

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.

COMPLETING THE RECORD

The Marion County grand jury has charge of the probe of the charges of graft, corruption and bribery which were relayed by Thomas Adams on what, he alleged, were letters from D. C. Stephenson, serving a life sentence for murder, but once the head of the Klan and the most powerful figure in Indiana politics.

When that charge was first launched The Times demanded a full and complete probe of the charges and the truth behind the charges.

There was silence in other quarters. The official organ for the Republican party in the State, the Indianapolis Star, made no appeal to save the name of Indiana. That was left to this independent newspaper which is interested very much in good government and in honesty but not at all in politics.

For five days no official voice, was raised to back this demand of The Times. No official who had been the friend or beneficiary of the Stephenson power demanded a vindication.

No State official offered to assist in an inquiry. During those five days Indiana officialdom directed its attention to keeping six State Senators and responsible newspaper men from seeing Stephenson in his cell.

Now the note has changed. There is a demand for a speedy inquiry. There is an eagerness to examine Stephenson, and an apparent readiness to let the matter stand or fall upon the willingness of a convict who, if the charges were true, held reputations of men in high places in a safety box.

The Indianapolis Star, now at last alert to the seriousness of the matter, makes this demand for an inquiry of Stephenson and rests its plea upon the grounds that were made by The Times more than ten days ago. In its appeal it says:

"Speed and thoroughness should characterize the grand jury investigation of the charges Thomas H. Adams of Vincennes, has been making and hinting at in recent weeks. So much has been hinted and intimated and so many half truths have been given out that in fairness to the good name of the State and of many of its public men all the mystery should be cleared up and the whole affair aired at once. Hoosierdom can not continue to permit any one to make charges that reflect on the intelligence of its citizens and the integrity of its officials without insisting on knowing the basis for such accusations. The people have a right to see how much fire there is back of all the smoke that has been stirred up recently or to know if Mr. Adams has been misled."

Several things have happened between the day when The Times first demanded that the name of Indiana be cleared of shame or, if the charges were true, that the guilty be punished.

Stephenson has been seen at the prison. His first caller was Jack Maroney, a Federal agent. That visit occasioned a statement by Senator Watson, if a quotation in the Star be true, that he had no knowledge or connection with this visit.

There has yet been no explanation of this explanation or any reason why the Senator should feel the need of making any denial or any statement as to what it was presumed to deny.

The Governor had promised the appointment of a committee to investigate all the charges. That was deferred. He sees no longer any necessity and is relying upon the grand jury.

The attorney general has left the State House to become a deputy of the local prosecutor, who is without funds for investigators who has no detectives and no means of following clews or trails or hunting for witnesses.

This is the official situation.

Aside from this The Times has produced statements from a photographer, an acquaintance of Stephenson, corroborated by his wife and given in the presence of witnesses, that he made photographs of many checks and documents sent to him from his cell at Noblesville by Stephenson through a lieutenant.

That statement is evidence that Stephenson had photographs made of documents which he considered gave him a grip or hold upon some person or persons. He was eager not only to keep the originals but to save in some other place photographs if the originals should be misplaced.

May it not be suggested that the real inquiry and the only one which will satisfy the people of this State is not whether Stephenson, under a life sentence, will produce his proof but whether the things he is alleged to have said, were true.

Was there corruption? Was there bribery in the legislature?

Were there vast sums spent for corruption of elections?

There must be the search go and the people, it may be confidently believed, will not be satisfied with any findings from Stephenson that he has such documents or any inability to obtain them from him. The probe must be deeper and wider than that.

THE V. P.'S SHORT MEMORY

"Personally," Vice President Dawes tells the boys of the American Legion in Philadelphia today. "I believe that the primary system should be largely abolished and that if we follow the theory and plan of representative government laid down in our Constitution providing for nomination conventions, a better and more impartial class of candidates will result."

How short the Vice President's memory must be. He has forgotten William Lorimer. What a blessing, such a memory; for it must be comforting to forget William Lorimer. It was William Lorimer for whom Dawes, as a Chicago banker, executed that famous "bit of sleight-of-hand" which resulted in the robbing of a few thousand bank depositors back in 1912. It was a long and weary business in the courts before Dawes succeeded in having his responsibility, originally fixed at \$1,487,854, pared down to something less than \$100,000, so it must be good to forget.

However, painful though it be, it is necessary to recall the name of Lorimer to Dawes, for it has a bearing on his proposal to substitute the old convention system for the primary.

They had the convention system in Illinois when William Lorimer was made a Senator. There were tales of a slush fund in connection with the convention that endorsed him to the State Legislature. It was the State Legislature that elected. Lorimer didn't have a majority of this Legislature, notwith-

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

Tracy

Let Stephenson Talk Out
Loud, So All Can
Hear Him.

