

## THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM AND SUN-TELEGRAM

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### The Lecture of Dr. Jordan

Hundreds of citizens of Wayne county had the great privilege of hearing Dr. David Starr Jordan, chancellor of Leland Stanford university speak at the Coliseum Sunday afternoon. The lecture was free. Dr. Jordan was brought here through a committee of public spirited men who believed the city as a whole would benefit much by hearing this noted educator speak on a topic in which many persons are vitally interested just at this time, when the leading nations of Europe

are involved in the greatest war the world has ever seen.

The spirit shown by the men who brought Dr. Jordan to Richmond should be emulated. The city owes a vote of thanks to the leaders in the movement. It well behooves the citizens of a municipality to appreciate a good movement and to praise those who are its leaders.

Lately, it seems, many men have come to realize that they owe the city a duty and that full success in life does not depend upon the time and devotion one pays to his own private business. The measure of success can often be seen in the unselfish devotion to a noble cause, in the hours given to public enterprise, and in the endeavor to make life brighter and happier for the less fortunate.

The time and money which public spirited men spend for the public welfare is not misspent, neither is it unappreciated, even if the public does not seem to appreciate it with many loud spoken words of praise. There are hundreds of men and women who refer to the generous benefactions of public spirited men and women, and who do not stint the credit such men deserve.

The men who brought Mr. Jordan to Richmond did a public service and deserve to be complimented and thanked.

## BAVIS SUBMITS ARTICLE BY ED WARFEL ON ANDERSON'S MUNICIPAL PLANT

I am submitting to you for publication a statement of facts as found by Mr. Ed Warfel in the city of Anderson, Ind., who sought at first hand every possible information leading to results, based on experience, of monopolistic management of Anderson's respective utilities.

The result of this investigation, made by a disinterested citizen, is so convincing in its revelations as to be worthy of thoughtful perusal by the entire citizenship of our city.

This is handed to you in the exact form in which he prepared it, and demonstrates very clearly the absurdities of certain objections raised against the city creating a monopoly of the electrical business in this city. Personally, I would state, what Anderson has done, Richmond can do, and what is more to the point will do.

ALFRED BAVIS.

**Facts About Anderson.**  
Anderson has enjoyed a municipal monopoly in electric lighting and power production and distribution since 1892.

Plant valued at date of purchase, \$48,000, now has a book value of \$270,000, which is being augmented by an additional unit to cost \$75,000.

Current is produced at a cost to the city, estimated by Superintendent Burke, of nine-tenths of one cent per kilowatt.

Rates for power are frequently as low as 1 1/2 cents per kilowatt, and have been as low as 1 cent per kilowatt.

Domestic rates range from 6 cents to 8 cents per kilowatt, with a minimum service charge of 25 cents per month, which minimum is one-half that effective in Richmond.

Anderson's plan produces annually 5,500,000 kilowatts, which is 35 per cent more than produced by the Richmond plant during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1914, and slightly more than the present output.

Anderson has practically no city debt, the light plant has more than paid for itself, has relieved the city treasury in time of stress, and made it possible for the city to municipalize the water works, which also is operated at a splendid profit.

**Tax Rate 65 Cents.**  
Anderson has a tax rate of sixty-five (65) cents on each \$100 of property valuation, due wholly to the fact that the municipal treasury has been profiting through the public control and operation of its utilities.

Wholesale condemnation of the policy of the city council, characterized by threats of impeachment from many "leading business men," marked the municipal situation in Anderson, Ind., twenty-three years ago when it was proposed to municipalize the privately owned commercial lighting plant.

Municipal ownership was then in its earliest experimental stage, and was looked upon as a wild bit of Socialism fraught with all sorts of pitfalls and endangering the public treasury.

But the Anderson city council was game. And in the face of open charges of crookedness and idleness, it borrowed the money and paid Charles L. Henry \$48,000 for what some of the so-called moulders of public opinion chose to call a "junk pile."

