

The Indianapolis Times

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Member of the Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance • • • Client of the United Press and the NEA Service
• • • Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations.
Published daily except Sunday by Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-220 W. Maryland St., Indianapolis
• • • Subscription Rates: Indianapolis—Ten Cents a Week Elsewhere—Twelve Cents a Week • • •
PHONE—MA 3500.

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.

Jim Gets Started

In the spirit of fairness let it be recorded that after thirty years of public life, one of the laws of the Nation will stand as a monument to Senator James Watson.

Never again can it be said that he has never written a law or fathered one which bears his name.

It is true that the law which he introduced is already in effect in many cities and that councilmen who fathered ordinances for the same purpose are unsung, forgotten, unheeded.

It will protect the lives of many children, says the great statesman, because it provides that any cleaning preparations which contain lye or caustic ingredients shall be plainly stamped with the warning of "poison."

No longer will the mail order houses be permitted to send out their cans and barrels to menace the children of the Nation.

The law has the merit of unanimous approval inasmuch as those who manufacture or deal in these articles are very much interested in preventing any tragedies and the bad advertising that always results.

But it shows initiative, even if his start is made against something that every one agrees is bad.

In another thirty years perhaps Watson may have the courage to champion a measure which has in it an element of opposition, some cause or principle about which there is a chance of disagreement.

It is conceivable, though not probable that in that time he might get to the point where he would challenge the extortions of big privileged interests.

He might, in time, emerge from the cloakroom with a bill to give the farmers a little more than a "bag of peanuts" or show enough interest in the workers to relieve them of some of the unfair burdens which they carry.

True, the people have long awaited for the miracle, the product of great genius, the bud which shows that the winter of gestation is over and that the spring time of Watson's career is at hand.

It is possible that he is about to bloom, somewhat after the manner of a century plant it is true, but still a little flower of promise and a sign of hope.

The people of the State have been very patient. They have waited long and anxiously. The encouragement is over. Watson is the father of a law.

Politics and Principles

One of the organizers of the prohibition party in Indiana died last week at the ripe age of 84.

His passing may serve to call attention to the history which lies behind the passage of the Eighteenth amendment to the Constitution, and points to the fact that the triumph of principles and of the political parties which produce them are not necessarily linked.

When the prohibition party was formed a few zealous and very sincere people who gave it their support firmly believed that only by the triumph of their own party could they possibly attain their objective. Two large and dominant political parties laughed at this new babe of politics. In their own vicinity the men who voted for this ticket were looked upon as very foolish. Wise men and the more practical said that they were wasting their votes.

The party was considered harmless and certainly not regarded as at all dangerous.

The arrogance of the saloon interests and the very potent evils that came from over-indulgence convinced large numbers that the drink evil must be curbed, and by a slow gradual process of political strategy and intense propaganda, the movement came when the cause for which these very pioneers sacrificed became the fundamental part of our law. No prohibitionists had any part in the final triumph nor was that party given any credit for any of its early triumph. None of these men who acted upon chance and were willing to sacrifice for a principle were even honored or remembered. Whatever credit was distributed went to those strategists who were not so foolish as to waste their votes.

Only when one of them passed to their final reward was it ever remembered that in his early youth he gave enthusiasm and ardor to a cause.

It may also be recalled that in the later history of the prohibition party its leaders and its members suffered more from criticism by those who finally obtained legal prohibition than they had ever suffered from those who made and sold whisky.

Less than twenty-five years ago they were accused of really blocking temperance by insisting upon prohibition instead of throwing their support to local option as against the saloon. They were accused of being fanatics and impractical.

Perhaps that is the real glory of those men who formed this third political party. They did not expect to win, but they forged on. Fear of defeat did not daunt them, neither derision nor repeated failures cooled their ardor. They believed in a principle and they stood upon principle.

Such men must ever have respect. This Nation could well use many of this sort. It needs those who believe in something. We have become too sadly practical, too politically wise, too indifferent to fundamental things.

Whatever you may think about prohibition you cannot refrain from giving unstinted respect to that little group whose bravery and persistence forms one of the bright pages of our political history.

Broadcasting, Not Wisely, But Too Well

When Paul Klugh took the air the other night he started something that may have important consequences.

Klugh is chairman of the Radio Broadcasters Association and, as such, is in excellent position to use the air. He made use of his opportunity too well, many members of Congress now think, when he broadcast his views on proposed legislation concerning the rights of music writers. The music writers and the broadcasters are at war. Klugh had stations all the way from the Atlantic coast to the Mississippi River hooked up while he told his views on the subject. Then he went further and told his myriad audi-

'Big Parade' Is Most Human Movie Ever Reflected Upon an Indianapolis Screen

BY WALTER D. HICKMAN

The boys over there sang songs about a farmer having a daughter fair.

They sang and yelled. They cried, they screamed, they died and lived.

In other words, these are the various human emotions reflected in "The Big Parade," the most human movie ever reflected upon any screen. Some may say that it is the greatest photoplay ever reflected upon the screen. I will not argue that point. If it is not the greatest, then it is only a half degree behind the greatest. It is my humble opinion that there are now only two candidates for the title of the world's greatest movie—"The Big Parade." The "parade" shows war in its most human, lovin' aspects.

It shows war as a cursing, nasty, terrible thing. It shows the heartbeats, the laughs, the screams and giggles behind the lines.

It shows war as it is in the front line trenches. It shows death, hate, real human, terrible hate. It shows sudden death. It reflects hell on earth.

The war reflected here is the real war. It is not the melodramatic war so often reflected upon the stage and the screen, but war as it is with all of its horror, filth and pain.

And yet "The Big Parade" is not a photoplay of just horrors. The story is so human because real characters appear in it. Real men and real women.

