

The Indianapolis Times

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

Disfranchising Indiana Voters

Unless some change comes into the political plans of Senator James Eli Watson, the Republican voters of this State will be disfranchised insofar as taking any real part in the election of the next President is concerned.

Reports from Washington state that the Senator has succeeded in arranging with the political managers of the real candidates for the presidential nomination for a clear field for his "favorite son" trick of obtaining the delegates from Indiana of his own selection.

With the probabilities in favor of a Republican victory in November, this means that the men and women of this State who vote the Republican ticket will have no voice in the selection of the convention and vote for the candidate named there.

No matter how much they may desire Hoover or Lowden or Curtis, they will be at the mercy of Watson when he gets ready to trade the Indiana delegates for his own political advantage.

There is something grotesquely humorous in Watson clearing the primaries of any real candidates under the plea that he is the "favorite son" of Indiana.

Just how much of a favorite he is may be judged to some extent by the last election, wherein he barely escaped defeat under circumstances and conditions which invited contests and investigations as to the methods used at the ballot box.

The law provides that voters may register their preference for President.

That law was intended to prevent the very thing which is now happening. It was designed to keep politicians from dealing and bargaining with delegates in national conventions. It was designed to let the people pick their own President.

That Senator Watson seriously believes that the Nation would accept him as its President or that he has any delusions that Indiana looks upon him as a favorite son is beyond imagination.

His own party under his leadership has gone into moral bankruptcy.

His present efforts to save it from complete overthrow and defeat is giving little luster to his reputation.

But because of traditions among presidential candidates he has pre-empted the field in Indiana and is bargaining now with the other aspirants for the nomination to stay away from Indiana and disfranchise the voters of his own party.

If Watson really believes he is of presidential caliber, if he really believes that he is the favorite son of his own party, he would bravely invite every other Republican candidate for the presidency to come into the lists and get all the votes they can.

If he does not, he admits weakness and fear. If he does, the result might be surprising.

Racing the Wind

If the ghosts of the old-time Yankee sea captains still hover around the wharves of our salt-water ports, as some maintain, it is to be hoped that they read the daily papers.

They would be interested, we believe, in the stories about the new ships which American builders are planning for the trans-Atlantic trade; interested, even though they might not be willing to admit that these projected ships would have anything at all in common with the graceful, white-winged clippers of the old days.

If present plans go through, ten or more huge ships will be built. Each ship will be capable of crossing the Atlantic in four days. Upper decks and superstructures will be copied after those grotesque warships, the Saratoga and Lexington, and each ship will carry its own fleet of airplanes.

The old-timers, we repeat, wouldn't admit it; but these ships, nevertheless, will be the lineal descendants of the famous clippers of old. In them the idea that was back of the clippers will be carried to its logical conclusion—and the ghosts of the carry-handed old sea dogs will come into their own again.

Up until a century ago, speed was the last quality one looked for in a merchant ship. The picturesquely galleons of Spain, with towering poops and tub-shaped underbodies, needed a stiff gale, as Conrad said, to move at all; and though the Dutch and English improved on these models, their ships were still bluffed and wall-sided, built to plod along at the dizzy speed of four knots if the wind was favorable. Drizzling by sea was a leisurely occupation in those days.

Then, about 100 years ago, came a change. Mercantile competition became keener, and the shipper who could get his cargo there first was the shipper who made the money. American and British designers began narrowing the body lines and improving sail areas. Incredibly beautiful and speedy ships resulted; such vessels as Donald McKay's famous Sovereign of the Seas could maintain a speed of twenty knots an hour if the wind held good.

But the wind did not always hold good, and shipbuilders discovered that steamships, less graceful and less speedy, could make better time because of their independence of the weather. So the clippers became obsolete, and in a few years square sail had practically vanished.

With the passing of the clippers passed the romance of shipping. It is hard to thrill over a rusty steamer, with her dungeoned crew and her trailing cloud of black smoke. The risks of seafaring ebbed, but so did the picturesqueness. Utility conquered romance.

But now it appears that the urge that brought the clippers into existence is operating again. Once more ships will take wings. And who will say that the modern wings—speedy airplanes that alight on and

take off from a steamer's open deck—are less appealing than the great canvas wings of the old Flying Cloud?

Speedy ships are in the American tradition. The captain of an old square-rigger would never care greatly for the plodding voyages of an ordinary steam freighter; but he could not fail to grow enthusiastic over one of these new thirty-five-knot vessels. Long, slim hulls built for knitting through the waves—these the old-timer could understand and appreciate.

