

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.

A SPEECH BY GOVERNOR RITCHIE

Getting the Government back to the people was the theme, if not the title, of a talk by Governor Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland, before a Boston audience the other night. The Governor spoke the language of statesmanship.

State Rights is a phrase whose appeal is generally believed to have been lost long ago. This, however, may not be true. Ritchie couched State responsibilities with State rights and he presented State rights as primarily the average citizen's rights, his personal rights as an individual member of a free commonwealth, rather than the right of power of the political unit known as a State. He saw State rights as home rule or local self-government and he argued the necessity for more such close-at-home control as against increasing Federal control.

Some paragraphs from his speech follow:

The tendency to use the long arm of the Federal Government, particularly in what is really the field of morals, has been anything but helpful to the natural agencies of social advance. By trying to control by force the normal activities of men, their morals and their habits, we have undoubtedly weakened the power of the real agencies for human betterment—the church, religion, education and individual conscience. Centuries of experience have taught us that in all times and all places these after all are infinitely more effective than are the letter of the Statute or the policeman's club.

It was the States that produced the great leaders. They should still be the training school for the Nation's statesmen, rewarded, rejected. Even in the several States you cannot escape a certain measure of centralization and excessive officialism. But State officials are too close to their creators to develop a bureaucracy. Everybody can easily know all about him. The force of public opinion can keep them in check. But who knows anything about the army of bureaucrats that administer affairs from Washington? Even those who do the appointing must act on information and belief and not on knowledge. They are beyond the reach of public opinion.

The same principle applies to restrictive legislation. Some of the States are about as ruthless in over-riding the liberties of men as is the Federal Government; but the remedy is easier. Abuse is more readily corrected. Public opinion can better make itself felt. If a law represents the prevailing sentiment it can be enforced; if it does not it can be repealed. Not so, however, when you permit one part of the country to inflict its views on a non-assenting part. This becomes then a species of sectional tyranny that undermines all law.

Good government depends on popular interest in government. Obviously the more remote you make the agencies of government the more the citizen loses interest. You may satisfy him that he is getting good government by giving him fine Federal buildings, improving his rivers and harbors, subsidizing his industries, taking from the rich to ease the poor, and all that, but you are not helping him to function as a good citizen. He can't function that way. His government is too remote, too far removed.

That is what is happening now with all this centralization; it is sapping the springs of political vitality. That is why men lose interest in politics. Why one-half of all voters fail to vote. Why a progressive political program is so difficult.

Let me say this in conclusion: I am fighting for the rehabilitation of the States; for the preservation of their rights under the Constitution; for a larger measure of self-government and a more vital state; for less centralization and more individualization; for more reality in politics; for more interest in government; for a higher intelligence; for a broader tolerance—all because in the last analysis these are factors in the great equation of political liberty. This is the one touchstone by which all government must be tested. And I sincerely believe that our fundamental liberties are in jeopardy.

"PROTECTION"

Just how much the present high-tariff act "protects" American labor from the low-wage laborers of other countries was told to the House the other day by Representative Tom Ayres of Kansas.

When the act was passed, he said, American girls were operating ten to 15 cotton cloth looms and getting \$16 to \$17.50 a week. They and their machines were so efficient and cheap that dealers in India could come to America and buy cotton goods at less than the Indian price, although weavers in that country were getting only one-fifth the wage of the American girl.

Yet the tariff act placed a 40 per cent duty on all cotton goods imported and 50 to 90 per cent on embroideries and laces. Since that time efficiency of machinery and worker has so increased that according to the United Textile Workers, the girls operate twenty-four looms—and the wages have been cut.

Now, Ayres said, the entire cost per yard of cotton cloth averages about 1½ cents. American loom operators get 45 cents per cut of forty-seven yards, against a wage in Britain of 51 cents per forty-seven yards.

Or take woolens. About 6 per cent of the cost of a yard of woolen cloth, Ayres said, is labor. The tariff is 73 per cent.

Meanwhile imports of these cloths and of cutlery and other articles whose labor cost is low, are almost nothing.

Who's getting the protection?

CRIME NEWS

Does the reading of crime news lead to violation of the law? Do the persons who read murder stories want to go out and do likewise? What is the influence of crime news upon the reader?

Here is a new idea, advanced by Dr. A. A. Brill of New York City, a psychologist and "investigator of the human impulse." He says, in part:

"We chafe under law and order. Responsible citizens even venture in crime when it comes to faking income tax returns, slightly or not declaring all

the things they bought abroad when they come home through the customs.

