



## The Indianapolis Times

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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."—Dante.

### Hurry That Duvall Suit

Now that the city treasury has been figuratively padlocked against John L. Duvall, the way is open to determine whether Duvall is mayor, as he pretends to be, or whether he automatically lost his office when he was convicted under the corrupt practices act.

County Attorney Clinton H. Givan has advised City Treasurer Ramsay to honor no more warrants bearing the signature of Duvall as mayor or of Mrs. Duvall as city controller. Ramsay has indicated that he will follow the advice. And, of course, that means that public funds will be tied up temporarily. But a quick adjudication of the Duvall mess is provided. Here's how:

The school board, which would have no money with which to pay teachers under the situation, threatens to bring mandamus action to force the city treasurer to honor Duvall's signature. The city treasurer's natural answer would be that it can not release money on authority of Mrs. Duvall, appointed to the office of controller by Duvall, because Duvall is not mayor. Then it would be up to the court to decide whether Duvall is or is not mayor.

That's fine. Let the suit be brought as quickly as possible. A court decision in the matter seems to be the shortest cut to justice, under the circumstances.

The quicker way out, of course, would have been for Duvall to have resigned. Since he refuses to do that, we must find out what a qualified judge says about it. We must find out whether this statute means anything:

Any person who shall be guilty of any corrupt practice shall be fined not less than \$300 nor more than \$1,000, or be imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, and shall be ineligible to any public office, or public employment, for the period of four years from and after the time of the commission of such offense.

The legal position taken in the proposed action is that Duvall automatically ceased to be mayor when a jury found him guilty; that Duvall's appointment of his wife as city controller was not valid, since the appointment was made after Duvall's conviction.

It ought not take long to decide that, one way or the other.

So let's get the machinery of the courts busy as quickly as possible.

### A Place Worth While

Canandaigua is a small city in New York State about which few readers of this newspaper know very much. It has a population of some 8,000 to 10,000 and probably bears a resemblance to most cities of its size.

But Canandaigua apparently is a town where people are neighbors; a town that looks after its own.

Witness the recent disappearance in Washington, D. C., of Mrs. Anne Ramsey Forbush, wife of the Rev. Dascomb Forbush, a minister in Canandaigua. Mrs. Forbush walked away from her husband in a theater and hasn't been heard from since.

She suffers from a mental defect that several times has caused her to leave in this manner, and to be found later wandering far from her home.

Twice the town of Canandaigua has suspended its business activities to search for Mrs. Forbush.

Although this time she became lost many miles from her home city, its residents have come to her husband's aid again. Led by the mayor and the sheriff, a determined posse of Canandaigua citizens is in Washington taking part in the present search.

Some come from Rev. Forbush's flock, while others come from churches of other denominations. What church one belongs to seems to make little difference in Canandaigua.

The only thing that matters there is that a friend and neighbor is lost and must be found before she comes to harm.

Yes, we know little about Canandaigua, but we'd like to know more. Quite clearly it is a city with a spirit that might well be emulated by other cities, large and small.

### Padlock the Earth

Now we are told that our busy friends, the prohibition agents, want to padlock Pullman cars if passengers are caught drinking in them.

That is, if a passenger orders a bottle of ginger ale or bubbly water and the waiter brings it to him; then if the passenger pours into his glass a liquid containing more than one-half of 1 per cent of alcohol and drinks it, the law will step in and padlock the Pullman car and put it out of service for a year.

How lawmakers can hope to make people respect the law and the courts when the law gets that silly is something we can't figure out. A simpler way to go about it would be to go the whole hog and put the ban on ginger ale, pop and other liquid refreshments heretofore considered non-intoxicating and harmless.

But to be consistent we would have to bar drinking water, too. For we have been told by those who ought to know that a highball can be made of whisky and plain water quite as easily as with ginger ale.

So the only sure way, after all, is when a wicked man takes a drink anywhere on earth to padlock the earth and let all good people go to heaven and the others to any place else that isn't padlocked.

### A Railroad Statesman

There died this week in Baltimore a railroad president who dared to confess himself greatly troubled by the prospect that the railroads might be empowered to raise rates without limit.

His clear sight on the question of railroad valuation, however, was only one indication of the qualities which made S. Davies Warfield, president of the

## M. E. TRACY

SAYS:

*The American People Are Getting Very Tired of Gag Rule for Old and Trusted Officers; if such Men as Admiral Magruder Can Not Inform Them of What Is Going On, Who Can?*

Theodore Roosevelt knows too much about Al Smith and too little about the Fall-Sinclair oil lease.

It is not strange how familiar a politician can be with the shortcomings of an administration in which he has no part and how ignorant he can be concerning those of one in which he was an active worker?

