

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 without 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 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.

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 homey 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 Rumanian 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 none 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 changed his mind and announces that all evidence is in favor of a life after death.

This is an 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 faith.

From earliest ages man has had a belief in immortal life. Whether that belief was justified no one knows for certain. But one thing is sure, it has helped many an unfortunate through bitter moments.

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 mentality 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.

This is the 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, Republican, will beat Pomeroy, 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 an even chance to win in the former, and Frank Smith, Republican, in the latter.

It seems probable that Maryland will send Tydings, Democrat, to the Senate, rather than Weller, Republican.

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No Major Issues

So far as major issues are concerned, the election day is of small consequence. Because of internal dissensions, neither party is able to express itself coherently on any of them.

Prohibition, the World Court, farm relief, taxation, and even the tariff finds both Republicans and Democrats quite as badly divided among themselves as opposed to each other.

The campaign has swirled around scandals, local issues and personalities, particularly the latter. Since last spring, it has amounted to little more than a parade of names, and two have stood out with increasing distinctness. What the American people are really asking themselves as they go to the polls is: "Whether Al Smith will receive the Democratic nomination for President two years hence, and whether Calvin Coolidge will run for a third term."

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Prohibition Up

Nine States will vote on the liquor question. Four—New York, Illinois, Wisconsin and Nevada, will express an opinion as to whether the Volstead Act should be modified. Four more—California, Colorado, Missouri and Montana will vote whether to repeal their own enforcement acts. Oregon will vote whether to have a referendum.

It is estimated that one-fourth of the country's electorate will thus be given the opportunity to express itself with regard to prohibition, and though the question has been put in varying ways we should be able to get an intelligent idea of the drift of popular sentiment from the result.

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Youth and Conceit

Musellini says he can't die until his task is finished.

That has been the cry of youth and conceit since the dawn of time. Dean Swift wrote the correct answer to it in his famous aphorism for the Earl of Kildare:

"Who dared Kildare to kill?
"Death killed Kildare,
"Who dare kill whom he will."

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Quite a Task

Nicholas Vadaz, famous Hungarian artist, and known as the "painter of queens," will soon visit America to find and portray our most beautiful woman. He will come in disguise to avoid the influence of pull or prejudice.

There are 30,000,000 women in the country. Eliminating three-fourths of them because of age, and three-fourths of the remainder for their natural disqualifications, Mr. Vadaz faces the task of examining nearly 2,000,000 to be fair in making his choice.

If he devoted but a minute to each one and worked eight hours a day it would take him twelve years to complete the examination.

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A Book's a Book

Mrs. Charles Nichols, who has written a book entitled "How to Train Girls," finds herself with a 16-year-old daughter that is anything but the ideal product.

It sounds like the experience of the old lady who said, "I guess I ought to know how to raise babies. I've buried eight."

We would think first and write about them afterward.

Not only among readers but authors the worship of books is pathetic. As Byron said, "This pleasant sure to see one's name in print. A book's a book, although there's nothing in it."

ANNUAL MASONIC EVENT

Mystic Tie Lodge Observes "Craftsmen's Night."

Mystic Tie Lodge No. 392, F. & A. M., held its annual "Craftsmen's Night" Monday evening at the Masonic Temple. A team of forty-six members conferred the Master Mason degree on Mark Emerson Hamer of 5342 Central Ave., at 4 o'clock, the ritualistic work being followed by a banquet and entertainment lasting until 10.

Milo H. Stuart, principal of Technical High Schools, and master of the lodge, opened the evening program. About 350 members and visiting Masons attended. R. B. Wilson, in charge of the entertainment arranged for music through the band of "The Blue Bird" girls' orchestra. The Rev. George A. Frantz of the First Presbyterian Church gave the invocation.

'Big Parade' Rings True Once More; In Walked a Duck With Val and Ernie

By Walter D. Hickman

Some weeks ago I was in New York and one night while I was passing a certain theater I heard cannons and about every thing that goes with war as produced in a theater.

"And what war is this?" I asked and the answer came back, "Same old war, it is 'The Big Parade'."

And so it was. They are still fighting it out on Broadway although we have the same battle in town this week.

In other words "The Big Parade" is making another appearance at English's as a road show edition. Here is a picture that is doing business of big figures in New York after many months.

When a picture lead for more than a year with stiff competition, then 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 fun 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 of the credit which is so easily the best of the fun making. To the shoulders of John Gilbert and Renee Adoree. These two supply the heart and love interest of this 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.

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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 said duck never appears in person, but Val and Ernie Stanton do a lot of talking about said duck. And there you have it—Val and Ernie Stanton are back in town with their nonsense, which they announce is "clean" but—They are not the Oxford types 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 growing in their art of intellect. They have never been accused of dishing out slapstick humor. 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 that 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 we must applaud. 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 ivory. 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.

William Brack and his company in risley and trampolines stunts. And what an act! These men radiate joy, speed and sensationalism all over the stage. Here is an act that will wake you up. Fine, mighty fine.

