

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.

KNOW YOUR STATE

INDIANA has immense wealth hidden in the shale banks in the south central part of the State. Scientists are experimenting with this shale with a view to producing cheap fuel, and already have reported encouraging results in the distillation of motor spirits.

ONE IMPORTANT FACT

There is one fact in connection with the street car strike which must interest not only the citizens' committee, but every citizen.

There may be a division of opinion as to the methods of reaching the result.

There can be argument as to the wisdom or foolishness of steps taken by the leaders of the men and the officers of the company.

But there can be no quibbling over the fact that the men who run these street cars must be paid a wage which enables them to live decently and according to American standards.

The men who meet the public and serve the public upon these cars should be alert, courteous, capable.

Men who are near the bread line can hardly maintain a smiling and courteous attitude to the public and their regard for the safety of passengers is likely to be disturbed by their own private problems.

The one question and the one fact which should be established is whether the wage of 37 cents an hour for beginners and 42 cents an hour as the ultimate goal to be reached is a living and fair wage, commensurate with the service rendered and in keeping with wages paid for work of a corresponding character in this city.

The officers and management of the street car company will make a mistake if they try to avoid in any manner this issue.

The street car company is not a private enterprise. Upon its operation every other industry and business depends to a large extent. It deals in a necessity and is given a monopoly on the presumption that it is best qualified to give the service.

The fares it collects are taken in behalf of the public and it owes a very special duty to the public.

When it fails in any respect, its failure is reflected in the business of every merchant, the operation of every plant and in the comfort of every home in the city.

It acts in behalf of all the people at all times.

Certainly the people of this city do not desire or wish to ride upon cars manned by men who do not receive a fair wage.

The people themselves are the real employers of the men and they would, most assuredly, favor a scale of wages that is fair and just.

The present scale may be a fair wage. It may be a just wage. It may be a decent wage.

These men may be extravagant in their demands and wholly unjustified in their attitude. They may be getting all they need and all they earn.

But the people will want to know and then public opinion can be formed on facts and full information.

MORE MONEY FOR ALL

If industry is to avoid periodical overproduction and resulting financial depression, wage earners must have the money with which to purchase the steadily increasing quantity of things produced.

That thought is growing among the professors of economics.

At the same time there is arising among leaders of industry the question of how and where this extra money is to be discovered.

All of which leads to a suggestion that public development of electric power, as being tried out at Muscle Shoals, for example, is more necessary than has been imagined.

A six months' test, according to Washington dispatches, has proved that the Federal Government, by operating and fully developing Muscle Shoals can realize millions of dollars' profit a year. A profit of only one-fifth of a cent a kilowatt hour, one Washington statistician estimates, would net in fifty years, compounded annually, a profit of \$1,347,971,464.

Municipalities, by purchasing the Muscle Shoals output and distributing it among their citizens, can also make big profits. On sale of publicly generated power the city of Los Angeles has made \$12,210,477 profit in the last nine years.

Thus public development of electric power means money in the public treasury and consequent reduction of taxes.

Meanwhile, in the process, the price of electricity to both wage earner and manufacturer is reduced. The wage earner has more money to spend on other things; the manufacturer has an opportunity to increase sales through lowered production costs and lower prices.

Fewer taxes, cheaper power, increased production, more money in the pocketbooks of every one except the handful of men who are fast gaining control of the private power business.

OVER THERE

Some American tourists, with much more money than sense, contributed their bit the other day toward making relations between this country and France as bad as possible.

They papered the walls of their railway station with French francs, plastered the seats with the same and laid a double carpet of francs on the floor. Then they called in the conductor to show him what they had done. They were vastly amused by the commotion he made.

Which brings up the matter of the proposed pilgrimage of thirty thousand American Legion members to France next summer.

Among all the thirty thousand it is scarcely possible that there will be one so lacking in sense of decency as the tourists described above.

There will be many, however, who have not kept in touch with the changing French sentiment of the past few years.