Roosevelt's utter lack of knowledge as to what went on in the Navy Department where he was assistant secretary would be less startling were it not for his absolute certainty as to what has been going on at Albany while he was not present. \*\*\*

Romance Crown Tarnished

When Prince Carol of Rumania left his wife for "the other woman," those susceptible humans who see romance in everything, held him up as a shining example of self-sacrifice, if not of chivalry.

Too bad he had to go and spoil it all with these plots and intrigues, setting his country by the ears in an effort to rob his own little boy. \*\*\*

General Motors Profits

General Motors earned \$193,000,000 during the first nine months of this year, which is \$36,000,000 more than it earned during the same period last year.

People jump to the conclusion that the absence of Henry Ford as an active competitor since last May offers a full explanation, but this gives General Motors too scant credit.

Mr. Ford contributed something through his absence, no doubt, but General Motors also contributed something through its own energy, improved management and increased facilities.

Magruder Disciplined

Rear Admiral Thomas T. Magruder wrote an article for the Saturday Evening Post some weeks ago in which he expressed the opinion that the Navy could be run with fewer officers and less money without impairing its efficiency.

The article created quite a stir, of course, especially in government circles, and there was some talk of calling Magruder on the carpet, but after what seemed mature consideration, Secretary Wilbur indicated that so far as disciplinary action was concerned, the incident might be regarded as closed.

Since that time, Magruder has been bombarded with questionnaires and demands for explanation.

Now he is perpetually relieved of duty as commander of the Fourth Naval District and the Navy yard, and is ordered to present himself before Secretary Wilbur at Washington on Nov. 5.

Who Will Tell People?

Many regard this action as just a preliminary step to Admiral Magruder's punishment.

It even is suggested that he may be court-martialed, which, whether the Navy Department realizes it or not, would certainly lead to a Congressional inquiry.

The American people are getting very tired of gag rule for old and trusted officers.

If such men as Rear Admiral Magruder cannot inform them of what is going on in the Navy, who can, and if such men are not allowed to do so?

Gag Sincere Views

By no stretch of the imagination can Admiral Magruder be regarded as having hurt the Navy in public opinion. Whether his criticisms were altogether justified, whether his views were absolutely sound and whether his figures were absolutely correct, they were obviously put forward for the good of the country and the good of the service. \*\*\*

"Big Bill" on History

So long as the country offers an open forum for men like "Big Bill" Thompson, it would be absurd to muzzle men like Rear Admiral Magruder.

"Big Bill" is not content with criticism, or even the substitution of one school history for another. What he longs for is to burn books, even though he has telegraphed an English gentleman that he has no right to question the late homecoming of friend husband; that she shall not cross-question him as to who was his companion that detained him upstairs "on important business" nor what such business was; she shall not molest him nor speak angrily to him if he brings muddy shoes upon her best carpet, and that he shall be in fact, what the constitution guarantees him to be—"free and equal." And eventually it is not too much to hope, man's emancipation may be as complete as that of our present unfettered womanhood.

(Goshen News-Times)  
(Republican)

A controversy sometimes waxing quite bitter in tone is being waged in the newspapers of a large city on the subject of married teachers. Every day there are from two to a dozen letters from the people. Some people want all married teachers fired because they have husbands to support them. Others want



## What Other Editors Think

(Penna Daily Tribune)  
(Independent)

Sunday a young man was killed because he was kind enough to help two women change an automobile tire. \*\*\*

Changing the left rear tire of an automobile on a crowded highway is one of those little side issues of modern life that keep Americans from missing the thrill of an attack by wild Indians or a buffalo stampede. But entirely too many people are getting killed because of it.

Nobody ever should stop a car on the driving surface of a through highway for any purpose whatsoever. At almost every point along such highways there is a berm, or shoulder, wide enough for a car. This is a side-track and should be utilized as such. Drivers encountering trouble should pull over on the berm the same as race drivers pull into the pits. In case of a wreck, and if it is impossible to clear the highway, it is extremely important that some one be stationed three or four hundred feet on either side of the trouble to warn approaching cars.

(Manistee Press)  
(Republican)

In these days of "women's rights," not enough attention is being given to men's wrongs and so it is with rejoicing that the married men of the nation have the decision of that eastern grand jury which holds that a woman has no right to search her husband's clothing for any purpose and has indicted one woman for doing so.

This decision is an indication of the belief of these grand jurors that the feminist movement has gone too far. Mere man has some individual prerogatives that must be respected, among which may be casually mentioned that of unsearched pockets.

Perhaps, encouraged by this declaration of the grand jurors, the men of the nation now may brace up and become a trifle more assertive. Maybe they will carry the masculine conception of what constitutes domestic propriety still further and say that a wife has no right to question the late homecoming of friend husband; that she shall not cross-question him as to who was his companion that detained him upstairs "on important business" nor what such business was; she shall not molest him nor speak angrily to him if he brings muddy shoes upon her best carpet, and that he shall be in fact, what the constitution guarantees him to be—"free and equal." And eventually it is not too much to hope, man's emancipation may be as complete as that of our present unfettered womanhood.

(Harford City News)  
(Democrat)

The Chicago Tribune quotes Senator James Watson as having reached the decision "not to run for public office again." As this is not a day of miracles, Watson's enemies in this State should not take Jim seriously. When Jim quits running he will be forced to drop out on account of poor health with himself or his party in Indiana.

(Shelbyville Republican)

The man who don't know, but are shouting "Indiana is rotten" have a thought coming. In all the insinuations that have been set afloat, not a single State official has been accused of misappropriating one cent of money that belongs to the people. The public service commission has been bombarded from Dan to Beersheba, principally by persons with large interests that could not secure privileged they were asking for. This commission has made its annual report, turning into the State treasury \$219,512.78 in fees collected as well as handing back to the State \$25,000 of their budget fund every cent of which could have been used under some sort of pretext. When it comes to a showdown it will be found that Indiana has not suffered the loss of a single penny from any State official and that the affairs of the State have been economically as well as honestly administered.

(F. E. LONGLEY,  
360 Congress Ave.)

To the Editor:

Inasmuch as the stores have not yet put on sale the new style mud guards to protect ladies' light colored hose, it becomes necessary to complain about the mud holes in Washington Street. Automobiles while past the innocent bystanders, and the merciless driver does not stop to think of the inconvenience and humiliation to which he has subjected girls who are in a hurry to get to their offices, and who have not the time to return home and change their hose.

Can't something be done about this?

MISS WOOD B. SPOTLESS.

## Times Readers Voice Views

The name and address of the author must accompany every contribution, but on request will not be published. Letters exceeding 200 words will receive preference.

To the Editor:

Noting an article written by E. W. Little appearing in your issue of Oct. 24, I desire to make a short reply.

Complaint is made by Mr. Little because of certain criticism directed at "Governors of sister States." The only Governor criticised was Gov. J. C. Walton of Oklahoma and the interesting thing about the matter is the fact that Mr. Little submitted the resolution himself, made a speech in favor of its passage and voted for it. As president of the Hustling Hundreds, I did not vote for the resolution, nor do I vote on any resolution.

In his article he takes me to task for criticising the water company, and strange as it may seem the question of proposed boosting of water rates come up at the same meeting at which he was present as a member. None was more severe in condemning the action of the water company than was he at that time. As a consequence he was placed on a committee to work with the Federation of Community Civic Clubs in opposing any increase in rates. In this regard you are referred to the article in your issue of Oct. 3, 1923, under the heading "Englewood Citizens Oppose Walton Acts."

I believe The Times will be fair, even if Mr. Little was not, and will give the same prominence to my reply as was given to his attack.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM T. QUILLIN.

To the Editor:

Indianapolis should be grateful for two public officials like county attorney Clint H. Givan and County Treasurer Ramsay.

It is high time that we get a decision as to whether John L. Duvall is mayor, or not.

If the courts decide that Duvall is the mayor of Indianapolis until the Supreme Court passes on his conviction, all well and good.

Should the same courts decide that Duvall is not the mayor then the sooner this chaotic condition is remedied the better.

Indianapolis is too big and too good a town to suffer in this manner.

The attorneys involved owe a duty to the town, where they earn their better, to rush things to an early trial. Let's have no delays. A prompt decision will clarify matters.

TAX PAYER.

To the Editor:

Al Smith's most formidable rival is Gilliom, our attorney general. Smith is a practical nullifier.

Gilliom is a theoretical nullifier. Gilliom could bring the whole G. O. P. vote to himself, if nominated. I advise the Democrats to nominate Gilliom. We don't want him. You can't deny that he stands for most of the things that Smith does.

Smith can't get all the Democratic votes but Gilliom can bring all the G. O. P. votes. Gilliom's own Party.

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Chin in Hands, Little Rosa Grey sat thoughtfully hunched up on her door-step. She had spent almost an hour in profitless research. She did not yet know how the thing was accomplished but it was very definitely connected with the nurse person who wore a dark blue uniform and carried a satchel. She had visited Nellie's house—and there had been left as if by magic, a baby brother. She had visited Jane's house, and after she had gone away, she, Rosa, had discovered that there was a baby girl there