Henry had a franchise to operate an electric lighting and power plant in connection with the street railway system. Service was inadequate and the rates were high. Mr. Henry virtually charged the city for maintaining a possible competitor in the electrical field. Anderson then was lighting her own streets and spending about \$75 per arc per annum to do so. The city plant made no special effort to secure commercial business, such as might have been handled at a big profit, until Mr. Henry's plant had been salvaged. Then Anderson woke up.

From the first year of municipal monopoly, the possibilities of the plant became apparent. And although it has never approached the limit of its opportunities, the municipal electric lighting and power plant has contributed more to the comfort and prosperity of Anderson than any other one institution.

**Shows No Set-Back.**  
During all the twenty-three years of municipal ownership the electric lighting and power plant has been "in politics." And yet, in truth, it has yet to be demonstrated where it has suffered from the experience.

There has grown up around the Anderson publicly owned utilities a sort of tradition that these must be saved from the spoiler. Without being necessarily a part of the declared platforms of candidates for the council or mayoralty, the people have come to accept as a matter of course, a policy of abiding loyalty to a strictly non-partisan, business administration of the public utilities supplying light and power

er and water to the city. And were any to announce upon any other proposal, or to leave any doubt in the minds of the voters as to his fidelity to this trust, he probably would be examined for lunacy.

And why shouldn't Anderson stand by its municipally owned electric lighting and power plant? For has not this institution demonstrated beyond peradventure that it is the wisest and best investment ever made of the city's public funds? No one in Anderson will even hesitate to emphatically declare that it is so.

For this \$48,000 "junk pile" was thrown into the "dreaded maelstrom of politics," and always a subject to the sports of the party successful at the polls. Yet its annual reports are as mile-stones in a path of progress. Never has there been evidence of failure and every year has shown greater success, until now the plant has a book value of more than \$270,000 and is providing the \$75,000 being expended for the new unit needed because of the increasing demands upon it.

"And," commented President Joseph Hennings, of the Chamber of Commerce, a live organization of more than 1,000 citizens who boost Anderson twenty-four hours every day, "if anyone offered us a cool million and a half dollars for that plant, we would not dignify his offering by referring it to a vote of the people. The city council wouldn't even stop to consider such a proposal, at any price. For the council knows and the citizens know that our plant has never failed to come up to the fullest expectations and that it is the greatest single factor in the community's present prosperity."

"What other community in the state," continued the head booster of Anderson and Anderson's municipal monopolies, "can compete with us in offering inducements to factories? Our tax rate is sixty-five cents on the \$100 and our power rate is about 1 1/2 cents and in one case 1 cent per kilowatt. Our streets are well lighted, and many of our people light their homes for 25 cents per month. Can you beat that? The light plant did it."

Incidentally Mr. Hennings described how the Remy Magneto works (which by the way at one time offered to come to Richmond for a small bonus and was turned down) was influenced to remain in Anderson with its 1,500 skilled workmen, largely by the offer of cheap power, so essential to the efficiency of the industry.

Mr. Hennings tells how the Chamber of Commerce of Anderson secured the removal of the American Playground Device Manufacturing company from Terre Haute. The company is a new enterprise. It had been paying 3 cents per kilowatt for power at Terre Haute, and was casting about for a location. Anderson offered a rate of 1 1/2 cents, which sounded good to the factory owners and the city landed an industry that is now employing 125 men—its capacity—day and night, and which last week was behind to the extent of \$14,000 worth of business, without having made any effort to market its output save through the mails.

The Midwest Box company, a factory secured by Anderson in competition with Frankfort, Indiana, was attracted by an estimated saving of \$3,000 per year in its expenditure for electric current.

**Power Diminishes.**  
The Rotary Valve company, a splendid institution and very busy at this time, shows by a comprehensive chart what municipal ownership means to them, in the conduct of their plant. As their business increased, the cost of power diminished—not proportionately but positively—due to the economy resulting from a municipal monopoly.

Retailers using large wattage likewise declare their fullest appreciation of the benefits of the present arrangement. A. Weslow, owner of a big department store, is one of the city plant's staunchest and most enthusiastic supporters, as is also Glen W. Gates, whose women's apparel shop is one of the best lighted in Anderson.

Professional men, including Attorney Oswald Ryan, formerly instructor in economics at Harvard university, author of text books on city government, and one of the foremost students of municipal and sociological questions in the state, declare unhesitatingly for the municipal monopoly, testifying to its unparalleled prosperity and its usefulness to the city.

"Our citizenship is militant in its support of the integrity of our utilities," said Mr. Ryan. "No official would dare invade the administration either of the light plant or of the water works. There must be no spoliation of these institutions. It was reported only recently that certain ma-

nipulation, contemplating changes at the light plant, had been indorsed in party caucus. When I served notice on those responsible that I would take the public platform, expose their scheme and warn the people of just what was in store, once the political sanctity of their utilities was violated, the plot was abandoned and it is not likely that things will be disturbed. It is no trifling matter here to talk about making political plum trees of the light and water works, and it would fly in the face of public sentiment in such an undertaking."

**Service Despite Politics.**  
Edward Burke has been superintendent of the Anderson municipal plant through two Democratic administrations. His politics does not seem to count. A colleague described him as a Republican, another said he was a Bull Moose, and a former mayor under whom Burke held office said he was a Democrat. If Burke takes his politics seriously, he gives no outward indication of it. He has the good will and support of the entire community. His complaint record consists almost wholly of "trouble on the line," reported in either by linemen or patrolmen who find an extinguished arc.

Burke is paid \$1,800 a year and earns it. He is not an engineer, but is described as a "very practical man," which unquestionably he is, in his line. Former City Controller John Williams, was laughed at, by some, when, before retiring two years ago, he made the assertion that within a very few years Anderson ought to abolish municipal taxes altogether and pay its governmental expenses from the net profits of the publicly owned light and water plants. But he came right back and gave figures proving, in the light of past performances, that it could be done. Yet Anderson will be content with less.

Controller William Richter, Mr. Williams' successor, sees "no reason why the city shouldn't come a mighty near it." Last year the receipts of the plant are shown to have been \$121,452.58, and the disbursements \$70,294.16, a net gain of \$51,158.42. The city of Anderson, which the year before had paid approximately \$15,000 for street lighting, last year paid nothing. In addition the city plant was charged with and paid one-half of installing ornamental cluster lighting posts, or about \$15,000. Anderson operates 309 cluster lights, distributed over the business sections, and 335 arc lights, brilliantly illuminating the entire city at night.

**Reduces Cost.**  
Superintendent Burke estimates that the actual cost per arc light, which was \$75 at the time the city entered upon a monopoly, has been reduced to \$26. He says the city supplies "juice" to 4,300 meters.

After discussing the value of municipal ownership of its light and power and water utilities, Mayor J. H. Mellet asserted that the city might have managed to continue reducing its tax rate, had provision been made for depreciation and replacements in the properties. However, no such provision was made and it is now necessary to take the 1915 profits from the two plants, for additional construction, made imperative by the enlarged demands, thus depriving the city treasury from the benefits of such money.

The mayor admits there will be a deficit of perhaps \$20,000 to make up this year, but inasmuch as the city's total debt consists of \$16,000 in 3 1/2% refunding bonds, due in 1927, this is not regarded as a very ominous situation. Besides, Anderson, generally recognized as a very wealthy city, has an assessed valuation for taxation of only \$10,700,000. So that while the tax rate may be raised to 90 cents for next year, the continued prosperity of the light and water plants, and a more equitable assessment of property guarantees that the city's profits from the two utilities, if properly handled will go almost the entire distance in paying municipal administrative expenses.

