



The Indianapolis Times

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BOYD GURLEY, Editor.

ROY W. HOWARD, President.

FRANK G. MORRISON, Business Manager.

PHONE—RILEY 5551.

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

One White Blackbird

"There's a white bird among all those black ones," shouted a small boy Sunday as he drove through the country with his parents.

The boy was right. By one of those accidents which scientists know about, a bird happened to be white and stood out among the flock of blackbirds, conspicuous among his fellows and pathetically alone and uncomfortable.

The white bird was the only one noticed by the boy. And the Leslie campaigners, having enticed Tom Adams into their flock, are hoping that the same thing will happen to the voters. They want to center attention on Adams, not the flock.

But the Leslie homecoming Saturday was of a character which will not permit any long disillusionment on the part of any citizen who believes that Senator Robinson was right when he said that birds of a feather flock together.

One of the men on the platform who stepped forward to seize the hand of Leslie was Governor Ed Jackson.

That was more than a gracious gesture. It was probably pure gratitude.

For it was Leslie who, as speaker of the House, elected by Republican members, gathered together the cohorts when Adams and others were demanding an investigation of political and other crimes, and made suppression a party policy.

It was because of that action that it was possible for Jackson to be present as Governor of Indiana on Saturday.

For later, when drawn into court on a charge of attempting to bribe Warren T. McCray, it was possible for Jackson to present his plea that the crime was barred by the statute of limitations. Had the same facts been presented to the House of Representatives it is unbelievable that any party lash could have prevented an impeachment.

No wonder that Jackson was there to praise and congratulate. His should have been sincere words and grateful ones.

Upon the platform also, invited there to give assurance to the particular group which is in charge of Leslie's campaign, that Leslie is their man, was Ora Davies, former State treasurer. Davies also presented, successfully, a plea of the statute of limitations when indicted on a charge of accepting commissions on State funds of which he was custodian.

It was Davies who, best remembered for his participation in another homecoming at Lafayette, for he was then escorting Stephenson, and had just come from South Bend, where Republicans, gathered in party conference, had rather unceremoniously told him that he and his guest were not welcome, but the next day they journeyed with the mighty to the scene of the homecoming to rejoice on promises made and received.

And the Duvall Elephants had the alleged stupidity of the beast whose name they take to brazenly take charge of the meeting and display the fact that Boss Coffin is the real master of the situation and that the Republican organization of Marion County belongs to him and him alone.

These were the birds who flocked for Leslie. And on the side line the hawkers for Leslie are calling attention to one man.

"Look at the white blackbird," they call to the voters as they point to Adams.

Perhaps it is possible for them to make the voters forget the color of the flock. And again, perhaps not.

Deserved Honor

Because he was responsible for "organization, development and completion of a military program which brought success to American arms in the World War," the distinguished service medal has been awarded to Newton D. Baker.

No person, disposed to be fair, will dispute the justice of this award. During the war partisan opposition sought to disparage Baker's services as Secretary of War. This attitude continued in some quarters for a time after the war, notwithstanding tributes to his statesmanship from such military leaders as General Pershing, himself a Republican.

But year by year, as peace has permitted dispassionate study of the record, the estimate of Baker has grown, until now there are few to deny that he was a big man in a big job during the trying years of 1917 and 1918.

The citation just made originally was recommended by the Army board in December, 1918. Baker, as Secretary of War, struck his own name from the honor list. It remained for his present successor, Dwight F. Davis, to perform the gracious act of approving the award.

Our Enlightened Electorate

The American electorate is, as you all know, highly enlightened and intelligent and can be trusted to decide at the polls any weighty question.

To be sure. Yet a Detroit attorney, last spring, bet a friend that any man running for Congress under the name of Jefferson in the Thirteenth district could draw at least 10,000 votes, even though he made no effort to introduce himself to the voters.

After the recent primary this attorney collected. He had entered the fictitious name of John G. Jefferson in the congressional primary, making no campaign whatever and exciting not one line of comment. He polled 10,729 votes.

Thus, occasionally, does the enlightened American electorate work.

The Crime Probe

Let it be hoped that the present grand jury will not be either discouraged or dismayed in its efforts to discover what, if any, protection has been given to criminals and crime in this county and city.

It may be of interest, especially at this time, to discover why the list of election officials has always contained the names of many whose careers and records are exhibited in court documents.

It should be of interest to know whether the so-called bosses of politics have depended for their political power on ability to grant favors.

The coming of gang government is traceable, most conclusively, to the manner in which prohibition laws have been operated.

The gangs spring from the business of alcohol cooking and the bringing of booze from the borders.

Having been successful in that field, it is but a small step to the crimes of banditry and hold and arson and more primitive forms of pillage.

Of course, the fault is not altogether on such agents of the law as find it profitable to protect the bootlegger and the gang runner.

