISS INDIGNANT READER Roy C. Shanberger, board of works president, told Mr. Fixit the board would be pleased to consider a petition signed by you and your neighbors. You may obtain a blank form for the petition at the board of works office in the city hall. Get as many signatures as possible.

## MR. FIXIT

Reader Complains That Dogs Have Ruined Yard This Winter.

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

One would say dogs, not dogs, were preponderant on a certain lawn on Bancroft Ave., according to a letter received by Mr. Fixit today.

DEAR MR. FIXIT: What can be done to rid our neighborhood of a nuisance in the form of a dog? The man who owns it has ruined his own yard as well as mine. I have spent time and money to get my yard in condition and now from having six to eight dogs in it daily all winter, it looks like I had kept hogs in it this winter.

All the neighbors as well as myself will have our spring flowers broken down after spending money and time in buying flowering bulbs.

Go to the police station and swear out a warrant against the owner of the dog. If he refuses to pen him up. You have that legal right.

DEAR MR. FIXIT: I wrote you some time ago about a light at Church and McCarty Sts., but you failed even to put it in the paper. I just got home when I glanced

## RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

## A SACRIFICE TO THE LORD

MRS. MARGARET HOUSE, a middle-aged wife and mother of Shelbyville, Ind., crawled, under intense religious excitement, into the furnace at her home, Tuesday, and was burned to death. She had previously announced she would offer herself as "a living sacrifice to the Lord."

Of course she was temporarily deranged. But it seems incredible that such an act of voluntary immolation in the name of religion could occur in Indiana in 1926. However, strange things are still done in the name of Christianity. Recently an aged French priest was seized, stripped and scourged with knotted cords by members of a fanatical order, including several elderly women, to expel from his body the "evil spirits which possessed it." They believed they were thus glorifying God and exorcising the devil. An echo of the superstition of the Middle Ages.

The priest is in the hospital and the "mortifiers of the flesh" are in jail. "God is Love," wrote the inspired evangelist. And that is the central theme of all the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth. Yet nineteen hundred years later we find so-called Christians believing in a God of vengeance who must be propitiated by burnt offerings, physical torture, and pagan rites like Moloch.

It will take a long time for Christianity to soak in.

## AN UN-AMERICAN BUSINESS

CHARLES M. FILLMORE of Indianapolis, secretary of the No-Tobacco League of America, has hurled a challenge to the Tobacco Salesmen's Association to debate whether or not promiscuous smoking and chewing of tobacco is an abuse of personal liberty.

All because the weed vendors condemned the recent letters of the No-Tobacco to President Coolidge and Vice President Dawes—asking those officials to swear off smoking—as an invasion of personal liberty.

In reply, the No-Tobacco organization says "the tobacco business is one of the most un-American institutions in our country."

The charge has a familiar ring. "Un-American" is the favorite epithet organized uplifters and crusaders apply to those who do not see eye to eye with them and don't joyfully join with them to regulate everything.

The tobacco may be filthy, wicked and devastating, but the tobacco business in the most American thing in America. It's a native. The weed was cultivated and used here before the ancestors of the No-Tobacco gentlemen ever set foot on this continent.

Intolerance and the efforts of crusaders to thrust their reforms on an unwilling people, to regulate personal habits and drag down private consciences, are the most un-American manifestations of the times.

## THE VERY IDEA!

By Hal Cochran

## The Fireside

I 'M not asking much of this world where man lives, 'cause I feel that I've had a good share. But, one little thing, that I'm glad that it gives, is a fireplace and comfortable chair.

I want to sit back, when my day's work is done, and gaze in the embers that glow. That's something, to me, that's a whole lot of fun. I've tried it, and I ought to know.

The peace and the quiet, of logs burnin' bright, put worries and frettings to rout. For they, like the smoke and the fumes, rise at night, and drift till they've all faded out. At ease! Let the things a man needs now and then, to clear up a mind that is aching. A hot by a fireside's a good thing for men, and women, and well worth the toing.

So let the logs crackle, and pull up your chair. With spirit of loafing be blest. Then gather around you, a family affair, and give all their minds a good rest.

Judge: What became of that last case? Bailiff: That's already been tried, yer honor, an' it's full of empty bottles.

If you look all the steps that father uses in walking the baby to sleep, and put them in a haphazard line, who cares how far they would reach?

It's the popularity of a piece of new music that makes radio broadcasters use it until it loses its popularity.

## NOW, HONESTLY

So you're broke, huh? Well, what are you doing about it—just borrowing?

Why, you've only got to pay back what someone else loans you. The better way out is to plug that much harder and bring in more finances. And then, when you get more, pay a bit of attention to the expression, "lay something aside for a rainy day."

Be careful it doesn't rain I. O. U's. "I miss my husband," said friend wife.

Now, isn't that a shame? For she had spent 'bout half her life, At taking proper aim.

When a fellow proposes these days he can't get down on his knees, mainly because the girl is usually sitting on them.

## DIVORCE COURT VICTIM

RANCIS MURRAY, 16-year-old boy, who recently lost his hands in an explosion in Houston, Tex., is coming to Indianapolis as soon as he can leave the hospital, to his mother from whom he has been separated fifteen years.

When a baby his parents were divorced and his mother, unable to keep him, placed him in an orphan asylum. She lost track of him, and he became a homeless waif, shifting for himself, growing up without parental love and guidance. He did not know who or where his parents were—whether they were alive or dead.

He might thus have continued to the end if sympathetic persons following his accident had not interested themselves in him and attempted to locate his family.

If mother is coming, it's worth losing two hands for," he exclaimed joyfully when told that she had been located and was coming to take him home.

One can't expect husband and wife to continue in hateful wedlock. They have their own feelings to consider, their own lives to live. Divorce solves many domestic problems. It's a great institution—for the crew of the matrimonial bark that goes on the rocks.

But the divorce court is rough on the babies—the innocent victims of marital shipwreck.

## A SUBSTITUTE IN PRISON

HASE OSBORN, former Governor of Michigan and Hoosier born, in a letter to President Coolidge offers to take the place of Warren T. McCray in Federal prison and serve the balance of his sentence if the President will release the former Indiana Governor.

It's a generous offer, a touching exhibition of friendship, regular Damon and Pythias stuff. But of course the gentleman from Michigan knows it's unacceptable. It's only a gesture.

Several centuries ago he might have been taken seriously. It was quite all right then for a convicted person to hire a substitute to serve his sentence. According to our modern ideas a prisoner is expected to serve his sentence in person.

Probably, without impugning his good faith, no one would be more horrified than Chase Osborn if he should be dragged to Atlanta to serve the remainder of McCray's term. He only intends his letter to influence the President to extend clemency to the former Hoosier chief executive.

Perhaps McCray should be paroled. His health is said to be failing and he recently gave up some of his physical activities, because of his physical condition. And he may have suffered sufficient punishment to satisfy the demands of justice. Further confinement might be just useless cruelty.

However the question of his release should be determined by the actual facts and merits of the case—coldly and dispassionately studied. Importunities of friends and former Governors of Michigan and elsewhere have no bearing. It is a matter only of McCray and justice.

## A Woman's Viewpoint

## A Husband's Appetite

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

GASTRONOMIC expert says that divorce will be knocked sky west when all women learn to cook and take pains to give their husbands the food they most need.

This good man theorizes well. But knowing how to cook and feeding your husband the things he should have are two entirely different things.

Thousands of girls are now taking domestic science. They are learning all about values, about calories and proteins and vitamins. Most of them will probably become expert cooks, but will that keep their husbands from having dyspepsia? It will not.

For, when cooking and food values are disclosed, you just must allow for the husband concerned and take into consideration the sort of temper he has.

In bygone days, that woman was called a good wife who prepared all those favorite dishes that her husband craved; she piled him with fried potatoes and thick steaks and heavy pies and waffles swimming in thick syrup. The woman who does that today is as likely as not to be sent to the penitentiary for man-slaughter, what with the numerous and erratic laws we possess.

For we must remember one thing: The things that are good for a husband are never the things he likes to eat. And so the duties of a twentieth century wife are doubled. Somehow she has got to keep her husband pleased and well filled, and her conscience will not allow her to give him food that is not good for him. It is at this point that divorce generally stalks in.

If you are married to a fat man, he will be certain to insist on having fried eggs and rich gravies and creamy deserts and cake; if you are tied up to an anemic soul, he will probably want head lettuce and string beans and asparagus and weak tea and cabbage salad bathed in vinegar.

It is easy to talk about giving these men the food their systems require, but making them eat that food is a horse of another color.

For husbands resent more than anything else the preaching of wives about what they should and should not eat. A man may realize that his wife knows what she is talking about, he may comprehend the dangers which lie in improper eating, but he goes merrily on his way unheeding the importunities of a loving spouse and happily eating those things which he should not eat until there is no health in him.

And so here's another, lovely theory knocked into a cocked hat by a wife who knows through bitter experience.

## Ask the Times

You can get an answer to any question or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1315 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. Enclose a cent in stamps for reply. Medical, legal and moral advice cannot be given. Personal replies will receive a personal reply. Unanswered requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor.

What was the full name of Woodrow Wilson? It was originally Thomas Woodrow Wilson. Later he dropped the first name.

How many Popes of Rome have had the name "Benedict"? Fifteen. The last bearing this name was Pope during the World War.

In what year was the Colossus of Rhodes set up?

The date is said to be about 280 B. C., but fifty-six years later it was overthrown by an earthquake, and lay in ruins until 653 A. D. when the Arabs captured the city and sold the metal to a Jewish merchant.

## Jane and Katherine Lee Will Top New Bill Today at Palace

JANE and Katherine Lee, the young film and vaudeville favorites, appear in person at the Palace Theater in their comedy sketch, "At the Studio," the last half of this week, opening today.

This is one of their last appearances on the speaking stage, as they have a contract to make several pictures this season.

In the past the Lee children have been starred in mostly comedy roles, but in the future their producers are planning to feature them in more serious parts. In their present sketch they deal with comedy and with a little of the dramatic.

Bebe Moffie and her company of a pianist, singer and violinist, are co-headlined on the novelty bill. Miss Moffie is styled as the most sensational dancer in the world, and her efforts are said to produce a symphony of color, motion and sound.

Arthur Jarrett and company have a variation in the line of domestic acts. "Cupid's Close-Ups" is the title of the novelty.

Blackface funsters, Jones and Jones, have a character classic of the southern Negro which they develop with comedy and drama.

Ponzini's monkeys are featured in a comedy and aerial act.

"Parisian Love" is the photoplay.

## Here Is Rudy



Rudolph Valentino

A big week is expected next week at the Ohio when Valentino will be seen in his new photoplay, "The Eagle." And it is said that the sheik of the movies looks more like a heart breaker than ever before.

Other theaters today offer: "Rose Marie" at English's, with a special matinee Friday to accommodate the overflow audiences; Ethel Davis at Keith's, "Hollywood Scandals" at the Broadway, "Black Cyclone" at the Zaring, "The Vanishing American" at the Apollo, Franklin and Vincent at the Lyric, "Madam Ben Hur" at the Colonial, "Bluebird Seven Wives" at the Circle, "Little Annie Rooney" at the Ohio, and a complete new movie bill at the Isis.

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