

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.

Not Wet, but American

THE head of the Anti-Saloon League of this State has listed this newspaper, along with numerous other important publications, as "wet," and in his report to his directors charges that it has engaged in an "unpatriotic" effort to overthrow the law.

The gentleman is mistaken.

The readers of this newspaper understand the policy of this newspaper in its comments on prohibition.

They know that it has stood for law and that its effort has been to restore law and respect for law and to preserve, most of all, the traditions of American liberty.

It has pointed out from time to time that there has been a lack of enforcement of the prohibition law and it has called attention of its readers to the fact that the workings of prohibition have not resulted in a reduction of crime or poverty which the real friends of temperance and the real foes of alcoholic excesses had hoped it would bring.

It has been the dry spokesman and advocate at all times, because it wanted sobriety and not drunkenness; law, not anarchy.

It has been always the advocate of any measure which will reduce drunkenness. But it has not been so foolish or so blind as to believe that any act of Congress has the authority of divine inspiration or is beyond all scrutiny, examination or repeal.

The charge of being "unpatriotic" is a rather serious one, for we have believed that we were especially patriotic when we tried, as far as we might, to save the foundation principles of this Nation.

We believed we were patriotic when we hoped that the time would come when this crime would not be fashionable.

We believed we were patriotic when we demanded that the final law of the land be the will of the people.

IF we should desire to adopt the methods of our accuser, we might retort that the Anti-Saloon League has become a commercialized institution, that it carries on its work for hire, that it has challenged our traditions by endeavoring to link the forces of church and State and has endeavored to make organized religion a dominating force in politics and government. But we prefer to settle the matter on the facts and the record.

It is not a defense, but it is significant to note that the policy of this paper on this subject has been that of a committee of great Americans, including ministers, college presidents, statesmen and financiers which have demanded an honest study of the situation and a solution based on facts instead of fanaticism or appetites.

It is also significant to note that the temperance societies of at least three large church organizations are on record as approving exactly the stand which this paper has taken.

This newspaper believes that it has a duty to perform and it intends to perform it despite the charges and libels of paid propagandists for any cause.

WEEKLY BOOK REVIEW

Clyde Griffiths Stages Great American Tragedy

By Walter D. Hickman

UNDER is a tragedy in any country and it is an American tragedy also.

Theodore Dreiser, in his first novel since 1915, makes the murder of a girl by Clyde Griffiths the great American tragedy.

And he calls his two-volume, three-book edition of this tragedy "An American Tragedy."

In two other reviews I have been concerned with the first book and half of the second book.

Today we are concerned with the last half of the second book and the entire third book. We consider murder not as a fine art but the misguided reason of Clyde Griffiths in removing from this world a girl, a factory girl, who he had wronged in a sex and moral way.

He becomes a cold, a coward and a cheat to himself and to society. Murder was the way out. So for days he plans cold murder, the turning over of a canoe on a lake, which contained the girl he had wronged. Her name was Roberta Alden.

And while her dead body was in the cold waters of the lake this murderer for accommodation purposes alone basks miles off in the smiles and embraces of Sondra, a society girl of rather wild habits, but she refused to become a part of an sex program that Clyde might arrange.

Dreiser's genius rests in the fact that he develops Clyde as a murderer upon a strange and yet common basis. Clyde could not see how he could be discovered. He forgot there might be such a thing as conscience. He forgot that the law makes it a duty for prosecutors to hunt out murderers.

life. The electric chair was the means, Dreiser, I believe, is at his best while telling in page after page the method used by the State of New York in running down Clyde and then trying him.

Clyde's lie could not stand on the witness stand, and above all, it couldn't stand in his own mind.

And yet this boy became a murderer and a sex expert in this book just as he would in real life. Clyde

A Big Egg

A novel bearing the provocative title, "The Dinosaur's Egg," is promised for publication in the latter part of March by E. P. Dutton & Co. It is by Edmund Candler, whose book of mingled travel, observation and philosophy called "Youth and the East," which the Duttons published last year, attracted attention and much comment.

Griffiths and all the other characters step from the printed page and become real, living personalities. Clyde is not a lovable murderer because he was such a little fellow in his own makeup. He refused to pay the price only until the State demanded it.

He was a weakling and a coward and yet his evil weakness was his strength. No reader can sympathize with Clyde when he becomes a mental and moral heathen. He had his chance and he became a murderer by careful plans.

A Great Novel

Dreiser stands alone today, way and above the many ordinary writers of fiction. He challenges respect by his very daring. He paints ugly but natural life. There is little sun-

shine in Dreiser's new masterpiece. In my humble opinion, "An American Tragedy" comes nearer than anything in being the great American novel.

