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*T. D. B. Gossell*  
Secretary.

## RICHMOND, INDIANA "PANIC PROOF CITY"

Has a population of 23,000 and  
is growing. It is the county  
seat of Wayne County, and the  
trading center of a rich agricultural  
community. It is located  
due east from Indianapolis  
and 100 miles and 4 miles from  
the state line.

Richmond is a city of homes  
and of industry. Primarily a  
manufacturing city, it is also the  
jobbing center of Eastern Indiana  
and enjoys the retail trade  
of the populous community for  
miles around.

Richmond is proud of its splen-  
did streets, well kept yards, its  
cement sidewalks and beautiful  
trees. It has 4000 houses, 3  
commercial banks, trust companies and 4  
building associations with com-  
bined resources of over \$100,000,000.  
Number of families, 12,000; capital  
invested \$7,000,000, with an  
annual output of \$27,000,000, and a  
pay roll of \$2,300,000. The city  
amounts to approximately \$6,300,000 annual-  
ly.

There are five railroad com-  
panies radiating in eight differ-  
ent directions from the city. In-  
coming freight handled daily, and  
handled daily, 750,000 bushels. Yard  
facilities, per day, 1,700 cars.  
Number of passenger trains in  
service, 120; of freight trains daily, 77. The annual post office  
receipts amount to \$80,000. Total  
annual valuation of the city,  
\$15,000,000.

Richmond has two interurban  
railways. Three newspapers with  
a combined circulation of 12,000.  
A large number of business and  
warehousing centers in the state  
and only second in general job-  
bing industry. It has a plan-  
tary producing a high  
plane every 15 minutes. It is the  
leader in the manufacture of  
threshing machines, and produces  
more threshing machines, lawn  
mowers, roller skates, grain drills  
and burial caskets than any other  
city.

The city's area is 2,640 acres;  
has a court house costing \$500,-  
000; 10 public schools and has the  
largest high school in the west under  
construction; 2 parochial schools;  
Richards and the Indiana  
Womans College; fine hose  
fire companies in fine hose  
houses; Glen Miller park, the  
largest and most beautiful park  
in Indiana; the home of Rich-  
mond's annual chautauqua; sev-  
eral hotels; municipal electric light  
plant, under construction; opera-  
tion; a private electric light plant;  
insuring competition; the oldest  
public library in the state, ex-  
cepting one in the mountains;  
40,000 volumes; pure, refreshing  
water, unsurpassed; 45 miles of  
improved roads; 10 miles of  
improved 27 miles of brick curbs  
and gutter combined; 40 miles of  
cement walks and many miles of  
brick walks. Thirty churches, in-  
cluding the Methodist, Baptist, and  
Catholic, all of which are  
at a cost of \$250,000; Reid Mem-  
orial Hospital, one of the most  
modern in the state, T. M. A.  
Widening, erected at a cost of  
\$160,000, one of the finest in the  
state. The amusement center of  
Western Indiana and Western  
Ohio.

No city of the size of Richmond  
holds as fine an annual art ex-  
hibition as the one held in the  
Richmond. Each year it is unique  
in that no other city holds a similar  
affair. It is given in the interest  
of the city and financed by the  
business men.

Business awaiting anyone with  
enterprise in the Panic Proof  
City.

## Housing Efficiency and The Commercial Club

The action of the Commercial Club in appointing a committee to investigate the building of more houses in Richmond for the men who do the work in the large industries of the town may be nothing more than common sense but it is attacking a problem which is vital.

This is not only for the benefit of the growth of the town—it will provide better citizens and bring comfort to many people to whom the question often arises—what's the use. For in a town where there are not many houses the rentals are high and the comforts of life small. The proposal should take on the aspect of actually lowering rentals in proportion to the value received. Ten dollars a month may be all that a man can pay—but he is entitled to a place in which to rear his family which will not throw him into debt from sickness and lower his efficiency. Men who live in bad houses because there are no better ones to be had will spend money to get away from them by going to the saloon to spend the evening. Give the man a little better house and he will be less apt to seek his society, heat and cheer elsewhere.

Thank Heaven, there are not many slums, and tenements in Richmond. It compares well with any city in the country.

The Commercial Club is looking into this question more or less from business point of view. They can do that and do more at the same time. Houses of any price need not be ugly—bad sanitation costs more in the end than the few simple precautions necessary—and comfort is not dependent on dollars altogether.

This sounds like absolute nonsense.

But anyone who knows in the least what the cities of Europe and Germany are doing—even what is going on in Indiana need not treat this as an idealistic theory.

For instance the city of Darmstadt in the grand duchy of Hesse is building model houses—houses that as far as design and real beauty are concerned surpass anything in this town architecturally for—\$700—and less. These are workman's houses. They are very simple and building materials are for the most part dearer in Germany than they are here. The planning of the house takes out unnecessary expense—puts in beauty and sanitation.

The state guarantees that any man may build a house exactly like the model and his materials will not cost him more! This is arranged with the contractors who built the original house—it is part of their forfeit and bond.

Now of course nothing of this sort is quite possible in this country because of a certain backwardness on the part of city governments to take care of their citizens in matters in which they cannot help themselves.

But Indianapolis is taking up this problem of housing.

It is suggesting too impractical a thing to make a thorough investigation of what may be built according to the best plans for the average amount of money spent on houses of this character in Richmond?

Efficiency is the thing that is being preached up and down the land. "Get results! Get the most out of your money!" Is that folly—or common sense?

Such a thing is for the benefit of both the investor and the man who has to live in the house—and sometimes these are one and the same. The more encouragement this town can give to the latter class the better off it will be—they are the real thing.

Every business man knows that the man who invests money wants to know what his investment will be; how much he can do with his money.

If the Commercial Club can show that really first class houses can be built and rented for less money—if the waste of building can be cut out because of the superiority of the plans which are drawn and the superiority of the plans makes these houses comfortable and beautiful—there is a cutting down of first cost and an incentive for building—an incentive for people to come to this town—a bettering of conditions for those of us who are here.

Such a thing is not charity—it is cutting out waste—an increase in efficiency all the way 'round the circle.

### WILLING TO LEND.

Only Her Husband, the Mean Thing  
Had Pinched Her Wad!

Men have something to learn from women in the art of warding off "touchers" for coin. Women respond to such requests once in about every thousand cases, but they are scientific in their refusals. A Cleveland woman with a reputation as a borrower turned up at the home of one of her friends the other morning with a much done over story about a persistent and threatening dressmaker and the usual request for the loan—"pay it back to tomorrow, certain"—or \$5.

"Why, my dear, certainly," was the pleasant response to her carefully rehearsed little yarn, "you poor thing, you! Just wait till I run upstairs and get my purse."

She ran upstairs. The male head of the house happened to be in the room where she kept her purse. He saw her dig the purse out of a chiffonier drawer and deliberately remove a wad of bills from it, leaving about 37 cents in silver and copper in the change receptacle. The man was mean enough to lean over the stair railing when his wife went downstairs to the parlor with her flattened pocketbook in her hand.

"Oh, I'm so sorry, dearie," he heard her say, "but I really thought I had the money. I find, though, that Frank, as usual, has been at my purse—I heard him say something about settling a plumber's bill last night when I was half asleep—and the mean thing has left me only enough for car fare. Too bad! Of course, you know, if I had it"—and so on.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Professional Proposals.

The Doctor—May I attend you in health as in sickness?

The Lawyer—May I argue all your cases for you, now with you?

The Politician—I sincerely desire your personal endorsement of my campaign for your hand.—Judge.

### DELEGATES TO THE Y. M. C. A. MEETING

Representatives of the local Y. M. C. A. left yesterday for Vincennes to attend the State "Y" convention. The party will return Monday. Herbert S. Weed, secretary of the Richmond association, Earl Cotton and Clarence Holly, represent Richmond. State President, Sharon Jones will not attend on account of the holiday business season.

Religion is a life.

And it is life at its highest and best.

See the Spillers!

Great people are the Six Music Spillers who are appearing at the Murray this week. Nothing like it before this season. As good as many musical comedies and better than countless number of musical acts that are on the road. They sing, dance and play different musical instruments. They open with the saxophones, and then switch to the xylophones, playing "Morning, Noon and Night Overture" and "Pineapple Rag." Then follow singing and piano playing and so much other entertainment that there is not sufficient space to tell about it. The Three Singing Girls, an added feature, have a repertoire of delightful melody. Mr. De Bolt sings a very popular song at the evening performances.

## "THIS DATE IN HISTORY"

DECEMBER 10TH.

1741—John Murray, founder of Universalism in the United States, born in England. Died in Boston, September 3, 1815.

1802—Reynell Coates, originator of the patriotic order, Sons of America, born in Philadelphia. Died in Savoy, July 3, 1857.

1804—Eugene Sue, famous novelist, born in Paris. Died in Savoy, July 3, 1857.

1805—William Lloyd Garrison, noted abolitionist, born in Newburyport, Mass., died in New York City, May 24, 1879.

1848—Louis Napoleon elected President of the French.