Madeline Collins and Leonard Ceely both have splendid voices, but Ceely should study the demands of vaudeville presentation of a song. The variety stage has a different method than the concert or operatic stage. This is said in all kindness. Both are artists as to voice, but showmanship, that strange and wonderful something, is missing especially in Ceely, and a vaudeville singer can be over dressed.

Al and Fanny Stedman are back with their old line of comedy. Fred Galetti, and Iola Kolin are back with their monkeys. The dancing monkey is a wonder. These dancers appear under the heading of "Dancers From Clandonia."

At Keith's all week.

NOVELTY AND TALENT ON BILL AT THE LYRIC

There is something different on this bill.

The place—the Lyric. The event—Norma and her violin, which plays without a bow and a player.

We all like mystery, provided it is all dished up with first-class showmanship. We all know that a violin just can't play itself, but Norma is so skillful that her violin appears to play itself.

Norma walks around and in the audience asking the patrons of music to name any tune. All you have to say is "Play 'The Merry Widow Waltz,'" and the violin with you holding it without a bow plays the waltz.

Then Norma and her violin walks on as other melodies are called for. She is a good showman. She knows how to sell her mystery. I don't know how she does it and I don't care. It is a good novelty and one that does get the interest.

There is a definite place on the character stage, whether legitimate or vaudeville for G. Carleton Guy. He is a good showman. The character of Abe Martin of Brown County fame. Guy goes in for complete characterization both as to material as well as make-up. He uses a clever droll in black and white which brings out the Abe Martin idea. He winds up with the fiddle song which has a rather rapid meaning, but Guy puts it over as a character song which fits the character. There is a definite place on the stage for Guy and his characterizations.

The Frolic Four own good dancing feet and they have worked out an interesting routine in which the feet and the voice both make good.

Act wisely and wisely costumed. Grindell and Esther have an eccentric offering, with the man being the chief thing in the eccentric business. Lydell and Mason are present with their "Old Croonies," a standard comedy vaudeville offering which tells of the verbal struggle between a sea captain and an old soldier on Decoration day. This act stops the show.

Larry Stoutenberg is an expert pocket billiard demonstrator. He does the most difficult shots possible, and the act is presented in such a way that one appreciates the good taste and showmanship exhibited.

I arrived too late to see Minervina and Izetta, accordion players, and Henry Reimann, trapeze performer. I do not like to be late, but it will happen sometimes in my life in the theater.

Movies complete the bill.

At the Lyric all week.

Melchoir and Reiner Give New Beauty to Wagner

By Walter D. Hickman

The Wagner spirit was caught last night by Fritz Reiner and his Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra by Lauritz Melchoir, Metropolitan opera tenor, in the first orchestral concert of the series under the direction of Ona B. Talbot at the Murat this season.

My most personal enjoyment was obtained when Melchoir sang Siegfried's forcing song from "Siegfried," by Wagner, with the orchestra.

Here you find the smitly motif and you often get the beating of the hammers as a background which aids in getting over the story of this number.

Melchoir looks like a football player, but sings as an inspired being. His high notes with ease, and there seems to be no limit to his volume. Last night at the Murat was his first appearance in this city. To say that he created a favorable impression is to put the truth rather mildly. I think he was at his best in the first group, which included Siegfried's Melting Song and the Forging Song.

Mme. Schumann-Heink warned me only a few days ago that this young tenor would create a furore, and he did just that. There were offers of "Bravo" and "Grand" after several of his numbers, and he sang with rare ease and seems to be unusually sure of himself.

Melchoir is possessed with what I call a growing personality. And that is needed by any tenor. Of course, the voice and the training are the things which makes one a better singer, but the love of music, the real love, must be present in all great singers. And Melchoir has this rare and fine love for grand music.

And now for the orchestra. Musical circles here will talk most probably about Reiner and his orchestra playing "Knoyachchina" by Tchaikovsky, that is the introduction. It tells the story of dawn coming over the Red Square at Moscow. It has delicate charm with just an indication of the tragedy of the day. At times it was like a whisper. Magnificently played by Reiner and the orchestra.

Three orchestral sketches, "The Sea," by Debussy, again gave the conductor and the orchestra a chance to create a delicate web of charm and peace only to rise like the sea in a mighty roar when a storm comes. Here is great orchestral work on the part of Reiner and the orchestra.

I could go into detail regarding the other numbers, but I have tried to tell you of the greatest beauty offered at this concert. I go to symphony concert first to get

Stage Verdict

KEITH'S—Val and Ernie Stanton, Royal Peacock Orchestra, and William Brack and company are the easy leaders on this bill.

LYRIC—Novelty leads on this bill with Norma and her self-playing violin at the top of the show. Good mystery novelty. They will talk about this one.

PALACE—Fred Lewis with a good fund of stories and comedy songs, leads the bill in entertainment.

ENGLISH—"The Big Parade," still one of the ten best pictures ever made.

Questions and Answers

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times Washington Bureau, 1322 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. Enclosing 2 cents in stamps for reply. Medical, legal and marital advice cannot be given except on statements received in confidence. All other questions will receive a personal reply. Enclosed requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor.