

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.

Marion County Should Build a Courthouse

THE proposal of Leonard V. Harrison, secretary of the civic affairs committee of the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, for the construction of a new courthouse is the most sensible solution of the county's building problem.

It is agreed that Marion County courts and offices must have more room. The commissioners must either remodel and enlarge the present structure or build a new one. In any event, a new building must be erected eventually.

The old courthouse may have been a work of art in the mid-Victorian era, but it is an eyesore now. Nor is its appearance its worst feature. The courthouse is so cluttered with plaster decorations and "gingerbread," and it is so arranged that it is almost impossible to keep it in a sanitary condition. It is equally impossible to provide much more room without building an addition. An addition to the old building would be not only an architectural misfit, but it would be extremely expensive.

Harrison proposes, and the civic affairs committee approves his proposal, that the county lease the south half of the courthouse property—the half facing Washington St.—and that it erect a modern office building on the north half, facing Market St. Harrison points out that the courthouse property is extremely valuable, and that from the proceeds of a ninety-nine-year lease, bonds for the new building could be retired and the interest paid without cost to the taxpayers. Thus Marion County has within its grasp the possibility of a new, well equipped courthouse without a cent of increased taxes.

Viewed from any angle, this proposal considerably outweighs any plan for alteration or addition to the old building. Alterations and additions would be makeshifts at best and could not possibly prove satisfactory.

Marion County is badly in need of a new courthouse. It has more land than it can possibly use for this purpose. Half the land can be disposed of and out of the proceeds a modern building can be erected.

That is a sensible business proposition.

A Man's Own Backyard

MAN'S home long since ceased to be his castle, but occasionally a court recognizes that a citizen has peculiar rights in his own back yard.

State police raided Creed Isner's home, near Elkins, W. Va., and locked him up when they found two barrels of fruit juice in his cellar, made from wild cherries and elderberries picked in his own backyard.

He was charged with possession of intoxicating liquors.

The Fourth Federal Circuit Court freed

THE VERY IDEA!

By Hal Cochran

Companionship

SEE, he's a queer lookin' sort of a hound, lazy and always jee' hangin' around. Ears flappin' wide and his tail droopin' down. Still, he's the best friend I ever have found.

Followed me home, sorta whinin' one day. Chased all around me an' wanted ta play. I let him in. He decided to stay. How kin ya chase such a creature away?

Mornin' till night he is right at my heels. When I retire, to the cellar he steals. Dreamy expression that always appeals. Gee, I kin tell just the way my dog feels.

Crawlin' in my lap when I'm weary and blue. Seems to know just what I want him to do. My home is his home till living is through. I love this sort of a hound. Wouldn't you?

Seems like they ought to pay higher wages to a person who hasn't had experience. It's a darn sight harder for him to learn.

IMPORTANT, IF TRUE—"Out to Lunch, Back in an Hour"—"Strictly Fresh Eggs"—"This Is My Busy Day."

"I'm not a public speaker, folks." The man was heard to shout. He didn't need to tell them, 'cause they shortly found it out.

NOW, HONESTLY—

Why don't you join a chorus? You're always kicking, anyway. And, what good does it do? Finding fault isn't an accomplishment worth while, because it's so easy anybody can do it.

Don't follow the mob. Be original. Try praising instead of kicking. You'll enjoy it more—and so will everybody else.

You'll agree that this, that or the other girl has a "mean hair in her head," when your wife finds it on her coat.

SOMETHING—Say, maw, there's a man at the door who says he hasn't eaten for a week.

Mother—Find out how he does it, and maybe we can get by ourselvess, until Saturday.

MR. FIXIT

Only Short Stretches of Street to Be Repaired Before Spring.

Let Mr. Fixit solve your troubles with city officials. Write to him at The Times.

FABLES IN FACT

It isn't any wonder she was proud of her new dress perched 'twas pretty comma and besides comma she bought it at a bargain sale period and then came a streak of tough luck comma as well as a streak of lengthening period she and her dress were caught out in the rain period what should she do question mark simple enough period she did the only thing she could do dash dash let it rain period

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Hoosier Briefs

SOMEONE made a New Year's resolution at Seymour. A bottle of white male was left on the steps of the Cortland Union Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Holam Losey and Mr. and Mrs. Marion Pickett of Atlanta, who were married by the same minister on the same day celebrated their golden wedding anniversary together this week.