The method has changed, but not the spirit. The new liner, speeding over the Atlantic at express-train speed, driven to the utmost of its capabilities, hurling airplanes at the distant shore in order to clip a few hours from its schedule—this is, truly, the lineal descendant of the famous clipper, whose skippers carried upper topsails when rival vessels were hoisted, and drove their vessels with a feverish eagerness that made Yankee speed famous the world over.

The Charm of Banditry

There died in Italy the other day a 93-year-old patriarch who rejoiced in the title of "the last of the Italian brigands." During his lifetime he had been credited with more than thirty murders, and in his youth he was known as "the wolf of the Sila."

It is rather odd, when you stop to think of it, how such a man can always hold our interest. Notorious bandits seem to exercise a great fascination for all of us; biographies of such men as Jesse James, for instance, are selling like hot cakes all over America.

Why is it? Is it because we are so hedged about with rules and regulations that we have a sneaking admiration for a man who defies all law? It would make an interesting study for a psychologist.

Pershing Is Out of It

There have been rumors, from time to time, that General Pershing was a more or less receptive candidate for the presidency.

We don't believe it, and we'll tell you why.

The other day the good general visited friends in a city that had not seen him for some time. Newspapers sent reporters and cameramen to greet him. And Pershing refused to be interviewed, and could not be coaxed to pose for pictures only after long discussion.

A politician reporter and camera-shy? Surely not; not in America. Unless this man is different from all others, he is not planning on being elected to anything.

An animal that was half skunk and half cat was exhibited at a cat show in Boston the other day. We always have been great admirers of the skunk's facial contour.

Geraldine Farrar says youth is largely in the mind. We've noticed that, too.

People used to think the world was flat. Then it was found to be round. But it's still just a little crooked in spots.

Ohio reports no peace in sight in the coal controversy and our cellar says no pieces.

Perhaps one of the reasons the Anti-Saloon League doesn't run a couple of dry newspapers is the Congressional Record.

President Cosgrave called Chicago an "unbelievable city." And here, all the time, we had thought it was only the mayor who was spoofing us.

Prohibition, Churches

BY N. D. COCHRAN

From time to time we read of ministers complaining of hostility toward the churches and a lack of what they consider proper interest in religion and church activities. Evidently some of the thinking clergymen have been trying to figure out what's the matter.

Westchester County, New York, is one of the richest counties in the country, hundreds of thousands of business and professional men whose offices are in New York City making their homes in that neighboring county. Recently there was a meeting of somewhere around 100 members of the Westchester County Council of Churches at White Plains, the county seat. All but six of them signed a declaration upholding the eighteenth amendment and calling upon the general public to uphold prohibition.

One of the six who refused to sign was Rev. Frederick J. Melville, pastor of St. Matthews Lutheran Church of White Plains, and president of the White Plains Ministers' Association. His reason for not signing may throw some light on what's the matter with the churches that have followed the Anti-Saloon League into politics.

"I do not criticize any of the signers of this declaration on the grounds of insincerity," Rev. Mr. Melville said, "as I do not know them closely enough in private life, but there is no doubt that many ministers and laymen are afraid to speak their minds because of the consequences of public opinion, despite the fact that in their hearts they are convinced that prohibition is doing harm to the country."

"If everybody spoke honestly, with the courage of his convictions, there would be a different public attitude on this question. Prohibition has done a great deal of harm to the church. It has done more harm than any other modern institution."

"Children go to church, hear the ministers uphold prohibition and hear of the dangers of drinking. They go to their homes and see their parents drinking regularly. This situation confuses the minds of the children and they do not know what prohibition is."

That's one minister's opinion. To that may be added what many men know—that many adult church members who are sincerely interested in religion resent—the support, financial and political, given by the ministers to the Anti-Saloon League lobby, whose leaders have become—for hire—professional politicians and legislative lobbyists. Many earnest Christians look upon this as an unholy alliance of spiritual and material forces. Some think that many ministers of the gospel have neglected their spiritual work to wander off after false gods. Then there are those who would like to see prohibition work, but know it isn't working and don't believe it will.

Aside from such adults as are dissatisfied there is little question that the Protestant churches are losing their grip on the rising generation. What influence this may have on future generations and on the churches themselves is a matter of opinion, but it certainly is something to which ministers should give very thoughtful consideration. My own belief is that politics and religion won't mix, and that the quicker preachers get out of the political mire the clearer they will be able to keep their spiritual skirts and the better it will be for religion and the church.

Mr. Fixit

Garfield Ave. Residents Protest Changing of Name to Grant; Council Holds Only Remedy.

Let Mr. Fixit, The Times' representative at city hall, present your troubles to city officials. Write Mr. Fixit at The Times. Names and addresses which must be given will not be published.

