

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 Mitchell Message

Will the people of this country finally be ruled by bureaucrats at Washington?

That is the question raised by Gen. Billy Mitchell, the nations foremost aviator and expert on aircraft, on his visit to Indianapolis.

It is a question quite as important as the other cause he pleads for, an adequate defense of this nation through air forces and the extended use of the airplane for commercial uses.

His is no plea of a martyr for vindication or of a victim of discipline railing against the punishment by a military court.

"The things I have told you I first told to the Secretary of War and then to Congress. When no action followed and I saw the Nation naked to attack, I could not remember my oath to defend it against all enemies, from without and within, and come to you, the people" is certainly an attitude of mind which demands a respectful hearing.

Mitchell not only headed the largest air force in action during the World War, but is largely responsible for what development has come in this country since the war.

Here are some startling facts which he gave to the people of this city.

The airplane today can go from San Francisco to Peking, China, in seventy hours and cross but twenty-three miles of water.

Russia is devoting more time and money to the development of airplanes than any other country. Aerial torpedoes, guided by radio and carrying no human pilot, have a carrying distance only limited by the gasoline in their tanks and can drop bombs that would destroy whole cities.

Every European nation has developed a system of commercial aviation that can easily be turned to war weapons should occasion arise.

This Nation has no effective airplanes, no commercial system except that of the mails, and has no trained airmen in command.

Possibly his speeches will arouse enough interest in the profits to be made in commercial aviation to inspire business men of imagination to change the situation.

The money saved on time of delivering interest bearing securities is sufficient to pay the expense of our air mail service in his way of illustrating just how valuable this service can become.

But the remedy for the other evil, that of bureaucracy, can only be secured by a more active interest in the selection of Congressmen and Senators who will have the courage, the determination and the fighting spirit to restore the Government to the representatives of the people.

The control of the army has been removed from the hands of the President.

By concealment and other methods, the bureaus have a grip upon legislation.

Instead of bringing government closer to the people, these bureaus, which are multiplying and increasing in number, take it farther away.

There can be no doubt as to the sincerity of Mitchell. He has proven his patriotism in two wars. He explains his supreme sacrifice of casting aside the uniform in which he served so long by a deeper reverence for his oath.

Such a man and such a message are worth consideration.

The Champions

When news went over the wires and radio that the Marion team had won the basketball championship of the State, the citizens of that town staged a celebration.

Old men and women marched through the streets cheering. Every boy and girl yelled. The lid was off. "The town was wild."

That is exactly as it should be. Basketball is an Indiana institution. Other States may dabble with it. The big colleges have developed some fair players. The high schools outside of Hoosierdom are slowly learning it.

But in this State it is an enthusiasm and a passion, to be regarded seriously.

To win a championship in this State is a real triumph. It means that the team must, by process of elimination, show superiority over 718 other teams.

It means training, interest, enthusiasm, and most of all, the whole-hearted support from the whole community.

To be a champion is the big aim of every one. We all want to be the best at something.

As a Nation we are proud of the fact that we are now the richest of all peoples.

We boast of our home State as "God's country," no matter what State it may be that we live in.

Every one with spirit will tell you, when he gets away from it, that his city is the best city in his State.

The whole struggle of man, from the earliest days, has been to win a championship of some sort. And every one admires a champion.

Just as Marion rejoices over its victory, the home city of the next Democratic candidate for President will take on an atmosphere of pride in that fact and the neighbors of the opposing candidate, will buy maps and try to find desirable spots where they would like to be sent as ambassadors or begin to figure how life in Washington would strike the wife.

Cities shine in the glory of their citizens and the champions, whether it be of basketball, football, pugilism or politics, are entitled to all the honor that is paid them.

Into the Open

Neither the professional wet nor the fanatical dry citizen will object to the open hearings on the subject of prohibition before a Senate committee.

Each will have a chance to establish by facts all that it has claimed or may claim concerning the success or failure of the present system.

To the bewildered man and woman intent on temperance and sobriety, wanting decent environment for their children, demanding results not claims, the occasion may produce information on which to base a real judgment.

It can not be denied that there is a growing resentment against and disgust with some of the con-

ditions that have followed the passage of the Eighteenth amendment.

No one looks with complacency on the rough treatment given to the bill of rights in many localities.

No one welcomes the widespread graft and corruption that are in evidence everywhere, the breaking down of all law, the crowding of jails and penitentiaries.

No one is exactly pleased by the hip flask habit among boys and girls and the increase of social drinking by women, especially in circles that before prohibition tabooed this habit.

There are few who like the idea of the return of the old saloon and all the evils that it represented.

No one, unless his judgment and patriotism are determined by his thirst, wants the old bar back, with all the vicious enticements, corruption of politics, and other evils that were a part of it.

Very many people are bewildered. They know that the old system was evil. There are many who believe that the present one is as bad, if not worse.

A public hearing on this question may result in dragging the question out of the smoking cars, the parlor, the street car, where it has been for the last six years, furnish facts, not gossip, as a basis of discussion.