1856—The Cathedral in Montreal was destroyed by fire.

1865—Leopold II, ascended the throne of Belgium.

1904—Earl Gray assumed office as Governor-General of Canada.

## Heart to Heart

### Talks.

By EDWIN A. NYE

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### A TRUE STORY.

The distinguished looking man at the speakers' table turned his wineglass down. The morning papers spoke glowingly of his eloquent speech at the banquet the night before and mentioned the well known fact that the senator was a teetotaler. The reason had never been given, but if the "human interest" reporter had only known as I knew—

Twenty-five years ago he was the son of the town drunkard and was pointed at as "the boy of that good-for-nothing sort."

He was a freckle faced lad, old beyond his years and very shy both by disposition and by the consciousness of his relation to his father. But he was a brave soul when stirred, and no boy of the village dared provoke him into open battle.

To his dying day he will never know how many times he has taken his father home from the saloon. It was a common spectacle, this convoying by the little tug of humanity of the shaky vessel of a man, skillfully piloting the poor derelict to its home port. And it was also common to hear the boys of the street—being out of reach—fling their cowardly gibe at the drunkard's boy.

The boy had a mother.

Which alone accounts for his subsequent career.

She taught him to respect the poor old wreck he called father for the sake of what he had once been. And without wordy speech—she was of few words—she made the boy feel how much she needed him.

They were partners—mother and boy.

One day the drunkard was run over by a farmer's team and killed, and they brought the battered shell home to the woman and the boy.

The mother broke down and refused to be comforted, remembering the days when the young husband was fond of her, proud of his pretty wife and kind hearted to a fault.

The boy's eyes were dry.

All night long he sat by his father's body, thinking, thinking, thinking. What he thought God only knows, for though he was but thirteen years of age, in experience of sorrow and suffering he was a man.

But when morning came he took his mother by the hand and, kneeling by his father's coffin, raised his hand and vowed, as God should be his helper, that never should a drop of liquor pass the portals of his lips. And for the first time his mother was comforted.

"Do you do this often?" asked Miss Almy as she adjusted her turban.

Mr. Nagle said that he very seldom erred in that manner and that he hoped she had not been alarmed. Policeman Miller, who had seen from a distance the old man caroming out of the window, arrived more out of breath than the actors in the incident.

He insisted upon taking a brief census of Nagle's bones before he could be persuaded that nothing had happened that might not occur in any well-regulated window-cleaning family.

Miss Almy assured Policeman Miller that her own bones were in perfect condition.

Just at this moment a taxicab drove up and a broad-shouldered young man stepped out, raising his hat as he did so.

"Hello Bill," said Miss Almy, and entering the machine she rode away.

Policeman Miller asked Mr. Nagle if he needed anything. Mr. Nagle said he did, and mentioned the article he desired. It was purchased in a neighboring store at a cost of 15 cents, with water on the side. Then Nagle went back to his work.

—A GROTESQUE BIRD.

Remarkable Assortment of Colors of the Brazilian Toucan.

The very peculiar looking bird, the toucan, has a body about as big as that of a good sized parrot, but its beak is very different and easily its dominant feature, though this bird is by no means lacking in bright and striking colors. The toucan's beak is half as long as its body, and it is broad and thin and set on edge vertically, shaped something like a blunted scythe, with the slightly curving rounded edge on top and ending with a hook point turned downward—a remarkable beak in size and shape—and this beak is tinted with remarkable assortment of colors, purple and red and green and yellow, while around the beak at the head runs a line of black.

The eyes of the toucan are surrounded by circles of a bright light blue, and on its breast, regularly outlined, is a broad and deep expanse of bright yellow in size and shape in proportion to the bird about the same as the general expanse of shirt front shown by a man in evening dress with his waistcoat cut low and well rounded out at the bottom, this show of yellow being edged with a red line. The toucan's body for the bulk of it is black or a very deep blue black, but around at the base of the tail run two bands of color, one red and one white.

It is not a song bird. It is sold as a pet, not for children, but to adults, and it is more often fancied by men than by women. It takes \$25 to \$50 to buy a toucan.—New York Sun.

## NEWS FROM THE LABOR WORLD

Bank clerks on the East Side, New York City, have organized.

Retail clerks recently organized a union at Ogden, Utah.

Typographical Union No. 28, of Galveston, is the oldest union in Texas.

The next annual convention of the American Federation of Labor will be held in Atlanta.

The marine engineers have a total membership on the coasts, lakes and rivers of the United States of 1,000.

The annual convention of the United Mine Workers of America will be held in Columbus, Ohio, beginning on January 17, next.

The Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs