

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 CONTEMPT CASES

Judge Baltzell has repeatedly announced that men have the right to strike.

Parker and Armstrong, officials of the national union of street car workers, are now in jail, guilty of violating an injunction preventing interference with the operation of street cars.

Some part of the violation consisted in speeches delivered before a meeting of the men who voted to strike.

These men were not charged with inciting men to dynamite and violence.

That charge was made originally, but was withdrawn by District Attorney Ward when a demand was made for a trial by jury provided for under Federal statutes when contempt charges would in themselves constitute crimes.

That law was passed after many years of struggle by labor, which, until it was passed, found that the injunction in the hands of an unfriendly judge, could be used to deprive men of the right of trial by jury when charged with actual crime.

So it may be taken that these two men did not commit crimes which are punishable as such.

These two officials have been arrested many times since they first came to this city to attempt to organize a union. The police charged them with vagrancy. At times they had several thousands of dollars in bonds. No case was ever pressed. They were never convicted of crime.

The trial disclosed some other facts which are not pleasant, but which are significant.

Two men employed as organizers were also employed by the company to report to its officials.

Truly the right of collective bargaining, so universally approved by political parties and very recently emphatically indorsed by President Coolidge, has its difficulties in Indianapolis.

Government by injunction was once a very heated issue in this country. It would be bad if it should again rise to demand an audience.

It may be a necessary policy in this city that it will not permit any officials of labor unions from the outside to come here to obtain a following.

If that principle be established and maintained, it can be broadened and amplified. Attorneys for owners of the public utilities living in Philadelphia and elsewhere may be kept away when they come to ask for more money.

This city has taken a stern stand against any violence, but that question does not enter into the cases of these two men. If it does, they should be punished for any part they had in it.

Employers the Nation over, and also workers, will be interested in the final outcome of this case.

For under it all may finally know and understand just how the right to strike may be asserted and whether it is limited to any degree by advice from those who are not actually contemplating a strike as a means of protest.

We may finally discover just when and how and for what men may strike.

ONE QUESTION

Let it be hoped that Governor Jackson will take some notice of the appeal of a citizens' committee that he investigate the conditions and causes which led to the strike of four or five hundred street car employees.

The Federal Court has found two organizers, who came here from the national union, guilty of a violation of its injunction.

To that body can be left the duty and the responsibility of protecting such rights as have been entrusted to its care and the punishment of those who violate its orders.

But this citizens' committee did suggest a question which is basic and fundamental and which does not make its appearance in court pleadings.

It told the Governor that these men had asserted that the wage of 37 to 42 cents an hour which they received did not permit them to live in decency without working more hours than should be demanded of any one.

It told the Governor that the matter should be investigated and that the public be given all the facts.

It is the public that pays the bills. The people who ride really pay the wages. No matter what the opinion of the management of the company may be, it is not conceivable that those who ride cars desire to trust their lives and their safety to men who are not paid a decent wage.

The people can be counted upon for a willingness to pay those who serve them enough to permit them to live in decency.

The present situation is not one that makes for permanent peace and will not be as long as the company employs its men on a war basis, paying a bonus because of this strike.

For in the end the people must finally pay the cost of the strike, which is not inconsiderable.

The whole trend of public thought is for arbitration and reasonable adjustment.

The modern and enlightened way is to consider such conflicts as unnecessary and avoidable through inquiry and investigation and the pressure of public opinion.

THE CANTON LESSON

No one should be surprised that the forces of vice and crime which dictated the murder of Don Mellett of this city because he had waged a war for decency and law, now resort to bombs to terrify and perhaps kill his friends and relatives.

The killing of this able and courageous editor was the logical chapter to the political events of that vicinity.

These men and women who openly violated the law and were protected in their crimes by officials of the law, had no other recourse but murder when they were menaced in their activities by one who dared to speak for public sentiment.

And in a new strange situation, where the sentiment for decency is powerful, they must still resort to death and violence to protect their business in crime.

Any city and any State which permits its political bosses to connive and deal with violators of the law is laying the basis for a Mellett tragedy.

The city of Canton in Ohio is not alone in its unenviable infamy.

The good people of that city, as in this and other cities, had permitted themselves to be divided on questions of party politics or prejudices

while the small and compact group of the criminal and vicious voted for the men they could trust to protect them and permit them to operate.

They voted for their own interests always, and perhaps are surprised that any one should dare to refuse them the profits of the votes they cast.

The gambler, the bootlegger, the keepers of vice dens, ran the city because they had made their bargains with bosses who wanted power and prestige and offices for their friends.