"So much we allow ourselves, but we hold back at stealing and killing. Yet we like to read about the clever crook who gets away from the honest policeman, principally because the criminal tendency in us finds a familiar note. We identify ourselves with him and that gives relief to the suppressed criminal tendency in us.

"Well-behaved people get their outlet by proxy. That is why they tend to forgive the criminal. He has taken their sins upon himself."

There may be a kernel of truth in what Dr. Brill says. Study your feelings the next time you read a murder story and try to find out.

JUSTIFIABLE

It seems that a man in Chicago trumped his wife's ace during an important bridge game. It was more than the good woman could bear.

She took him to task so bitterly for his bone-head play that he slapped her face and pushed her violently against the table.

Now she is suing him for divorce, complaining that he is addicted to several other cruelties, such as twisting her wrists.

Somehow or other one's sympathy goes out to this lady. It is bad enough to be beaten up, but as for having your partner trump your ace—well, did you ever play bridge?

WHAT MORSE MAY DO, DEBS MAY NOT

By Gilson Gardner

Eugene V. Debs can't hold office in Indiana. He is not a citizen. He is still a "criminal" because his sentence was "commuted" and the "Department of Justice does not recommend a "pardon."

Charles W. Morse may hold office. He is a citizen. He violated the national banking act and was sent to the same penitentiary where Debs served his two months. But President (now chief justice) Taft pardoned Morse on Harry Daugherty's application. (The same Harry Daugherty who was driven out of the Attorney General's office by the Wheeler investigation.) Morse was pardoned because he was "very ill" and "about to die." He survived to get his hands into the public treasury during the later war and to acquire several indictments and criminal charges which are still pending.

Debs declines to apply for a pardon. He has no feeling of criminality and does not admit that he has violated any law. His attitude toward jail is set out clearly in the address he made to the court, when on Sept. 14 at Cleveland he was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary. Replying to the usual question whether he had anything to say why the sentence should not be passed on him, he said in part:

"I have listened to all that was said in this court in support and justification of this prosecution, but my mind remains unchanged. I look upon the espionage as a despotic enactment in flagrant conflict with democratic principles and with the spirit of free institutions.

"I have no fault to find with this court or with the trial. Everything in connection with this case has been conducted upon a dignified plane, and in a respectful and decent spirit . . .

"Standing here this morning, I recall my boyhood. At fourteen I went to work in a railroad shop; at sixteen I was firing a freight engine on a railroad. I remember all the hardships and privations of that earlier day, and from that time until now my heart has been with the working class. I could have been in Congress long ago, I have preferred to go to prison.

"In the struggle—the fierce and unceasing struggle—between the toilers and producers and their exploiters, I have tried as best I might to serve those among whom I was born, and whose lot I expect to share to the end of my days . . .

"In this country—the most favored beneath the bending skies—we have vast areas of the richest and most fertile soil, material resources in inexhaustible abundance, the most marvelous productive machinery on earth, and millions of eager workers ready to apply their labor to that machinery to produce in abundance for every man, woman and child—and if there are still vast numbers of our people who are the victims of poverty and whose lives are an unceasing struggle all the way from youth to old age, until at last death comes to their rescue and stills their aching hearts and lulls these hapless victims to dreamless sleep, it is not the fault of the Almighty; it cannot be charged to nature, but it is due entirely to the outgrown social system in which we live that ought to be abolished not only in the interest of the toiling masses, but in the higher interest of all humanity."

And because Debs talked that way they sent him to jail and declare today that he is not fit to hold office or vote.

Hurry slowly. Chicago woman running from cops was hit by a taxi.

Potatoes grow wild in Chile. Potato prices grow wild here.

DOGS IS DOGS!

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

Dogs are very fine animals. We are all fond of them, but when we read that one woman, in New York City, spends \$23,000 every year upon her five dogs, and another uses up \$500 every twelve months for the clothing for one, it makes us feel that perhaps there is something wrong with people.

Nothing is more pathetic than a dog that is kept in the house and fed rich foods and bundled up in clothes, unless it is the woman who keeps it there.

Dogs are outdoor creatures, and the poor things that are tied to a cord and led around like monkeys or shut up in apartments deserve the attention of the Humane Society almost as much as those that are abused in other ways.

You can't civilize a dog. They were meant to run around and play upon the dirty earth. They like rubbish and old vine-smelling bones and other dogs. Do you suppose that any of them enjoy being dressed up in tight garments or lying on silken cushions? No, they have no more business being kept in the house all the time than a giraffe has.