The people have a right to know how far the law has been enforced and why it has not been enforced to the extent that other laws are obeyed.

They have a right to know where it has succeeded or failed and why.

They have a right, not legal but moral, to a real test of opinion on this subject.

Unless the will of the majority and the power of public opinion is behind this law, it ceases to be a law.

It is not a question for partisan politics.

It will be used, of course, by shrewd candidates for office as a cloak for sinister purposes or weaknesses.

The appeal to passion and prejudice on this question will be stronger than other issues which demand settlement and the honesty, ability or principles of candidates will be obscured by their attitude on this one question.

The logical step is a national referendum on this question to discover what the people really want.

If the majority speaks for prohibition, the law must be enforced and strictly enforced.

If the majority be for some different system, the laws should be made to conform.

The chances are that the professional dry and the commercial wets would both object to any such method of determining public sentiment. Both prefer noise.

Tom Sims Says

Money doesn't mean everything, but you can't say it doesn't mean anything.

Being a coward isn't worth half so much as it costs.

The holes burned in shirts by cigarettes would feed quite a few moths for quite a while.

Only a short time now before the baseball scandal season.

A skirt is a garment which always seems to be too long, too short, too tight or too something.

The boyish haircut for girls looks much better than the girlish haircut for boys.

There are too many wrecks in a one-track mind.

Being in a rut is better than not being on any road at all.

You can eat best on an empty stomach, but you can't think best on an empty head.

Congressional Record Available to All

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times Washington Bureau, 1323 New York Ave., Washington, D. C., enclosing 2 cents in stamps for reply. Medical, legal and marital advice cannot be given nor can extended research be undertaken. All other questions will receive a personal reply. Unsigned requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor.

How many copies of the Congressional Record be procured?

The subscription rates of the Congressional Record are \$8 for the long session and \$4 for the short session and \$1.50 per month. Single copies are 3 cents when twenty-four pages or less and 1 cent for each eight pages in excess of twenty-four. Orders for it should be sent to Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., accompanied by cash or postal money order. Checks and postage stamps are not accepted.

Who was the sculptor of "The End of the Trail" that was awarded a medal at the Panama-Pacific Exposition in 1915, and what does the statue represent? The sculptor was James Earle Fraser. The statue represents an American Indian on horseback. Both man and horse are about to collapse, at the end of the long trail.

What President of the United States appointed his chief opponent Secretary of State?

Abraham Lincoln appointed Seward, who was his principal opponent for the nomination, Secretary of State.

What is the name of Pope Pius XI, and where was he born? His name is Achille Ratti. He was born at Desio, Italy, May 31, 1857.

Who is the Consul for Jugoslavia to the United States, and what is his address? Pavle Karovich, Consul General, 443 W. Twenty-Second St., New York City.

How much opium did the United States import last year?

The net imports during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1925, amounted to 109,478 pounds.

Where is Tallapoosa River, and what does the name mean?

It is one of the two main headstreams of the Alabama River, rising in Paulding County, Georgia, and flowing southwest. It is 250 miles long. The name is Indian, meaning, "swiftcurrent," according to some authorities, and "stranger" or "newcomer," according to others.

What are the measurements of Miss Fay Lamp-hier, crowned "Miss America" at the Atlantic City beauty contest last summer?

Height, 5 feet, 6 inches; neck, 12 1/2 inches; bust, 34 inches; waist, 26 1/2 inches; hips, 37 1/2 inches; arm length, 22 inches; wrist, 6 inches; thigh, 21 1/2 inches; calf, 12 1/2 inches; ankle, 8 inches.

There Is No Real Reason in the World for Henry Ford Getting Into Violin Music

By Walter D. Hickman

I for one am not worried about these great artists and peace ships that Henry Ford sends out to sea. As far as a violin fiddler is concerned, Henry Ford is just about as good picking them as I am.

Am talking about Mollie Dunham at Keith's this week. I wonder who is kidding the world by giving us this attempt at fiddling. I was close enough to know that he had to be promoted to know what to say.

The only thing that kept this act from failing were some Indianapolis boys and girls who did the dancing. There might have been a few neighbors present from Norway, Maine, but there were more present from Indianapolis.

For such a beautiful show the house was pitifully small last night. If people only knew that they were missing one of the treats of the show season perhaps they would come and see this beautiful love story. Personally, have seen it several times and will go again.

At English's all week. (By John T. Hawkins.)

Artistic Deagan as Sergeant Malone, Marcella Shields as Lady Jane, Neil Moore as Black Eagle and John Cherry as Hard Boiled Herman make up the important members of the rest of the cast. Their work is fine and it is a pleasure to watch and listen to them.

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Stage Verdict

KEITH'S — Lew Castleton and Max Mack, and Roberta Arnold in "Their First Anniversary" ring up real hits on this bill.

ENGLISH'S — Fine cast in "Rose-Marie" should argue well for his houses.

LYRIC — The Observer likes much about this show.

PALACE — The interest centers upon "Behind the Front."

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