

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 amended the State Constitution, which has been in effect more than three-quarters of a century, but four times. The legal difficulties in connection with the process is given as an explanation of the few changes approved by the voters.

THE WAR GOES ON

Today the citizens of Indiana are fighting a political battle.

Today The Indianapolis Times pledges itself to continue the war against dishonesty, corruption and super-government until the last politician who has been tempted to yield his conscience to these influences has been driven from power and once again the people regain their own government.

It has been unfortunate that an election came so soon upon the first exposures of these influences, for The Times has no political friends to favor and no political enemies to punish.

The Times would have much preferred that the issue were removed from the heat of political contests, that the hideousness of the thing it fought could have been presented when the fortunes of no man and no party were at stake.

But it is here. Today may or may not gain a victory in the first sector. The war will finally be won.

Something very wrong came into public life when the man who is now a convict under life sentence organized the hatreds and the prejudices of this State and made himself all powerful.

Something very hideous came into our public life when men sought public office by bartering with this thing and this man.

For if our government is to continue, it must be removed from these evil influences.

But the explosion came when out of a prison cell came a letter declaring that a convict had documents which would prove huge and grave corruption in public life.

The convict is being punished, not for his political crimes, which were great, but for a crime which had nothing at all to do with his political power and his political influence.

But the State was startled because every one, without exception, readily believed that he could, if he chose, prove those very things.

It was The Times, when all other agencies of publicity in this city were silent, that demanded that the charges be proved or disproved.

It made that demand because of the general belief that the charges were true. They may have been false. But it did no good to Indiana to let them pass unchallenged.

It was The Times, that day after day, demanded an investigation and saw the people shocked and dismayed by the evident purpose of every official of the State administration to keep this convict silent and sequestered in his cell.

Most of all, it was shocked when the attorney general of the State made the open charge that this convict was trying to blackmail his way to freedom—for in that statement was a most sinister conclusion and suspicion. It proposes to find what weapon this convict held that he would dare to even attempt to blackmail his way to freedom and it will not be satisfied until the people know and understand.

In this city, The Times has taken up the cause of decent government, free from secret bargains and oaths.

The Times was shocked, as the people were shocked, when the mayor of this city swore that he had traveled to the national capital on money furnished him to visit an imperial wizard and did not know for what purpose he had been called.

The Times believes that this city deserves a mayor who obeys no such calls and orders from any power except the people who give him power.

It was more shocked when he revealed that when he arrived there a man who is not a citizen of this State, who has no interest in this city, attempted to dictate to him the appointments he should make.

That does not make for good government. It does not make for a government by the people and for the people. It is abhorrent to every principle of our nation and our Government.

These are some of the reasons that The Times laments that these things have been brought to public attention just in advance of an election.

It would have preferred that they be viewed with the passion and the heat of campaigns in which the fortunes of parties or of men might be influenced by these exposures.

It would have preferred that the people have a longer opportunity to digest their meaning and reflect upon their significance.

And it is because of that fact that The Times pledges itself to go forward with its crusade for good government until the people own their own officials.

It believes in public ownership of public offices.

It believes that the people have the intelligence to rule themselves when they know the facts. It will give them the facts.

It believes, too, that those who have betrayed the people must be exposed and driven from power and to that purpose, it also pledges itself and its influence.

The Times has unlimited faith in the people of this city and of this State.

It believes that the State which has more college students for every thousand population should have the most intelligent of government.

It believes that the State which has more church members in proportion to its population than any other State has a right to more of honesty and decency than other States.

It believes that intelligence, that decency and honesty, that patriotism, The Times again pledges its efforts, not for a political contest but to a holy crusade, until these triumph and Indiana stands redeemed.

MARS AND RADIO

Present interest in the planet Mars, due to its approach to the earth, brings to the surface again all sorts of vague theories and illusions about the part radio might play in our attempts to communicate with the Martians.

If those ideas ever ring true, smash goes one of the finest pet theories about radio.

That's the famous Heaviside layer theory, evolved by the late Prof. Heaviside of England. On it is based our entire belief as to how radio waves are transmitted and received, and our solution to the question why these radio signals don't fly directly into space.

The Heaviside theory presupposes the existence of a mysterious layer, perhaps magnetic, above our atmosphere, about 100 miles up, which deflects the radio waves hurled from our broadcast and other radio stations and returns them to the earth, where they may be received.