The time to prevent the killing of those who dare to fight for decency is when the first evidences of such unholy bargains appear.

Those bargains, you may be sure, have been made when you discover that certain persons are given the privilege of preying upon the weak through gambling devices.

Those bargains, you may be sure, have been made with some one who holds power over officials, when merchants are compelled to protest against the petty thievery of petty gamblers who have received the old policy games under a new device.

Those bargains, you may be sure, have been made, when it is possible for men to buy raw alcohol without any trouble.

Such bargains have been made, of course, when you see those who never work living in luxury from the profits of iniquity and consorting very openly with those in power.

Indianapolis gave Don Mellett, martyr editor, to the world.

His tragic death should awaken in his home city such a sense of responsibility that those who dare to traffic with the vicious and the criminal be driven from power and high place.

The great monument which his home can and must erect to him is a city clean of any such influences. And the time to build that monument is at hand.

A NEW SCHEME

The farmers asked the last Congress for relief legislation.

They didn't get it. The principal reason advanced by Secretary Mellon and other administration leaders was that the proposed legislation was economically unsound. They said it smacked of a subsidy—a dangerous economic device.

The farm leaders must have taken the administration rebuke to heart. They evidently went to reading their books on economics.

The result is that some of them are already proposing a plan for farm relief that is economically almost flawless. It doesn't even have the weakness of complexity that hinders a program of tariff reform. It is foolproof in its simplicity, and certain in its logic.

That plan is unrestricted immigration!

Our principal trouble, say the farmers—or better, certain of the farm leaders—is that there isn't enough demand for our products to assure us high prices. Manufacturers, protected by tariff laws, and industrial workers, protected by immigration laws, combine to keep the costs of manufactured products up, while farm products go begging.

If there were more people in this country, they argue, there would be greater demand for agricultural products in the home markets, and prices would go up.

Confronted with the fact that more people would be bound to mean less product per worker, and consequently less money per person to buy farm products, the farm leaders have a ready retort. As people get more prosperous, they don't buy proportionately more food. A man with a \$3,000 income, for example, doesn't buy anywhere near twice as much as a man with \$1,500.

Granted, they say, that the general level of prosperity in the country would be reduced by unrestricted immigration, the demand for food would be increased. Rich and poor alike must buy a certain amount of food.

Told that the great cities of the country are still menaced by great masses of indigent immigrants who came in on earlier waves of unrestricted immigration, the farm leaders can smile and say, "Yes, but that's a problem of the cities. The immigrants don't go to the farms. We are not bothered with the social problems which immigration causes in the cities."

The threat of the farmers to urge unrestricted immigration is a formidable move in their campaign for legislative relief.

THE NATIONAL GAME IMPROVES WOMEN

By MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

If you do not think that the new freedom has improved women, just go to a baseball game.

This national sport was once solely a pastime for men, whereas now it is the sexiest and most eagerly represented. The wife knows the standing of the teams and grinds her teeth as viciously as her husband when the star player strikes out with the bases full and two down. Little sister waves her hands just as frantically and yells just as loudly as her brother when the man at the bottom of the batting list gets a three-bagger and saves the game.

And what a fine, clean, wonderful sport it is, this baseball that we love so dearly!

It gives the gamins and the millionaires the same sort of thrill; the society dame and the washerwoman obtain similar delights from watching it; the minister and the gambler can reach a common level in the grand stand. It represents, more than any other sport, American democracy where the wise and the ignorant, the sophisticated and the innocent, the rich and the poor rub shoulders and with one single hope spring to their feet and smile into each other's eyes when the crack of bat and ball resounds and that little round object flies far over the field into the distance.

With women understanding and loving this game, they have improved their characters. It may not help their baking average, but they have assuredly gained some fine principle of sportsmanship from the bleachers that their home existence never can give them. They are able to cheer the fellow who makes a spilt play even though he is on the opponent's team. They can see that losing, when one loses gracefully and while doing one's best, is not such a terrible thing, after all. They will find that baseball is often a great deal like life—no matter how hard or how well you may play, the luck sometimes runs against you. They will learn that you can't talk back to the umpire and get away with it, and the world admires the clean vanquished more than the unfair victor.

This baseball is a grand game. And during the season there is something inspiring in the thought that America is just one vast yell—an excellent way to let off steam.

Tracy

Something More Than Talk Is Needed to Solve the Liquor Problem.

By M. E. Tracy

With two leaders of the greatest run-running conspiracy ever unearthed sentenced to prison in New York:

With England agreeing to help us stop the smuggling of liquor from her provinces and possessions;

With the Governors' conference at Cheyenne pronouncing the Volstead act as right;

With thirty-nine dead from drinking poison booze in and around Buffalo and twenty arrested, some of them charged with murder;

With insurance companies reporting an increase of deaths from alcoholism;

With scores of coast guardsmen suspended, or expelled for unfaithfulness;

And with the man who was slated to take General Andrews place under indictment;

Federal prohibition continues to occupy public attention.

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Situation for Action

Are we welching on a hard task, or undertaking the impossible?

Certainly, the results are not commensurate with this Nation's dignity, honor, or good sense.

Fifteen thousand blind pigs in New York, says Mills, and a similar number in Detroit, according to the Rockefeller investigation.

Rum pouring in over every border, have been becoming more popular, parties of school children swinging hootch their parents would never have thought of doing, police officers getting rich by the protection of bootleggers, politicians holding for stricter enforcement, while their breath is enough to knock one down—clearly we face a situation that calls for more than talk.

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Pussyfoot Sees It

There are two classes of people who violate the Volstead act—one on principle and one because there is money in it.

Together they form a big minority. If not an actual majority—forty million, as General Andrews estimates.

And we expect four, or five thousand dry agents to stop the traffic.

The law could be enforced, of course, but not with any such piker outfit as that.

If we were to appropriate half a billion dollars each year, call out the Army and Navy, appoint a special officer for at least every 500 people and double our courts, we might hope to get somewhere.

We haven't the nerve to do such things for such a purpose, and that is where the trouble lies.

Pussyfoot Johnson has the situation sized up right. He knows what is needed to see the program through, but he cannot get anybody to agree with him.

Courage Lacking

Senator Borah is talking loudly of nullification, but what measure of enforcement has he ever offered that is at all adequate?

Like the vast majority, he is willing to be dry by word of mouth, but no farther.

With all his enthusiasm, he does not dare to recommend the appropriations and forces which would be necessary to make the Volstead act effective.

The wets are violating, but the dries are making it a laughing stock through lack of nerve.

They have not the courage to do what it calls for, and they know it.

There is not one in a thousand that would stand for the taxes, the supervision, the searches and seizures, the ruthless interference, which honest enforcement of this law requires.

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Too Much to Chew

We can theorize and philosophize all we like, but the point is that we have bitten off more than we care to chew, and that does not apply to the bootlegger, or home brewer, but it's the ostentatiously dry multitudes that are calling for more enforcement.

They want the name, but wretch at the game.

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Herein Lies Danger

As matter of every day experience, a matter that needs no argument, or facts to back it up, we are letting the eighteenth amendment die in certain sections, just as we have let the fifteenth amendment die.

So far as actual obedience goes, it is but another bit of insincerity written into the constitution, but another claim of purity that we forget to redeem.

"Nullifiers," shouts Senator Borah, but he is willing to mobilize regiments and machine guns to make New York dry?

He is not, and neither is anyone else, with the possible exception of a few fanatics.

Yet that is what "nullification" should call for, and what it would call for if directed against some other provisions of the Constitution.

The fifteenth and eighteenth amendments have inspired us with the view that some provisions of the Constitution are less important than others, less worthy of the sacrifice we would gladly make for others.

It is bad to leave such rotten places in our supreme law, to clutter it with declarations that we cannot agree are sacred, or even essential to the life of the Government.

If we adopt many more amendments that we are willing to let die, the Constitution will cease to have the meaning it should, to challenge the universal respect it must.

PARROT CAUSES SUIT

INDIANAPOLIS, July 29.—"Jones is a rotter, Jones is a rotter, Jones is a rotter," was the cause of a libel suit brought between two neighbors here recently. Neither neighbor spoke the words, but Jones charged that Bennett, the owner of a large parrot, had taught the bird to shout it to the world.

The Memory of Theodore C. Steele Is Honored by the Herron Art Institute

It is of interest to know that at the time of the death on Saturday last of Theodore C. Steele, dean of Indiana Artists, paintings from his hand were hanging in three separate exhibitions in the galleries of the John Herron Art Institute.

His "Munich Girl," painted in Munich in 1887, and presented to the art association, by Mr. and Mrs. Alpheus Snow in memory of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Butler is shown in the new arrangement in Gallery VII of paintings from the permanent collection.

In the Frank C. Ball collection in Gallery IX are three paintings: "Frosty Morning, Brookville," painted in 1905; "Study of Negro," painted in 1884, and "Summer Pasture," painted in 1918. Two additional canvases are shown in Gallery XI in the Special Exhibition of Indianapolis-Owned Paintings.

"Late Autumn on the White-water," 1903, from the collection of Mrs. John N. Carey; and "Landscapes," 1906, lent by Walter Milliken. Further material has now been installed in Gallery I in commemoration of Mr. Steele's passing.

This group includes "The Bloom of the Grape" which came to the Art Association eighteen months ago as the bequest of Delavan Smith; "Winter Sunlight," purchased by the Art Association some years ago from the John Herron Fund; "Winter in Munich," 1885, presented by Mr. and Mrs. Alpheus H. Snow in memory of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Butler; "Portrait of a Lady," lent by Mrs. Kate McGowan; and the portrait of Mr. Steele by Simon B. Baus.

Photographs of other canvases by Mr. Steele are shown, and a group of various newspaper clippings, etc., in regard to the artist and his work have been arranged in conjunction with the paintings.

In this way the Art Institute can express immediately through in very small measure, its appreciation of Mr. Steele's contributions to its progress and to the furtherance of art, and particularly Indiana art.

The special exhibitions installed for the summer period continue in their various galleries. The Summer Loan Exhibition of Colonial Portraits, lent by the Herron Galleries of New York, is a source of enjoyment to museum visitors as well as an exemplification of the early period of our American art, which has practically no representation in the museum's permanent collection.

The special exhibition of Indianapolis-owned paintings is sufficiently varied in handling and in subject matter to insure a source of study of American art of the later years.

Somewhat earlier in date, though still modern, are the paintings hung in Gallery VII in the rearrangement of canvases from the permanent collection.

An interesting addition to the small exhibition of American Colonial painting, glass, etc., in Gallery I is the pair of knee buckles of mounted cut crystal, originally worn by Patrick Henry, and now lent to the Institute by his descendant in direct line, Jacquelin S. Holliday. They add to the exhibition another phase of the artistic trend of Colonial times and suggest some of the beauty and grace of masculine apparel in those days.

Harold Haven Brown, formerly director of the John Herron Art Institute, holds the office of director of the Provincetown Art Association, which is now holding its twelfth annual exhibition of oil paintings, water colors, pastels, etchings, drawings and block prints.

Miss Anna Hasselman, curator of paintings, has left for the East, where she will study for several weeks with Felice Waldo Howell, American water colorist, at Gloucester, Mass.

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NEW SHOW OPENS AT PALACE TODAY

Art and music have all been combined in the spectacular act presented as the headliner of the Palace bill the last of this week by Henri Margo and Helene Beth. These two dancers offer original interpretative steps against scenes of batik and applique.

All their costumes are of their own design. Arline, a violinist; Frances Ardelle, a pianist, and Betty Eldridge, a soprano, furnish the music for the dances as well as play the musical selections of the act.

John Jahn and the Baldwin sisters are entertaining with their "Music Hath Charms," an act in which Miss Jahn sings and the sisters play the piano. The gowns worn by the women are said to be beautiful.

Jack La Vier appears "All in the Spirit of Fun" and delivers his monologue. Something more than a monologue is contained in his act, but that is to be revealed later.

The versatile Misses Hays much to offer along the line of entertainment when they open the show billed as "Two Blossoms." One other act is on the bill.

House Peters takes the main role in "The Storm Breaker," the film adopted from "The Titans" by Charles Guesnon. Ruth Clifford supports Mr. Peters. Pathe News, a comedy and Tomes of the Day are the short reels.

PARK BAND CONCERT TO BE GIVEN TONIGHT

At 7:30 o'clock tonight at University Park a public band concert will be given by the Indianapolis Military Band under the direction of W. S. Mitchell, conductor.

Mary Case, Noble P. Howard and Pasquale Montani will be the soloists at this concert.

Program follows:
 "Presidential Polonaise"..... Sousa
 "Hungarian Fantasy"..... Tobani
 Euphonium Solo—"My Regard"..... Lewellyn
 Melodies from "The Merry Widow"..... Herbert
 Scenes from Verdi's Favorite Opera..... Rosini
 Overture—"The Marriage of Figaro"..... Fugini
 Flower Dance from "Pharaoh's Daughter"..... Fugini
 "Hale Ho!"..... Fugini
 Excerpts from Musical Comedy, "King of the Bunch"..... Fugini
 Do Do Do..... Fugini
 Group of Songs..... Fugini
 "Star Spangled Banner"..... Fugini

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