There will be many who anticipate being received in the same open armed manner as of 1917.

These will go expecting to resume cordial relations with the French people just where they were broken when they took ship for home at the end of the war.

Some, if we may judge by their talk, look forward fondly to a renewal of their acquaintance with

Tracy

Real Value of That Round Trip Around World Is Cooperation.

By M. E. Tracy

Around the world in less than twenty-nine days—that was the record established yesterday, when two tired but happy men reached the New York World offices shortly after 4 o'clock.

The feat was made possible, of course, by machinery and organization, by the help and ingenuity of thousands, by the way people of different races and countries have learned to work together for the attainment of common ends and in that lies its real value.

Instead of being greeted as returning heroes, American war veterans are likely to be regarded as agents of Uncle Sam, mortgage loan shark—for so our rich country is labeled over there.

The boyish exuberance of American troops in 1917 won only indulgent smiles from the French people. It amused them somewhat to discover that the sons of this prohibition country entertained a natural liking for their red and white wine. It doesn't amuse them any more. Once they were glad to take care of those who couldn't take care of themselves. That time has passed.

All this is said with a purpose. Looking the situation squarely in the face it can be seen that there are possibilities of much unpleasantness unless this great troop of pilgrims is advised between now and the time of their departure of just what they may expect to find in France.

They should know what conditions are and what the sentiment is. They should not be left to find this out after they reach France. Forewarned, a reasonable amount of tact will carry them through.

THAT FRONT PORCH

Senator Watson is back in Indiana. For the next month he will sit on the front porch of a cottage beside one of the lakes in the northern part of the State.

It is a pretty picture which is drawn by the press agents for the Senator.

The warrior back from the wars. The old crusader resting after the capture of the grail. The veteran dozing in easy contemplation of his battles.

He should have that rest, perhaps a longer one. Let it be hoped that none of his enthusiastic lieutenants will break in upon that pleasant picture with disturbing reports of the revolt in the ranks—especially should they not rush in without full notice of their approach.

It would be unfair for Clyde Walb and Bert Thurman to visit him on the same day and demand payment on the promises made to give each of them the Republican nomination for the governorship.

And thirty days are none too long to prepare that alibi which will show that Watson was the chief defender of the Coolidge policies even while he was fighting them.

It will not do, this fall, to tell the people, as Watson is charged with having told Richards at Terre Haute, that he voted against the World Court only after he knew that there were votes enough to pass it and that Coolidge understood.

The people this fall may be more inquisitive than were the 100,000 workers, more or less, in the Mott machine which carried the primary for him.

They may want to know whether he was really for or against the court.

The attitude of Watson on farm relief may interest the farmers.

While asking for votes in the name of Coolidge, he may be asked whether he will stand pat during the next two years or intends to become regular again if he gets another grip on the office.

Lieutenant Colonel Watson was acquitted, but even so President Coolidge should feel more than satisfied.

When he sailed out of New York harbor, one general, two colonels and five captains stood by to see that the guns went off at the precise tick of the clock, while in another quarter of the city, one general and ten colonels spent two hours trying Lieut. Col. James T. Watson for the previous breach of etiquette.

When Ezra Meeker made his first trip across the continent seventy-four years ago, he went in a covered wagon and twice afterward he repeated the performance.

Sixty-one years later, in 1913, he covered the same ground in high power automobile and in 1924 he did the same by airplane.

Today he begins his sixth trans-continental journey at the age of 96, using the motor camp route, visiting many important cities on the way and planning to reach his home in Seattle in about two months.

By the time some women get all dressed to go out they are so tired they would like to stay at home.

A boy can't follow in his father's footsteps because time has changed the scenery.

Half the fun of eating is in not knowing what you are going to have.

MARK SULLIVAN WRITES A GOOD BOOK

By MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

Mark Sullivan, veteran newspaper man, has written a history covering the period between 1900 and 1925 that is as perfect as all histories should be and generally are not.

He does not emulate the most of our eminent chroniclers and devote himself exclusively to politics and war. He takes his readers into the American home of that period and lets us see how the people behaved. He writes of the books they read, the songs they sang, the jokes they laughed at, and the clothes they wore.

This is the only way to write history so that it will make an impression upon those who read. Ordinarily, however, when we attempt to learn of past peoples we are entertained merely with battles and kings dethroned.

The history of the United States, which is the story of a vast progress amazing in its swiftness, which pictures the evolution of a people, and the creation of a race, is written mainly in the names of presidents and our various national wars. We are seldom brought into close contact with the people; we do not see the beat of their hearts.

Mr. Sullivan, however, has opened up for us a vivid view of our national existence. His book has to do with an era that saw magnificent changes. He tells us of politics and battles; it is true, but he also makes us see the growth of science, or art and invention. He gives us the story of the Battle of Manila Bay, but along with it he describes that noble struggle, the fight against yellow fever and malaria, the conquest of smallpox and typhoid. He writes to be sure, of Bryan and Roosevelt and Wilson, and their influence upon affairs, but he tells, too, of the telephone, the radio, the airplane, the electric light; of habits, morals, beliefs, illnesses, and amusements; of newspapers and books, of music, of pictures and of architecture. He does not hide the mass of people behind the politicians, nor obscure the work of the scientist in the glory of the warrior. If all histories had been written like this one of Mark Sullivan's, we would today be a more intelligent people.

The Good Old Colonial Days Return to Interest Art Fans This Summer Week

Hear 'Em Play at the Ohio



Here is a picture of boys band of the Indiana Masonic Home at Frankfort, Ind., which is playing matinee engagements at the Ohio this week in connection with a film showing the great work of the home.

tonight at 7:30 o'clock at University Park.

The soloists will be Mary Case and Noble P. Howard.

Program follows:

March—"Hands Across the Sea"; Sousa Selection—"Dream City and the Magic Knight"; "Sousa's Iron"; "Samson and Delilah"; "Saint-Saens Euphonium Solo"—"Theophile"; "Waldron Potpourri of Scotch Melodies" and by Mr. Howard.

Overture—"In Guaraní"; "Gouyau"; "Saint-Saens Selection from 'Rob Roy'"; "Miss Case"; "The Glided Butterfly"; "Love Mary" at the Apollo; "Love a Nurse" at the Ohio; "The Savage" at the Circle and a complete new Star-Spangled Banner.

There is also a portrait of James Fox, painted by West when in England, and the most familiar and interesting of all the face of Benjamin Franklin.

A special exhibition of Indianapolis-owned paintings will be shown in Gallery X during July and August. It includes paintings lent by several Indianapolis owners and a number from the permanent collection of the art institute which have not been shown for some time.

The entrance gallery of the museum, which is reserved for European art, has been partially reinstalled with material which has either not been on exhibition for some time or has only recently been acquired and is therefore shown in the gallery for the first time. The latest additions to the gallery are two new companion cases of European porcelain, which have been installed immediately to the right and left of the doorway leading from the gallery into the loggia. Here one finds a number of the choicer examples in the museum's collection of European pottery and porcelain, and a number of loans from Indianapolis owners.

English engravings, chiefly of the eighteenth century, are to be on exhibition at the Art Institute during the summer months. The subjects are primarily portraits of figure groups and give something of the spirit of the eighteenth century in England, even as the two Colonial exhibitions shown in galleries I and X illustrate our early American period of somewhat the same time.

Other theaters today offer: "The Four-Flusher" at English's; "The Old Oak" at Keith's; "John Alden and Girls at the Lyric; "The Far Cry" at the Uptown; "The Glided Butterfly" at the Colonial; "Love Mary" at the Apollo; "Oh, What a Nurse" at the Ohio; "The Savage" at the Circle and a complete new Bill at the Isis.

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