Whether there's a leak in this layer, so as to let stray waves shoot out farther into space, can not be ascertained. But even supposing a leak—well, it takes a powerful receiver to tune in a radio signal from a station 3,000 miles away.

Mars is distant some 42,000,000 miles when it's nearest.

STEALING FROM HOTELS

Hotels purposely buy homely pictures, we are told, in an attempt to cut the high cost of stealing.

Practically everything at all portable disappears from our Nation's hotels, and the only reason the pictures stay on the wall is because they're so ugly nobody wants them.

Hotel proprietors say that all honest human beings are paying from a quarter to a dollar more a day on hotel bills to make up for theft by the dishonest ones.

There's this consolation, of course—the dishonest ones are similarly taxed, unless they "beat" their bills.

THE ROYAL PAY ENVELOPE

"We are not rich," says Queen Marie, speaking of the Roumanian royal family.

Her husband, Ferdinand, draws a pay check of a mere \$160,000, speaking the American money language.

There is an account for traveling expenses, and an allowance from the state for the Queen and each child. This amount is not named.

When daughter Marie married the king of Serbia she was given a check for about \$80,000.

This may not strike John Smith of Market St. as a moving tale. No tears of pity may course down his furrowed cheeks.

But even so, who now considers the fairy tales about kingly exchequers, and when one considers incomes of ordinary families and dowries of blue-blooded American daughters, the Queen may be right—they're not so rich.

MILK AND WATER

The clash of personalities in New York's State election has caused outsiders to overlook one issue at stake there today. That issue is public control and development of water power.

Governor Al Smith, Democratic candidate for re-election, wants the State government to take full charge of the 2,000,000 horse-power water resources still owned by the people of his State. Ogden L. Mills, Republican candidate, wants private control and development for private profit.

Mills could not very well want anything else.

His huge family fortune rests in large part on private exploitation of water power. Until February of this year he was a director of the New England Power Association. He, and two other members of his family, are directors of the International Paper Company, controlling water power sites capable of developing about 600,000 horse-power. And there are other connections.

Faced with this situation, what did Mills do? He goes as far away from the water issue as possible. He talked about milk. He based practically his entire campaign on a demand for pure milk, which he claimed the Smith administration had failed to obtain.

When water power becomes a national issue—and that day rapidly approaches—do not be fooled by those who would change the subject to milk—or any other beverage.

Headlines that make you sick: WE DID IT FOR OUR MOTHERS, SAY SEVEN OF BANDIT GANG.

LIFE AFTER DEATH AND THOMAS EDISON

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

Thomas A. Edison, who less than two years ago said that his brain could not conceive of any such thing as a soul, has now changed his mind and announces that all evidence is in favor of a life after death.

This is one excellent thing about our religion. We need take nobody's word as infallible about what we want to believe. Thomas Edison, wise as he is, has no more knowledge of the hereafter than you and I.

However, it is a good thing that men of his mental caliber who wield enormous influence over their fellows, will take a stand in favor of that.

It is because of that fact that The Times pledges itself to go forward with its crusade for good government until the people own their own officials.

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It believes that the State which has more church members in proportion to its population than any other State has a right to more of honesty and decency than other States.

It believes that the State chosen by the men who fought and won the war as their permanent home has a right to more of unselfish patriotism than other States.

And to that intelligence, that decency and honesty, that patriotism, The Times again pledges its efforts, not for a political contest but to a holy crusade, until these triumph and Indiana stands redeemed.

Wiseacres, of course, have always sneered at this expression of faith, but for what have such sneers counted? The most brilliant atheist has no more evidence that he is right in his doubts than the veriest Moron can be sure about his superstitions.

Upon this great question the opinion of one man is as good as another. Wise men know no more than fools about what comes after death.

But wise men often act like fools when they try to take away from others that faith which has upheld the race throughout centuries of strife and unrest. You can not take heaven from any man, but you can wreck his life by snatching from him his hope in heaven.

Learned men like Mr. Edison live upon a more elevated plane than the average mortal. Their superior mental power can supply them with a philosophy that ignores death. The longing within them can be appeased by the power of their intellect. But to the average person of less mentality, there must be some vision of a future that is more perfect than existence here. It is this vision which helps him to climb from the slough of barbarism.

