

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.

A RAISE FOR WARD

Rumor, widely circulated among the close friends of Senator Watson, has it that United States District Attorney Ward is to resign because of the law of his office.

Inasmuch as Mr. Ward owes his position to the influence of Senator Watson, some credence may be placed in this rumor of his dissatisfaction.

Let it be suggested to Mr. Ward that he has the most magnificent opportunity to impress Congress with his value in the maintenance of respect for law that he need have no fear of refusal should he ask for a raise—if he makes good.

Some weeks ago, the Indianapolis News, the most vigorous advocate of his sponsor, Senator Watson, declared that only the most guileless and credulous believed that there were no "higher ups" in the state of the Squib whisky.

The Squib whisky theft from the Federal building was, as the Federal judge remarked, one of the most shameful incidents in the State's history.

It may be remembered that while in the custody of Federal officers, about \$80,000 worth of whisky, at bootleg prices, disappeared.

It may also be remembered that three Negro janitors or custodians made confessions to taking this whisky.

First came the one who admitted taking a small amount. He was sent to the county jail for four months. His conspirator received a six months' sentence. And then a third on the day of sentence gave a blanket admission that, but for the charge by the organ of Senator Watson, might have meant that he took all the rest, received a year and a day in prison.

Undoubtedly the paper which for thirty years has fought Watson and has become suddenly converted to his cause, knew what it was saying when it charged in effect, that these three Negroes did not steal that whisky, but that there were "higher ups" who were responsible for the disappearance of some of it.

The effect upon public opinion of this case can not be questioned. It weakens faith in government if the Government itself can not prevent liquor, criminal liquor which it has seized, from being returned to bootleg channels, or used for unlawful purposes.

There is certain to follow a widespread suspicion of all law and of all government if the charge that "higher ups" escaped, is allowed to stand.

Here is a challenge which a vigorous prosecutor, especially one who believes that there should be larger emoluments, might welcome as his opportunity.

Here is a chance to so establish his reputation as a prosecutor that his ability and his worth will be instantly recognized and properly rewarded.

And here is a pledge from the Times.

Find those higher ups, whom the News alleges existed in that of \$80,000 worth of whisky, send them to prison to keep company with those janitors, and this newspaper will use its largest type in calling attention of Congress to your courage and other qualities, and will do its level best to get you a raise of salary.

It might be added that other departments of the Federal Government have the same opportunity to distinguish themselves.

Please don't crowd.

REAL LOYALTY

The expense account of Senator Arthur Robinson in the primary should be printed by the committee in charge of his campaign and scattered over the State.

For it is evidence of the loyalty to him in his political battles by his partners in his law firm, a loyalty rather unusual.

Surely he will not overlook the appeal of proving to the voters of the State that his own law partners financed to a large degree his efforts to get back into the Senate.

It might convince the voters that his position is far better than that of other candidates for the Senate in other States who are driven to taking money from the Insull and other interests.

Even after the battle was won and the votes counted, one of the partners came through with money to take up some of the slack.

Perhaps Senator Robinson might get the Reed senatorial committee to come to Indiana to make more emphatic his own position.

What a contrast would be a senatorial campaign financed by a law firm with the campaigns financed by political interests.

True, it might raise the question as to whether there is any other wide interest in the election of Robinson.

Only the envious would suggest that the law firm has many appeals for liquor offenders in the Supreme Court of the State, while the Senator has a record of being on the list of those who draw expenses for dry speeches from the Anti-Saloon League.

That would be just pure envy, of course.

The real object lesson would be the loyalty of his law firm to his candidacy, a firm which financed the campaign almost entirely.

There are close Republican associates of Senator Robinson on that investigating committee. It may be taken for granted that they would come to give him the certificate of purity which such an inquiry would disclose, and tell the world that here is one candidate who does not need to go beyond his own law office for funds to finance his political aspirations.

STUART P. SHERMAN

Stuart P. Sherman, critic of books and life, is dead. His passing has been almost unnoticed in the public absorption with the deaths of Rudolph Valentino and C. W. Eliot. Yet it was as great a loss as either—perhaps greater.

Eliot's work was done, and that of Valentine, enraging men and enrapturing women by his masculine beauty, was interesting, but perhaps not so important. Sherman went at 45, in the fullness of his powers and promise, already ranking among our major American writing men.

As professor of English literature at Illinois University, he gave thousands of young folk their first glimpse into the real beauty of the life of books, and sent them out into the world with a permanent

knowledge of literature.

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WM. A. MAYBORN, Bus. Mgr.

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Tracy

Wadsworth Now Trying to Soft Pedal on That Wet Talk.

By M. E. Tracy

Senator Wadsworth is not nearly so wet as he thought he was.

Nominated to succeed himself by the Republicans of New York, he could seem to think of nothing but Democratic support.

Governor Smith, the all-powerful Democratic leader, was wet.

He incurred the wrath of the self-styled intellectuals because he insisted that Emerson, Thoreau and Lowell, after all, had something to say, but he had a sharp eye for the merits of the new fellows, and included Dreiser and Sherwood Anderson and Willa Cather in the scope of his approval.

As a critic of our national letters and our national scene he is irreplacable.

inner treasure to offset outer poverty and discouragement—the companionship of the lords of literature.

As literary editor of the New York Herald-Tribune, and as contributor to many magazines, he widened his audience to hundreds of thousands who read him with delight because of his large learning, his sound and pleasing style, and his wise judgments.

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