By M. E. Tracy

What the people of Indiana want is for D. C. Stephenson to speak his piece under such circumstances that he can be made public.

If there has been graft, they want to know it, and if crooked officials are holding office, they want a chance to vote them out.

A grand jury investigation is all right to lay the ground for court action, but it is all wrong to lay the ground for political action.

It serves no purpose so distinctly as to bottle up the evidence.

Let Stephenson and other witnesses go before a grand jury, as the attorney general of Indiana has planned, and what they know becomes virtually lost to the public until the actual trial take place.

The grand jury might unearth all kinds of rottenness; it might indict scores of persons; it might find a desperate situation to exist, but its records would be inviolate and unusable.

If a committee of State Senators and newspaper men could have interviewed Stephenson, as Thomas Adams and his group of editors suggested, what the former grand dragon had to say could have been made public immediately.

Was a grand jury investigation started to forestall this possibility?

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Try Them Again

The Daugherty-Miller case has resulted in a mistrial. Though held for more than sixty-five hours by Judge Mack, the jury could not agree. It is said to have stood six to six on the question of conviction of Daugherty and ten to two in favor of acquittal.

Sixty-five hours and forty minutes the jurors had the evidence before giving up the attempt to agree. A large time to consider the case of a man declared by the senior Ohio Senator, Mr. Willis, to be "as clean as a hound's tooth."

Another trial seems to be necessary.

Before this comes to pass, Senator Borah has indicated that he will cause Daugherty to appear before a Senate committee to be questioned on facts brought out in this trial. Daugherty avoided taking the stand during the trial. It is possible that a Senate committee may be able to draw information from him which will make a second disagreement by a jury more difficult.

SEMP'S SCHEME

On first returns the Muscle Shoals bid sponsored by C. Bascom Semp, former secretary to Coolidge, looks like the nicest bit of power camouflage yet attempted in Washington.

The organization to take over the Government's \$165,000,000 power property would be known as the Farmers' Federated Fertilizer Corporation. And hard-up farmers would be allowed to subscribe to some of the capital stock.

All of which sounds fine. But—the private power interests, of course, would retain a majority of stock even in this farmers' corporation, and all of the surplus Muscle Shoals power would be sold to the national power combine.

An onion, by any name, smells just as sweet.

A French writer declares that Americans do not smile. It does seem as if the laugh's on us this time.

The woman pays and pays, but the man hasn't always got it.

British war office has offered a fortress on the English Channel for sale. There's your chance, Mr. Pyle.

Yale and Princeton have agreed mutually to quit scouting. Now if they'll only stop playing.

Headlines you never see: MOVIE ACTRESS MUM ON SELF.

CALVIN COOLIDGE'S COAT-TAILS

By N. D. Cochran

As this isn't a presidential year and Coolidge isn't running, candidates for Congress can't grab Calvin's coat-tails and be dragged through to victory. So they are doing the next best thing by hanging on to his name and popularity by promising to be rubber stamps if elected.

Probably candidates would like to stand for something, but the trouble is they don't know what to stand for. That's because they don't know what the people will stand for. Neither do most of the people themselves. It's not easy for politicians to know which way the wind is blowing when the wind itself is blowing on the job and doesn't know when to blow or how.

It's easy enough to be Wet in a Wet State or district, or Dry in a Dry State or district, and keep one's mouth shut on other issues, but when both sides are Wet or Dry the candidates must dig up something else to fight about—or make a bluff at fighting.

In some States and districts, however, candidates can't be quite sure that the people haven't changed their minds on the Wet thing, so the temptation is for Republicans to duck that issue and be strong for Coolidge and prosperity. Republicans have the advantage there because nobody knows whether Coolidge is Wet or Dry, and Wets, Drys, Republicans, Knights of Columbus and Ku-Klux Klanners are all strong for prosperity.

Next to hanging on to Calvin's coat-tails politicians appear to like hanging on to a prejudice. Chief among prejudices is religion. So some Democrats and more Republicans are seeking votes on the ground that this is the year to keep Governor Al Smith from being nominated or elected president in 1928.

How short the Vice President's memory must be. He has forgotten William Lorimer. What a blessing, such a memory; for it must be comforting to forget William Lorimer. It was William Lorimer for whom Dawes, as a Chicago banker, executed that famous "bit of sleight-of-hand" which resulted in the robbing of a few thousand bank depositors back in 1912. It was a long and weary business in the courts before Dawes succeeded in having his responsibility, originally fixed at \$1,487,854, pared down to something less than \$100,000, so it must be good to forget.

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Can't Explain Columbus

Just as a passing thought in deference to the day, it is easier to understand what Columbus did than what he was. Science can explain his discoveries, but not the man himself. Navigators duplicate his feat every day in the year, but parents, though wishing it from the bottom of their hearts, fail to reproduce his genius.

Thousands of boys grew up on the Italian waterfront in that piping era when Venice, Genoa, and the other coast towns bred sailors for the world, but if you had been privileged to walk among them it is doubtful whether you would have noticed any difference between Columbus and the rest.

It is even doubtful whether our best psychologists could have picked him as the coming prodigy of his time.

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Another for Science

Benjamin Wallace of Camden, N. J. beat his wife to death with a chair Sunday morning. He was 75, she was 65, and they had been married forty-two years. He couldn't stand her nagging any longer, he said.

After committing the deed in an apparent frenzy, he walked calmly to the church where his son was acting as superintendent of a Sunday school, told him he would better come home because "mother is pretty sick," went back to the parlor, lit his pipe and resumed reading the Sunday paper until police arrived.

There is another incident which science finds it hard to explain.

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Learn Ourselves

We know rather more about the things around us than about ourselves.

Genius, temper, prejudice, warped mentality—these are back of the most perplexing problems we face.

Science is prepared to present us with some wonderful boons—cold light, the visible telephone, atmospheric electricity, the transmutation of metals, atomic energy—but none of them will mean very much if we can't learn how to control ourselves, live in peace, to maintain order.

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News for Roumania

Sailing for America today, Queen Marie of Roumania will occupy a suite of fourteen cabins of the Leviathan, enjoy the use of a private deck, be accompanied by a retinue of thirty persons, have enough luggage to fill two freight cars.

Meanwhile, 3,000,000 peasant children of her country cry for bread, and only get it once a week. The rest of the time they subsist on roasted corn, or meal and water, such as is fed to hogs on many a western farm.

The cost of Queen Marie's trip and entertainment would provide for the Roumanian government to impose a rigid censorship, and the multitudes who look to coarse grain for twenty out of their twenty-one meals each week know very little about the royal progress toward America.

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Indictment

Four hundred thousand French veterans not only protest against ratification of the debt pact, but threaten Premier Poincaré and his ministers with loss of their portfolios unless it is revised.

Altogether it's going to be a high mix this year. Neither party is solid for anything but prosperity. Both are divided on prohibition, the League of Nations, the World Court, Mexico, farm relief and the tariff.

And how can the poor politician tell which way the wind is blowing when each of the alleged major issues is a cute little whirlpool all by itself?

NEXT: What If the Democrats Do Win?

Phil Baker and His Chief Cook Serve 'Hopple Pie' in a Great Revue Here

By Walter D. Hickman

PUTTING GOOD MUSIC IN ITS PROPER PLACE

The question for years on the variety stage is how to dress up good music so that it will be generally inviting.

Modena's Fantastic Revue, a name for an act which means little in cold

type unless you have seen it, has placed good music in its proper dress. They "sell" it so successfully that this offering becomes a gem. I know that I am not over praising these artists, who know the value of individual effort as well as an ensemble.

Volume is to be desired in heavy operatic music, but they have the lighter touch when needed. You have a splendid harpist, and a splendidly

Rose King

a fine soprano balanced group

also have a dancing team, Bishop

and Lynn, who are both picturesque and individual. It is a real pleasure to state that the audience reacted to the offering of the Countess

Modena, a real artist on the violin, with such a fine understanding of good music and artistic beauty that there is no doubt than an act of such a high purpose has nothing to fear from getting general opposition.

So that there can be no misunderstanding—this is the very first time that this edition of "Artists and Models" has ever been presented in this city. We have had other editions or another edition, but this is the first time that this edition has been here.

I saw this show last year at the Winter Garden in New York in its first week. Can say in all truthfulness that it is now in better shape than when it was in the process of being created. Told you in this department about this show when I saw it in New York. It has been going steady ever since. It recently left Chicago, Cincinnati and St. Louis have seen it and now we have it.

Am satisfied in my own judgment (and I compare it with the newer revues that I saw in New York last month) that this edition of "Artists and Models" is one of the best dancing shows I have ever seen.

The Gertrude Hoffmann Girls are not only great dancers of every step, but they are the best looking bunch of hoopers I ever have seen collected under one label.

Those who contribute to making this the best dancing show I have seen are as follows:

The eighteen Gertrude Hoffmann Girls—the most versatile and accomplished set of dancers ever assembled under one banner. Their fencing, dancing and other contributions to this revue merit this statement of praise.

Teddy Claire—A lad who has wicket and fast feet.

Bernard and Richie—Here is a dancing team that really twists itself in knots. The man is a wonder.

The Hoffmann Girls—Again when they do their specialty dancing numbers.