Learned men may be happy as doubters. Less intelligent folk must have their faith. And who is wise enough to know which of the two is right?

Tracy

Here's a Guess as to What Will Happen at Polls Today.

By M. E. Tracy

It is safer to guess what will happen one hundred years hence than during the next twenty-four hours, but with a national election in progress, the temptation is simply too great, so here goes:

The Democrats will gain at least six seats in the Senate and from fifteen to twenty in the House.

Al Smith will be elected governor of New York by a majority of 250,000 or more, while the chances favor Wadsworth for Senator.

Frank Willis, Democrat, will beat Pomerene, Democrat, for the Senate in Ohio; Barkley, Democrat, will beat Ernst, Republican, in Kentucky; Hawes, Democrat, will beat Williams, Republican, in Missouri, and Thomas, Democrat, will beat Harrell, Republican, in Oklahoma.

In Massachusetts and Illinois, the senatorial race is very close, with Walsh, Democrat, having more than even chance to win in the former, and Frank Smith, Republican, in the latter.

Norma will be elected governor of the state of New York for the second time, and she will be re-elected.

It is safe to say that this picture is the goods. So it is safe to say that this really fine contribution to better movies can repeat with ease in all cities.

The secret is that the story has general appeal—love and loyalty besides tons of comedy. War has its side of comedy as well as tragedy.

In the first half of this movie, you find the good side of war. Here you get some delicious comedy on the part of Karl Dane. This man made himself in this movie although I haven't heard much of him since. This may be his everlasting monument. The truth is Karl Dane is responsible to a large degree to the general success of "The Big Parade."

These words of praise for Dane in no way takes away any credit which has fallen upon the shoulders of John Gilbert and Renee Adoree. These two supply the big human story of the war.

It is in the second part of the movie that we get most of the real fighting. As far as I am concerned these war scenes are easily the best of any attempt to photograph war.

I have seen "The Big Parade" five times and I could see it again with as much ease as the first. Saw it first in Chicago and it sure landed me an awful wallop then and repeats at every time.

To miss seeing "The Big Parade" presented in the road show way with orchestra and effects is to pass up one of the outstanding events upon the screen today. I have told you many times about this photoplay.

As far as I am concerned "The Big Parade" will always be one of the ten best pictures ever made.

At English's all week with a matinee and night performance daily.

WHAT, NO CAKE? JUST A DUCK IT IS

They used to cut a piece of cake, but now "in walked a duck."

It must do a lot of walking because such duck never appears in person, but Val and Ernie Stanton do a lot of talking about such duck.

And there you have it—Val and Ernie Stanton are back in town with their nonsense, which they announced is "clean" but—. They are not of the Odessa type this trip, but they are about as English as comfort will permit them to be.

I like the artistry of these two men for many reasons. They don't loaf on the job. They keep on growing and learning in their art of intelligent fun making. They have never been accused of dishing out siesta-like hokum. Instead, they vanish and polish their humor until it becomes a Tiffany gem.

These two are going in the gentle art of selling their jewels of comedy. Years ago they left the case at home, but now they enclose the ring of comedy in a jewel case. In other words, they are at the head of the ladder in individual fun making. Hard work and intelligent study have kept them in the sunshine of public favor. And in walked the duck to success, although I did like their cake, if I did have to cut it myself.

The Royal Peacock Orchestra got its start in Indianapolis, because it is an Indianapolis organization. They "broke in" here about a year ago on the big time. Since then they have worked with such intelligent skill that I can say that they give more than a pleasing vaudeville program of popular tunes. These men put comedy in song and instrumental music which is not musical hash. When they tackled their Venice burlesque, I was afraid it was going to be rotten, but the men got so much real comedy out of it that it becomes one of the novelty hits of their offering.

The name of the pianist has slipped me. Must beg pardon, because he is a wonder. What this man can do to the ivories. Well, he just oozes everything the old piano has in its soul all over Keith's. Am now speaking about the pianist with the Royal Peacock orchestra. A mighty fine organization. What a relief to have them here when so many orchestras have not grown in the last year. This one has. I am not liking this organization because it bears the Indianapolis label. It has the goods and I wouldn't care if they came from New York, they still would be more than good.

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