Let us consider this movie in two ways. First, its comedy. Most men attach as much importance to the dramatic war side of this movie, because even the war scenes are human—human because real men were mad with killin'.

It is in the first part of the movie when you see the boys marchin' and singing. Where you see 'em in France dishing barnyard dust just for pastime. Then you see 'em pickin' out the girls and the development of the romances.

It is here that James Apperson and Melisande become friends and real lovers. Their love-making is so human and real that one cannot understand that it is just acting.

The influence of their love even extends into the trenches and over the shell ruined lands of France. Here is a romance so human and beautiful that it becomes a sort of benediction.

It is here in the first part that you meet James Apperson, played by John Gilbert; Bull, played by Tom O'Brien, and Slim, played by Karl Dane. Dane is the real comedy find of the season. He is as slim and long as his name implies. He is the best tobacco chewer in the Army and is the champion spitter. He is a real man. He is rough, honest and ready. And when he dies on the battlefield I am sure that you will feel that you have lost a real friend.

John Gilbert is starred in "The Big Parade," and justly so. Last summer when I was in New York I was told by some film people who know what they are talking about that Gilbert is the best movie bet for the next ten years.

How many persons are employed in the United States postal service?

Approximately 358,000.

Spring is when the closed car owner quits bragging and the open car owner starts bragging.

Sun Is Responsible for Moon Shine

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times Washington Bureau, 1325 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. Information "as far as possible" can be given, but research can be undertaken. All other questions will receive a personal reply. Unsigned questions cannot be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor.

Does the moon radiate its own light?

The moon is illuminated by the rays of the sun; it is a dead world and has no luminous quality of its own.

How many persons are employed in the United States postal service?

Approximately 358,000.

Why is the election of President Hayes called the disputed election?

The Hayes election occurred in 1876 when four States each reported two sets of electors. The question arose as to which certificates were to be recognized.

The Democratic nominees, Tilden and Hendricks, had indisputably received 184 votes, one less than a majority. The votes of South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, and one vote from Oregon, being twenty in all, were in doubt, owing to the rejection by the returning boards of votes alleged to be fraudulent in the three States named first. To settle the matter an electoral commission was created. It decided in favor of the Republican, Hayes, and as only the concurrent votes of both Houses could overthrow the result, its decision stood, the Republican Senate voting to sustain the Democratic House to reject. One elector in each of five States was objected to as ineligible on account of being a Federal officeholder, but both Houses consented to admit those votes.

Were there more deaths by drowning than by fire in the United States in 1924?

The figures given out by the Census Office for the registration area are 7,304 deaths by fire and 6,529 by drowning.

How many acres will one bushel of corn plant?

From five to seven acres, depending upon the soil. From 8 to 11 pounds of corn is required for an acre.

How can one distinguish a yellow poplar tree?

The yellow poplar is really not a poplar at all, but a member of the magnolia family. The way to distinguish the tree when it is not in leaf is by the wood.

The wood of the so-called yellow poplar is yellowish olive, while other poplars and willows are grayish brown.

A better way to distinguish it is by breaking off a twig and smelling it. It has a pungent odor not found in other poplars.

Is there a bill pending in Congress to change the immigration laws to permit the wives and husbands of immigrants in this country to come in as non-quota immigrants?

The Wadsworth-Perlmutter bill, now pending in Congress, provides for the admission as non-quota immigrants of the wives, husbands and unmarried minor children of those who have declared their intention to become American citizens. The bill also exempts from the quota all veterans of the American forces who served in the World War and who after being honorably discharged remained in Europe instead of returning directly to the United States. This applies to all alien veterans of the American forces who served in the World War, no matter where they were born.

Where is the "Klondike"?

It is a region in the Canadian territory of Yukon, lying chiefly to the east of the Yukon River, where Klondike Creek flows into it, near the middle of the Alaskan boundary line. The mining district includes the basins of the Klondike, Indian and McQueston Rivers, and is about 800 square miles in area. It was on Bonanza Creek, a tributary of the Klondike, that a prospecting miner, G. W. Carmack, discovered rich gold deposits, Aug. 16, 1896. The following year saw an almost unprecedented rush of gold miners, and the Klondike was converted from a barren waste to a populous lively mining district.

Who is the world's heavyweight wrestling champion?

The title at present is in dispute, being claimed by both Joe Stecher of Omaha and Ed (Strangler) Lewis of Kentucky.

'Big Parade' Is Most Human Movie Ever

Reflected Upon an Indianapolis Screen

"For Heaven's Sake" is built upon different lines from anything that the comedian has done before. Of course it is Lloyd who is responsible for the fun and yet his supporting cast is about as funny.

The movie gets its title from the fact that Lloyd is doing something for "heaven," meaning the mission.

It is probably more farce than comedy and yet when the picture is all over you will remember it as an entire entertainment instead of just a few scenes in which Lloyd generally lifts a picture to high entertainment planes.

And Lloyd is wise in bringing a new note to the screen. He believes that he must have vehicles which tell an entire story. He is right in that.

"For Heaven's Sake" approaches a stage comedy or farce much nearer than his previous pictures.

I believe that Lloyd has established a new idea in movie comedies in making "For Heaven's Sake."

It is mighty good, in fact, corking good all round entertainment. I know I will be asked if this movie is as good as "The Freshman." I believe it is better in some instances but the theme of "The Freshman" had that human boob element which people so much enjoy. In "For Heaven's Sake," Lloyd scatters his talents along over a complete story which has a real climax and a logical ending.

The bill includes a comedy, "Raisin' Cain," a news reel, "Hender-son and Weber," and Emil Seidel and his orchestra.

At the Apollo all week.

At the Colonial all week.

At the Indiana all week.