I know that this Dreiser novel is the talk of the hour. It is startling. It is cruel and yet it is human and it thought the weakness of human characters are revealed.

There is a great lesson in this novel. A lesson in nearly every page of the 840 pages. It challenges respect. It will conquer your own fears by the great lessons and deductions arrived at as conclusions of life by Dreiser.

"An American Tragedy" stands, in my opinion, the most challenging exponent of the great American novel. I obtained my copy for review from L. S. Ayres & Co. It is published by Boni & Liveright, New York.

Be sure and read "An American Tragedy," and do not miss the joy and the thrill by discussing it with your best mental friends.

Ask The Times

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1322 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. Inquiries will be made in stamps for reply. Medical, legal and medical advice cannot be given for other questions will receive a personal answer. All letters are confidential. —Editor.

What is the salary of Gloria Swanson, the movie star? It is reported to be about \$17,500 per week.

Why is the president of the Argentine Republic always a member of the Roman Catholic Church? A constitutional provision requires him to be.

Gay Night Club Music Turns Modern Home Into a Bright and Gay Broadway

By Walter D. Hickman

THEY are turning night into day in many American homes.

The glorious "blame" goes to the phonograph and to the radio. Sister entertaining her best parlor friend with the phonograph for a little at home dancing. The dance music, such as being played in the gay clubs of night life on Broadway, oozes through into neighborhood homes.

In a flat there is generally a turning off hour of the phonograph, as it is generally understood that some people do a little sleeping. It is then that the head phones get in use over the radio.

I know that some of my friends have their radio on the lamp table near their beds and with a head-phone on they Broadway themselves to sleep by hearing the gay tunes coming from the night places in New York.

The phonograph companies are making a big effort to keep up to date with their "night life music."

Have before me a statement from Okeh in which it is stated in connection of the playing of "I Never Knew" and "Don't Wake Me Up" as done by Vincent Lopez and his orchestra that "Okeh record buyers can hear the same music that is being played nightly in one of Broadway's very gayest night clubs, Vincent Lopez's Casa Lopez, when they play 'I Never Knew' and 'Don't Wake Me Up.'"

And Okeh lists gay records as follows:

"Hurray! Hurray! My Wife's So Good to Me," Victor. Accompanied by the Bow Wow Happiness Boys (Duke and Dixie).
"I Would Rather Be Alone in the South," Victor. Accompanied by Ernest Hare.
"Close Your Eyes," Fox trot. Palledo Orchestra of Los Angeles.
"What-Cha-Cali-Rem Blues," Fox trot. Palledo Orchestra of Los Angeles.
"Waiting," Fox trot. Phil Baxter's Orchestra.
"Someday Tella Me," Fox trot. Phil Baxter's Orchestra.
"Roll 'Em Girls (Give Your Own)," Fox trot. The Red Hotlers.
"You Told Me to Go," Fox trot. The Red Hotlers.

"Tomorrow Mornin'," Singing with banjo, Barney Barium with Bill Bailey (The Love Brothers).
"Headin' for Louisville," Singing with banjo, Barney Barium with Bill Bailey (The Love Brothers).
"If I Ever Cry You'll Never Know," Contralto. Accompanied by Millie Gottschalk. Alma Kotter.
"I Won't Be Worried I Am If You Haven't Gone Away," Contralto. Piano Accompaniment by Millie Gottschalk. Alma Kotter.

"Went a Little Lovin'," Fox trot. Merritt Williams and Orchestra.
"Sugar Foot Stomp," Fox trot. Merritt Williams and His Five Hot Orchestra.
"I Wanna Be Somebody's Girl," Contralto. Accompanied by Jack Gardner's Orchestra. Irene Jones.
"I Ain't Thinkin' About You," Contralto. Accompanied by Jack Gardner's Orchestra. Irene Jones.
"Jail Birds," Monolog. Shelton Brooks.
"The New Professor," Monolog. Shelton Brooks.

"Tomorrow Mornin'," Fox trot. Chorus sung by Billy Jones. The Red Hotlers.
"Five Foot Two, Eyes of Blue" (Has Anybody Seen My Girl?), Fox trot. Chorus sung by Billy Jones. The Red Hotlers.
"I Ain't Thinkin' About You," Contralto. Accompanied by Jack Gardner's Orchestra. Irene Jones.
"Jail Birds," Monolog. Shelton Brooks.
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Famous Composers

Moritz Moszkowski

MOSZKOWSKI, a Polish composer and pianist, was born in Breslau in 1854. He studied at Dresden Conservatory and in Berlin.