Tipton's fire loss in 1925 amounting to \$6,327, was the heaviest in the city's history.

Night police jobs run in the Smith family at Marion. When Leslie Smith resigned to become police patrol driver, his brother Herbert took the job.

BOTS come high at Elberfield, near Bonville. When Louis H. Miller didn't like his wife's haircut he attacked Jacob Seifert, the barber. Judge fined him \$125 and costs.

Is there a novel called "Richard the Brazen"?

Yes. It was written by Cyrus Townsend Brady and published in 1906.

A Sermon for Today

By Rev. John R. Gunn

Text—"Behold, he prayeth." — Acts 9:11.

SAUL of Tarsus had a notoriously bad reputation among the first Christians in Jerusalem and Judea. He had been viciously persecuting them. The story of his conversion on the road to Damascus is familiar. At Damascus was a certain disciple named Ananias, to whom the Lord appeared in a vision, directing him to go and meet Saul upon his arrival in the city. This Ananias was afraid to do, saying, "I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem." But the Lord assured Ananias that there was no longer any occasion to fear this man, "for, behold, he prayeth." That was enough. Ananias was satisfied. Nobody is afraid of a praying man.

This reminds me of another story I remember, earing years ago. According to this story, "many years ago, before the days of railroads, a party of young men went on horseback through several States. When they reached the mountains of Kentucky they were warned that the section which they were entering was infested by bands of robbers. Just at nightfall they came to a

little one-room cabin and asked if they could stay that night. The owner of the cabin appeared to be a rough, uncouth man, who reluctantly agreed to take them in. After the simple meal he pointed to a ladder which led to a scuttle-hole in the loft, and told the visitors they would find pallets up there. They crawled up and held a whispered consultation.

They concluded they were in the home of one of the robbers, who would likely summon his confederates. One of them was left to watch while the others, after placing their pistols within easy reach, retired. Soon the watcher heard a low voice below and was sure the band had gathered. Before arousing his companions he decided to crawl to the scuttle-hole and see how many there were. By the dim light of the dying embers he saw the old man kneeling on one side of the hearth, and his wife on the other. The old gentleman was praying, and before he concluded he said, "O, Lord, bless the strangers who are in our home tonight." The watcher awoke his companions and said, "Boys, you may put up your pistols, he is praying! There is no need to fear a man who prays."

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RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

WET COPS AND DRY CITY

FOREST SWANK, Indianapolis policeman, was suspended from the force and will go before the board of safety. It is charged that he was patrolling his beat in company with John Barleycorn.

He has been before the board of safety several times for drinking. But he has always gained reinstatement. Off again, on again, has been his record.

In the past two or three months a half dozen policemen have been similarly suspended because of their affinity for liquor. And Thursday Prosecutor Remy charged four police officers with protecting booze joints, accepting drinks and gifts of white mule in bottles.

And these are the sort of fellows that are presumed to be straining every nerve to enforce the laws, including the prohibition statute.

Of course, the great majority of policemen are upright and conscientious, observing the dry law themselves and seeking to enforce it impartially. But the actions of a few thirsty officers bring the whole force into disrepute and largely nullify its efforts.

If a cop can drink without being seriously disciplined, why can't it? is the unanswerable question.

Consequently policemen found dallying with the "mule" should receive a swift kick instead of merely a disciplinary frown. Authorities can't make the city dry as long as there are wet spots in the police department.

While we are all indignant over the foreign gouge, Senator King charges that the Administration is "silent on the many monopolies and combinations in the United States which are annually robbing the American people of many billions of dollars." Let's investigate all these gouges, he says—home-made as well as foreign.

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Frankly, though, the billion dollar gouge Britain, Brazil and other countries are putting over on us is small compared with what some of our own folks are doing to us. Senator King of Utah hit the nail on the head when he said there are trade associations right here in America that control the domestic market in steel and its manufactures, aluminum and its manufactures, copper, brass, cement, brick, lumber, plumbing supplies, furniture, coal, chemical dyestuffs, ice cream, wool, cotton, milk, meat and bread—in fact, "practically every commodity of necessity or convenience required by the people of the United States."

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