Changing of the name Garfield Ave. to Grant St. was protested today by a resident in a letter to Mr. Fixit.

Dear Mr. Fixit: A few days ago workmen removed street signs on Garfield Ave. and replaced them by new signs changing to Grant St. This street has been known as Garfield since it was laid out and I am appealing to you to keep that name. I have talked to at least twenty-five property owners in two blocks who are bitterly opposed to this change. I wish you would see what can be done.

READER: The name of Garfield Ave. was changed to Grant St. some time ago by the city council and the change of signs is just being made, according to John E. King, former councilman, now with the Indianapolis Power and Light Company.

King said the change was ordered on request of the Indianapolis postoffice because of confusion in mail delivery. Your only course of action would be to persuade the council to order the name changed to Garfield.

Times Readers Voice Views

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

Editor of The Times: Roy M. Swartz, president of the Sherman Emerson Civic League Federation of the Community City Clubs, at the Chamber of Commerce Friday night, Jan. 27, said it appeared that civil service may be reinstated after most of the Republicans are replaced by Democrats.

He quoted the mayor as having expressed approval of re-establishing at some time civil service for all officers in both departments below the rank of captains. Officers above this rank are executives and should be appointed by the mayor.

I have been a member of the Indianapolis police force more than twelve years and have never held a promotion. I wish to state that civil service as conducted in the Indianapolis police department in the past has a tendency to demoralize the department. Should I look on until the political pests are propped up as has been done in the past? We are told suddenly "now if the rank and file want to go up you can take the civil service examination."

The stronger your politician is in this examination the higher your grade will be.

Civil service, the way it has been conducted in Indianapolis, is the strong arm of the politician to protect his friends as long as possible. You will have to find something better if you want to fool the politician.

There are other problems our civic leaders should not overlook in our city government which should not be left in the dark by giving the police and fire department the front page always. There is a class of people in this city that think the police and fire departments are the whole city government. These departments will take care of themselves if left alone.

Too many dictators have always brought on a calamity in any business or government.

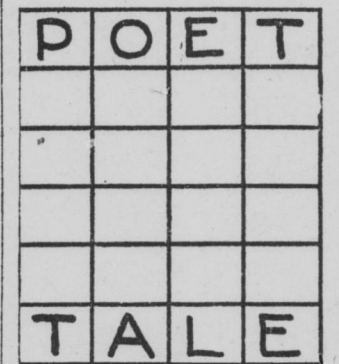
FRED G. HESS.

2015 N. Illinois St.

To the Editor:

I am taking this way of letting the people of the city know of some of the good things the police officers of our city do for us. Saturday during the cold weather Officer Huxley found a woman with seven children, from 13 years old to a babe in arms, in distress without any coal or a bite to eat.

Officer Huxley ordered coal and groceries and waited there until the coal and groceries came and he knew they would be all right until Monday, when the churches and charitable organizations, which he notified, could take care of them. I think officers of this kind should be surely praised. A NEIGHBOR.



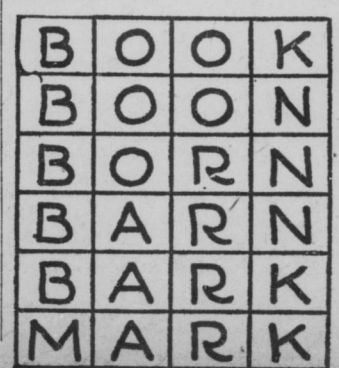
The Rules

1. The idea of letter golf is to change one word to another and do it in par, a given number of strokes. Thus to change COW to HEN, in three strokes, COW, HOW, HEW, HEN.

2. You can change only one letter at a time.

3. You must have a complete word of common usage for each jump. Slang words and abbreviations don't count.

4. The order of letters can not be changed.



Let's Bring Him Back to Reason



THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION

Lucretius Rejects Immortality

Written for The Times by Will Durant

SOUL and mind are evolved with the body, and are material as the body itself.

"For when the soul is seen to move the limbs or rouse the body from sleep, or alter the countenance, or guide and turn about the whole man; and when we see that none of these effects can take place without touch, nor touch without body; must we not admit that the mind and the soul are of a bodily nature?"

BRIDGE ME ANOTHER

(Copyright, 1928, by The Ready Reference Publishing Company)
BY W. W. WENTWORTH

(Abbreviations: A—ace; K—king; Q—queen; J—jack; S—any card lower than 10.)

1. If by making a certain play you can make four and game, should you risk another play where you might make five or only three?

2. At what stage of play should you try to prevent opponents from making game?

3. Declarer bids one no trump. Partner bids 3 diamonds. Declarer holds A X X in diamonds, what should declarer bid?

The Answers

1. Make the four.
2. Earliest opportunity.
3. Three no trump.

What Other Editors Think

Bluffton Banner (Democratic)
"Old Tom" Adams, Vincennes editor, is about to cast his hat in the ring for that Republican nomination for Governor. Tom it was who started so much of the trouble in the Republican ranks and who thundered up and down the State for a new deal, and he has about come to the conclusion that if there is to be any actual house cleaning in the Republican party he is the man to do it. All set, with mop, scrub brushes and the like, and has the practice. Tom, it will be recalled, was appointed chairman of a probe committee by the Republican Editorial Association and about the time he began to accuse men like Governor Jackson, Mayor Duvall, Arthur Gilliom and even one of the Marion County judges, the president of the editorial association attempted to repudiate Thomas, but with rather poor luck. After events proved Tom knew what he was talking about and made a fool of the president of the aforesaid Republican Editorial Association. But Tom's work, great as it was, is not the kind that brings votes on election day, and chances are that with six candidates in the field in the May primary Tom would come in just after the fifth man. And pity it is.

A laudatory article about Governor Ed Jackson sent over the State by E. E. Neal of Noblesville, vice president of the Indiana Republican Editorial Association, has been criticised by a number of newspapers as showing a lack of good taste just at this time. The Governor is soon to go on trial in the Marion County Criminal Court charged with having attempted to bribe former Governor McCray. As a defendant, he is entitled to demonstrate his good character to the jury. Whatever admirable qualities he might have, he has had abundant opportunity to demonstrate them during several years as Secretary of State and as Governor.

The use of press-agent methods right now just before the trial might be construed by some as an attempt to influence public opinion in connection with the trial, and before a jury is chosen. Of course, we like to hear good things about our Governors. The fact that Governor Jackson loves and helps boys, as Editor Neal says, is much in his favor. In demonstrating the Governor's "high sense of fairness," Mr. Neal describes a hunting party of which Governor Jackson was a member.

One of the men, perhaps accidentally, shot a hen, the property of a nearby farmer. What did the Governor do? Why, next day, unknown to the others, he looked up the owner of the fowl and paid for it.

Governor Jackson is a pleasant man to meet and many things can be said in his favor. But the proper place to say them is in court when the case gets started.

The interesting financial experience of John Duvall, late mayor of Indianapolis, during a brief six weeks' newspaper experience deserves something more than passing notice.

Duvall, like many embryo politicians, imagined the newspapers, all of them, were not giving him a square deal and being in the high and mighty political office he then occupied he thought it would be an easy matter to start a paper.

Duvall, being bland and childlike, did not know that thousands of others had had the same idea. And being surrounded by sycophants urging him on and offering assistance it was natural for one of his disposition and experience to think all Indianapolis was waiting for his newspaper to appear.

Duvall put up \$100,000 and city employees responded to his call with \$23,200 more. The paper ran six weeks and costed publication for lack of money to pay wages and salaries. Now, in winding up the company's affairs it is made known the assets are \$109,391.25, and the liabilities \$53,460.30. In all probability the assets will not much more than cover the liabilities by the time the receivership is wound up.

All of which means that for the pleasure of conducting a wholly political newspaper for some six weeks Duvall paid close to \$100,000. And for this money Duvall got nothing. Shortly after the newspaper went out Duvall resigned as mayor. A fine example of how a newspaper can not be established and even if established what little good it can do an unworthy office holder.

How many pounds of water to the acre are there in an inch of rain?

A rainfall of one inch over one acre of ground would amount to 6,272,640 cubic inches, equivalent to 3,630 cubic feet. A cubic foot of pure water weighs about 62.4 pounds and the weight of a uniform coating of one inch of rain over one acre of surface would be 226,512 pounds of 13 1/2 short tons. The weight of one United States gallon of pure water is 8.345 pounds. Consequently a rainfall of one inch over one acre of ground would be 27,143 gallons of water. This is equivalent to 603 barrels of 45 gallons each.

What are the functions of the American Red Cross and how were they acquired?

It operated under a charter granted by act of Congress of Jan. 5, 1905 "to furnish volunteer aid to the sick and wounded of armies in time of war in accordance with the convention of Geneva; to act in

Since the soul shares the material structure of the body, it grows with it, and with it decays. There is no immortality.

"What! Shall the dateless worlds in dust be born? Back to the unremembered and unknown And this frail throne—this flame of yesterday—Burn on forever, immortal and alone?"

Did Nature, in the nurseries of the night, Tend it for this—Nature whose breathes might Like some poor shipwrecked sailor takes the babe? And casts it bleating on the shores of life?"

What is it there? A cry is all it is. It knows not if its limbs be yours or his. Tissue from tissue rots; and as the sun Goes from the bubbles when they burst, So this—

Flakes on the water, on the water cease! Soul of the body, melt and sleep like these. Atoms to atoms, weariness to rest. Ashes to ashes—hope and fears to peace."

In truth Lucretius rejects immortality for that same reason which makes most of us long for it; the fear of death.

He takes quite as seriously as his enemies the thought of another world, but he has not found life so smooth and sweet as to wish for its eternity.

He does not believe in hell, except as a synonym for our existence on the earth; and since death does not cast us into Hades, it ceases to be an evil, and may be met with a certain philosophical superiority.

(Copyright, 1928, by Will Durant)
(To Be Continued)

TRACY

M. E.

SAYS:

"The Good Thing About Golf Is That You Have to Play It to Get Anything Out of It; the Bad Thing About Baseball and Football Is That You Do Not."

"The American College," says Owen D. Young, "must prepare students to use advantageously the leisure time which the machine age has provided and will continue to provide increasingly." That is a real idea.

Prosperity tests the worth of a people, or a civilization, like nothing else. Mechanical power has made prosperity more dangerous than ever.

This is not the first time that people have acquired a sufficient degree of prosperity to provide spare time and cash, but it is the first time they have been so widely distributed.

In Rome under the Caesars, in Spain under Philip II, in France under Louis XIV, there are spare time and cash, but only for a few.

The fact that those few were able to create such havoc should be a warning to us.

Emphasis on Character

Poverty is a great disciplinarian. There is nothing like hard work to make people decent. Those who have to scratch for what they get, lack energy to be vicious.

They may be dull and narrow, but they face little risk of degeneration.

It requires more intelligence and self-control for rich people to lead clean, useful lives than for those who are poor. America's task is to meet this requirement.

It would be a shame if the wealth and vitality of this nation were to be wasted away in senseless amusement, yet that can happen, just as it has happened before if the right kind of leadership is not developed.

Hitherto, our educational system has emphasized ability as the all-important object. From now on it must emphasize character.

Nation of Handclappers

As a people we know how to earn money. Our weakness lies in the way we spend it. To a measurable extent, we are becoming a crowd of spectators, lookers-on, of hand-clappers.

Our physical culture is too largely a matter of watching some one else go through the motions at one else's seat.

Prosperity has done nothing so distinctly as to teach us how not to take a part in sports.

The good thing about golf is that you have to play it to get any good out of it. The bad thing about baseball and football is that you do not.

Calm Down, Bossy!

Bossy Gillis says that he never expected to become a boss. Maybe he hasn't. Maybe he has allowed himself to be surprised too soon. Other young men have jumped into the headlines for a week or a month only to see them fade just as quickly.

Stunts and applause do not mean very much, except as an outlet for leisure time.

We have to have something to while away those empty minutes, and what is better than a real novelty, such as the mayor of a New England town, who makes profanity fashionable in the newspapers?

Popularity of Surveys

Surveys have become popular, which is something else that might be explained on the theory of spare time and cash. When we cannot think of anything else to do, we generally can find a business, a situation or a problem that needs to be surveyed.

The occupation is not only legitimate but occasionally informing. Besides that, it provides work.

Cost of Funerals

One of the latest and most unique surveys deals with funeral expenses. It took two years, cost the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company \$25,000, was conducted by a committee of forty distinguished citizens and involved the study of more than 15,000 burial bills.

It proves conclusively that funerals have gone up in price. Most people have suspected something of the sort but they are very glad to have their suspicions confirmed in such a convincing and authoritative manner.

The survey also shows that it cost more to die in the East than in the West, in the North than in the South, in the city than in the country, which is something else that most people suspected.

Grieve Expensively

The reasons assigned for the mounting cost of funerals are clear and understandable. There is a decreased death rate, an increased number of undertakers and a disposition to grieve expensively, which means expensively.

But when all this is said and done, what are we going to do about it? Certainly not going to advocate an increased death rate, and crowded as the profession may be, it is doubtful if many of the undertakers will consent to abandon it voluntarily.

That leaves the expensive and expensive grieving as the one possibility of curtailment. But what is the use of prosperity if one cannot show it off a little at the end? When you get down to brass tacks, the cost of dying is much like the cost of living. It depends on the standard.

There never was a civilization that ate well and died well, but what buried its dead well. It is only natural that we should give our relatives and friends a farewell in keeping with what they have known and enjoyed here. The cost is a part of the ceremony.