Back of it is the fact that very respectable men, who are frightened by crime, patronize the men who bring in the forbidden booze.

The gangs exist for the violation of the law, obtaining protection through corruption, because there is a market for their goods and they do not find their customers among the criminal class. They get their rich profits from those who can afford to pay high prices for poison.

There should be another, unofficial but sweeping, inquiry into the crime situation. It might well be handled by a joint committee from the Bar Association and the Church Federation. It should discover how far the courts and so-called criminal lawyers operate to furnish whatever is needed.

It should also disclose just how far the good citizen has helped to make crime possible by buying bootleg whisky and bargain cars.

The Country Teacher

The day of rural school teachers is nearing an end in this country.

Soon big consolidated fireproof, windproof buildings will house the youngsters for miles around.

As the country school teacher passes, however, let us pause to give her the credit she deserves.

Said news dispatches from Nebraska Friday of last week:

"Helen Rooney, teacher, 19, was killed when the tornado struck her school near Homer. The body of Miss Rooney, who stayed to see all pupils safely out of the building, was buried 300 feet.

"At the Lamere schoolhouse, near Walthill, two pupils were killed and twenty-four others seriously injured. Miss Phyllis Stewart, heroic teacher, huddled the children into a group when she was warned of the oncoming storm and played popular songs to quiet them. She was hurt seriously."

Bigger and better schools may in the future give the children of rural Nebraska better educational opportunities. It will be impossible to furnish teachers with more character than displayed under fire by Helen Rooney and Phyllis Stewart.

A citizen of Berlin wrote to his newspaper urging that English be adopted as an international language. Probably it would have a hard time taking hold in the United States, though.

David Dietz on Science

Epochmaking Discovery

No. 157

WILLIAM HARVEY is remembered for his epoch-making discovery of the circulation of the blood. It had been believed from early times until the day of Harvey that the arteries and the veins constituted two separate and distinct systems.

The beating of the heart and the throbbing of the arteries had been observed but no one had realized that the heart was a pump whose function was to pump the blood.

This great discovery was made by Harvey in 1616 though he did not publish it until 1628.

In making his discovery, Harvey made another contribution to medical science which was as great as the discovery itself.

Harvey arrived at his discovery by experiment. He established the experimental method in medicine.

Sir William Oster summarized the importance of this fact in one of his orations in the following words: "To the age of the hearer, in which men had heard and heard only, had succeeded the age of the eye in which men had seen and had been content only to see."

"But at last came the age of the hand—the thinking, devising, planning hand, the hand as an instrument of the mind, now reintroduced into the world of man in a modest little monograph from which we may date the beginning of experimental medicine."

The monograph to which Oster refers was the small book the "De Motu Cordis," in which Harvey announced his discovery of the circulation of the blood in 1628.

It is interesting to note the development of which Oster speaks.

Throughout the Middle Ages, authority reigned supreme. The professors were willing to believe what the ancient authorities said.

Then came the revolt. Paracelsus preferred to trust his eyes rather than some ancient text.

Vesalius, by dissection after dissection, completed his Fabricius, the first accurate and detailed study of human anatomy ever published.

Vesalius had worthy successors, among them Fallopius and Fabricius, the teacher of Harvey.

And then came Harvey who had performed experimental medicine by making use of the experimental method to demonstrate things which by their nature were not to be demonstrated by mere observation.

Thus, occasionally, does the enlightened American electorate work.

M. E.

TRACY

SAYS:

"People May Be as Enthusiastic Over Politics as They Ever Were, but They Also Have Grown Cleverer in the Use of Political Events to Boost Local Enterprise."

NOTHING shows how time and distance have shriveled like disaster.

Sunday morning we rode through the mountains of Tennessee, the sunshine was bright, the sky was clear and the scenery beautiful, but the tropical storm hovering off the Florida coast was in every one's mind. People on the train talked about it, and people in the villages through which we passed were reading about it.

Wire and radio furnished but a part of the picture. The speed with which we get news is matched by the way we travel. We not only learn how other people are suffering quickly, but as a general proposition we meet some one who has friends or relatives in danger.

"I hope Bessie is not in the path of the hurricane," said a woman in the seat behind us. "I have a nephew at West Palm Beach who was through the last blow," said a man who sat across from us in the dining car.

The coming of gang government is traceable, most conclusively, to the manner in which prohibition laws have been operated.

The gangs spring from the business of alcohol cooking and the bringing of booze from the borders.

Having been successful in that field, it is but a small step to the crimes of banditry and hold and arson and more primitive forms of pillage.

It should be of interest to know whether the so-called bosses of politics have depended for their political power on ability to grant favors.

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Doing Her Bit



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

When Heart Muscle Fails

Through delay in mailing, The Times is unable today to print another of its series on medical subjects. School Children's Health. One will appear Tuesday.

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.

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