To the normal woman who realizes how many neglected children there are in the world, there is something disgusting in the sight of a grown-up member of her sex posing around over a pet dog.

Men never insult dogs like this. They like those that stay our doors where they belong, and it is only a woman who becomes so cruel that she will imprison the thing she thinks she loves.

I don't care how long a pedigree a dog may have, he will never be anything but a dog, and what's more he never wants to be anything but a dog.

If these fine animals were left to enjoy their bones in peace and the money thrown away on them were expended upon children who need it so badly, dogs and children, men and women, all would be better off.

Of course, I don't know how the men who supply all this money for the dogs feel about it, but if I were in such a man's place I am quite sure what my motto would be.

The lips that touch canine's shall never touch mine."

Wedding Pledge Taken By Our Hero in 'Let's Get Married' Is Surely a Wow

By Walter D. Hickman

No matter what a fellow utters when he slips a ring on a girl's finger at the altar, it means that he is hooked.

The vow taken by Richard Dix when he "marries" Lois Wilson in "Let's Get Married" is something of a pledge. It is a comedy, because it was administered by a Justice of the Peace, who hadn't married a couple for many months. The old Justice became sadly mixed up in his formula, but it took. It sure did.

"Let's Get Married" is the title of a comedy, because it was administered by a Justice of the Peace, who hadn't married a couple for many months. The old Justice became sadly mixed up in his formula, but it took. It sure did.

Richard Dix is the stuff in him which will make him the most popular man on the screen. And as I yelled and screamed with my friend "Al" at the Ohio yesterday during the screening of "Let's Get Married," I had the feeling that the prediction about this man may come true. To me, Richard Dix is not funny in the sense of being funny in appearance, but he knows what to do along comedy lines in a given situation. And he has never failed yet in police comedy work. Generally he has had a vehicle of merit and his latest movie is no exception to the rule. "Let's Get Married" is the title of an original play or story called "The Man From Mexico" and it has been all jazzed up for the antics of Richard Dix.

You are going to like this fun, because the sub-titles are certainly warm and the star is a comedy knockout with this material. He appears to be equally at home in a dress suit or a workhouse uniform.

The scenes devoted to the "cleaning out" of a cafe are about as sincerely funny as any reflected upon the screen for the last ten months. The woman "sous" in one of these "cleaning out" scenes is a comedy gem.

Have no fear about "Let's Get Married" being the favorite of the new screen offerings this week. It is a comedy, won.

"Bill" includes an organ solo by Van Bibber in "The Mad Racer," which has a mighty funny race scene; Doe Stults in a presentation and music by the Charlie Davis Orchestra. At the Ohio all week.

Sally O'Neill is the best dressed impersonator in the business and he has a satis-

factory method in introducing and telling the audience what he is going to wear.

His setting this season is one of beauty. It is not gaudy, but has the needed attractive qualities to give it class and charm.

As far as I am concerned, Renault is doing the most pleasing work of his unique career.

The feature movie at the Circle this week is "Mike." The story is about as poor and as a theatrical contraption as I have seen on the screen for a long time.

It is one of these railroad yarns which attempts to be comedy, romance and melodrama at the same time and this just is not being done successfully this season, at least not in this picture.

It has its "cute" moments and when it is all said and done, "Mike" is just another picture. Sally O'Neill is supposed to be the featured player. Judging her by her work in this picture, Miss O'Neill has much to learn. It may be the fault of the story, but she doesn't register to any degree in this photoplay.

When the picture does come into its own, it is because Charlie Murray and Ford Sterling are in the cast. These two veteran funmakers certainly do a life saving job for "Mike."

As usual have your own idea about "Mike." I may be all wrong about this one, but for the life of me I can not see any reason to rave over this one.

"Bill" includes an organ solo by Dessa Byrd; Circle Orchestra playing "The Emerald Isle"; a Mermaid comedy and news reel.

At the Circle all week.

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"SALLY" IS IN ITS

SECOND WEEK AT COLONIAL

"Sally," a movie version of the serial now appearing in The Times, is now in its second week at the Colonial. I told you last week that I liked this movie and the work of Madge Bellamy. The big audience of last week proved that "Sally" has a tremendous following in this city. "Sally" remains on view all week at the Colonial. As Mae Tinee says in the Chicago Tribune, "I know you are all going to like 'Sally'." It's a downright fascinating little photoplay—not so little—reels—with a cast that's right on its toes every minute and keeps you that way.

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