At 19 years of age Moszkowski made his debut as a piano virtuoso, and after successful tours through the principal European countries, he settled in Berlin, in which city he subsequently made his headquarters, although after 1897 he became almost entirely identified with the musical life of Paris.

The best known of his works is "Spanish Dances," which nowhere met with greater success than in America, and which may be said to have introduced him to the world at large. He also wrote many pieces for pianoforte, chamber music, concert studies and waltzes.

THE VERY IDEA!

—By Hal Cochran

Sonny

I CONSTANTLY envy, like all other men, a youngster of 8 or 9 or 10. Down there in the age where all life is a grin, where youth has its fun, 'ere the worries come in.

There's something concerning all kids that I know, that makes me feel bad when I know they must grow. I guess, after all, if you hit at the truth, we all feel that way when we're drifted from youth.

A grown-up can thrill over the pep of a boy who lives in a world that is made up of joy; who's reaping the best that he possibly can, yet missin' a lot—as he'll find when a man.

You never appreciate bein' a child, an' runnin' through playdays a little bit wild, until you are grown—then it's always too late to live it all over—the working of fate.

I wish I could tell every lad in the land, the meaning of youth so he'd well understand, and get all the fun and the pleasure, but see, they'll never find out till they're grown up, like me.

Washings may not be all wool—but they're usually a yard wide.

Agreeing that we all sprang from monkeys, my guess is that woman sprang farther than man.

Long hair makes a man look silly—especially if his wife finds it on his coat.

She stood out in the rain one day, quite friendly, so to speak. 'Cause as the raindrops fell her way, they'd patter on her cheek.

NOW HONESTLY

'Course your watch won't keep regular time—

When you treat it the way you do. People expect a frail little timepiece to do wonders with only the assistance of carelessness.

It's too darn easy to forget to wind a watch, every night. Yet it ought to be done. That's the best way to keep the old tickler in proper shape.

And the best way to put it out of order is to wind it at any old time of day or not, totally out of regularity.

I ought to know—that's the way I kept mine out of whack.

Prof. Osefegosh Sakes contends that when an orator gets through talking, it's the audience that ought to say "I thank you," instead of the speaker.

YOUR INCOME TAX

NO. 2

M. Burt Thurman, Internal Revenue Collector, Tells Times Readers About the New Tax Regulations in These Articles.

THE exemptions under the revenue act of 1926 are \$1,500 for single persons and \$3,500 for married persons living together and heads of families. In addition a \$400 credit is allowed for each dependent child under 18 years of age, or incapable of self-support because mentally or physically defective.

The normal tax rate under the revenue act of 1926 is 1½ per cent of the first \$4,000 of net income in excess of the personal exemptions, credits for dependents, etc.; 3 per cent on the next \$4,000, and 5 per cent on the balance. Under the preceding act the normal tax rate was 2 per cent on the first \$4,000 of net income above the exemptions and credits; 4 per cent on the next \$4,000, and 5 per cent on the remaining net income.

All net income up to \$5,000 is considered "earned net income." On this amount the taxpayer is entitled to a credit of 25 per cent of the amount of the tax.

For example, a taxpayer unmarried and with no dependents, whose net income for 1925 was \$5,000, would pay without this reduction a tax of \$25.50. His actual tax is \$39.37. From his net income of \$5,000 he is allowed a personal exemption of \$1,500; the tax of 1½ per cent on the remaining \$3,500 is \$52.50. One-fourth of this amount, or \$13.13, may be deducted.

For the purpose of computing this credit in no case is the earned net income considered to be in excess of \$20,000. Under the revenue act of 1924 the earned net income was considered not to be in excess of \$10,000.

The term "earned net income" is defined as "wages, salaries, professional fees and other amounts received for personal services actually rendered."

RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

TRACTION LINE SHOWS A PROFIT

THE Interstate Public Service Company, supplying light, gas and water to a number of trailer communities as well as operating a traction line between Indianapolis and Louisville—enjoyed in 1925 one of the most prosperous years in the company's history, according to the financial report submitted to the annual stockholders' meeting in Indianapolis, Monday.

Even the traction line showed a profit, something entirely out of the ordinary for Indiana electric interurbans. Most of them the past year have operated on red ink.

There's something for traction magnates to think about. The line to Louisville is equipped with all the travel frills and luxuries—sleeping cars, buffet-parlor cars, most modern steel equipment and fast schedules. And in the midst of general traction gloom it makes money.

Speed and comfort are what the passengers want, whether they travel by railroad, interurban, bus or in a hearse. A transportation agency that supplies its customer with speed and comfort at a reasonable charge will be patronized by the traveling public. That's what people want and they are willing to pay for it.

We would respectfully refer the experience of the Interstate Company to the Indianapolis Street Railway and other electric lines that, with dingy cars and obsolete equipment, bawl bus competition and decreasing patronage. Paint pots, vacuum cleaners, and up-to-date equipment will do more to resuscitate such lines than rate boosts and friendly public service commissions.

TAKE ALONG A ROAD MAP

CONNIE THOMPSON, 19-year-old Indianapolis girl, now advises girls never to take an auto ride with a strange man. She accepted such an invitation following a dance Saturday night, and is now in city hospital, with a terribly bruised face, the result of being dumped out of the automobile on the National Rd. near Greenfield.

"He was awfully nice looking," she explained. "It was such a wonderful night, and he had such a peachy-looking roadster."

All was lovely until they reached Greenfield. Then, according to her version, the party got rough. She was pushed out of the speeding roadster and landed in the road on her face. The awfully nice-looking young man and the peachy-looking roadster sped back to Indianapolis without her. She was picked up by passing motorists and brought to city hospital.

The young man, when arrested by detectives in connection with the affair, told a different story. He says on the ride they quarreled. She wanted to get out. "So, like a gentleman, I slowed up; she jumped out; I drove on to Indianapolis." And, "like a gentleman," left her bruised and unconscious on the road.

The incident can be used to adorn a tale, point a moral and form the text for a sermon. But probably it won't deter other girls from accepting similar invitations to ride with strange "boy friends." They will continue to live and learn. But when they go on such rides they had better take along a road map.

A COLLECTION AGENCY

SUITS, brought under an old Indiana statute by the Marion County prosecutor, on behalf of a woman to recover from the winners \$3,429 lost by her husband in stud poker games at the

Indianapolis Athletic Club, open an interesting field of possibilities. According to the statute, if you play cards for something more substantial than fun and lose, an occasionally happens, your wife can enlist the aid of the prosecutor's office to recover your losses. It makes the State a collection agency for gambling losses.

Of course, poker is a very reprehensible pastime—the law says so—and should be discouraged. And, possibly, one way to discourage it is to give the wife final say whether her husband shall lose his money or merely his sleep in trying to draw a pair back to back—as the stud poker vernacular has it.

Properly exploited, the statute would make a married man as welcome at a friendly game as the smallpox.

No doubt gambling is a vice that should be suppressed. But complete suppression is a large order. Despite all the legislative enactments on the subject, men will insist on playing cards and clubs—nice, private homes and clubs—more or less prominent citizens. Even the statute invoked in this case, probably, isn't especially effective in stamping out gambling. But if the prosecutor's office is to be a collection agency for gambling losses—if it seeks to recover for the losers in crap games on Indiana Ave. as well as in the stud poker games at the athletic club it will, at least, enjoy a busy summer.

A PROXY IN PRISON

LOUIS GARINO is again a free man, after serving more than six months as a prisoner at the State Farm. He was pardoned the other day by Governor Jackson.

He pulled a regular Sidney Carton act—went to prison as the hired substitute of a fellow countryman who had been convicted and sentenced for high crimes and misdemeanors against the prohibition act, and who disappeared while out on bond pending hearing on his appeal. The substitution was a clever ruse.

Five months ago the substitution was discovered. The matter was investigated. There was quite a scurrying to and fro of officers and a search for the sprightly hiker of the prison proxy. Meanwhile Louis was left at the farm serving time for another's crime.

What was the idea in keeping him locked up after it was discovered that he was the wrong man?

The whole episode has all the characteristics of comic opera jurisprudence—the sort of thing one expects from the hick staples in the comic strips. The wrong man is hustled off to prison—and kept there even after the authorities are convinced that he is a substitute. Keep there because they don't know what else to do with him. Somebody ought to serve out the sentence and he is available for that purpose. That seems to be the reasoning.

Apparently it is a slower and harder job getting the wrong man out of prison than the right one in.

In what percentage of divorce suits in 1923 were wives the plaintiffs? How does it compare with other years? What were the principal causes of divorce?

In 1923, wives were plaintiffs in 67.8 per cent of divorce proceedings. This ratio has scarcely changed since decade 1887-1896, when the average was 65.8 per cent. The causes of divorce specifically alleged and their percentage of the whole in 1923 were: Drunkenness, 1.3; neglect to provide, 4.0; unfaithfulness, 10.5; desertion, 33.2; cruelty, 35.3.

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