Now Anderson and Richmond are almost of the same population in physical area they are very similar. Richmond operates about fifty more street arc lights, but no cluster lights. Richmond raises practically twice as much in taxes as Anderson, on a rate of \$1.10 and a taxable valuation of \$16,800,000. So that it is plain Richmond should have far more for public improvements. But if Richmond has had and spent more for better streets, or public comfort, the results are not apparent. In Anderson the light plant has been the means of providing funds for the various municipal activities and enterprises that here have meant a direct levy upon taxable property. And Anderson's lighting and power and water rate schedules are almost identical with those of Rich-

## WILLIAMSBURG ROQUE ASSOCIATION SENDS CHALLENGE TO TEAMS

**Grounds Improved This Spring and Players Confident of Defeating Rival Claimants for Honors.**

WILLIAMSBURG, Ind., June 15.—The Williamsburg Roque Association is improving the courts this spring. The walls are being recushioned and the entire grounds are being repaired. The local team is ready to meet the clubs in any of the neighboring towns.

Harold Hobbs of Muncie was here Friday on business. Cecil Scantland is spending a short vacation at home when he will return to school in Muncie.

George Green spent Sunday in Muncie. The Willing Workers Sunday School class at the Friends church was entertained Friday evening at the home of Rev. Lee Chamness in Economy.

William Farmer is seriously ill. Mrs. Mollie Roberts was in Richmond Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roe Martin returned home Saturday after spending a few days with friends in Richmond.

Miss Mary Harvey returned to school Sunday evening after spending the week end with her parents. William Meredith of Lynn was here Sunday.

Clyde Cates spent Sunday in Muncie. Miss Reynolds of Fountain City, spent Sunday with Miss Elsie Clements.

Dr. and Mrs. V. C. Griffiths spent Sunday with his father in Fountain City who is improving from an illness. Noel Rundy called on friends in Webster, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. M. H. Woolley entertained their son, Ruford Woolley and wife and Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Jarret of Richmond.

Earl Stegall of New Paris, is visiting his father. Mabel and Kattie Voris of Indianapolis are visiting their aunt, Mrs. Caroline Campbell.

Fred Pearce is remodeling the property occupied by Mrs. Franklin. Victor St. Myer visited his father at Winchester, Ind.

Children's Day will be observed at the M. E. Sunday School Sunday evening, June 27.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Franklin and daughter Lydia, and Mr. and Mrs. Chester Franklin attended the Decoration Day services at Greensfork, Sunday.

### LYNN, IND.

Dr. and Mrs. O. W. Hineshaw and daughter Christian, Mr. and Mrs. Will Swain and daughter, Mildred, Carl Bowen and family attended the David

mond, except as to minimum charges, these being lower in Anderson.

So that, in the final analysis, instead of proving a source of increased taxation, either direct or indirect, instead of a physically inefficient political plumtree, instead of a handicap in the form of inadequate service, instead of all the things the pessimists have predicted for Richmond in the event the present so-called "competition" is wiped out, the Anderson municipal monopoly in the manufacture and distribution of electric current has proved a God-send by keeping taxes far below the level that obtains here; by giving the community a very forceful argument why new industries should come to it; by remaining free from political intrigue or despoliation; by maintaining an efficiency that is entirely satisfactory to all concerned; and this too while constituting a most effective safe-guard against the oppressive tyrannies of a privately owned corporation.

The people of Anderson are not harassed by the trickery and deception of an unscrupulous non-resident ownership of a service plant. They are not worried over the prospect of being forced to pay a high price for electric energy in order to sustain a private institution that already has waxed fat through excessive and exorbitant charges. They are not deprived of the fullest benefit from the investment of the public money, nor are they asked to jeopardize their economic salvation, while the public utilities commission shields and protects the enemy, by a uniform rate schedule, that makes a farce of competition.

In Richmond the consumer pays the freight on duplication of overhead cost. He is disappointed in the contemplation of buying service and current from his own publicly owned plant, at the lowest possible cost. In Anderson he is favored not only with the cheapest service, but saves in taxes of the plant's net profits.

Why, you didn't come all the way from Richmond to ask me whether you ought to complete this deal and make a municipal monopoly, such as we have, did you?" asked former Mayor Frank P. Foster, after hearing a hypothetical question based upon the facts as they exist here. "Surely any man of sense, if he will only investigate what we have done, and I know conditions in the two cities are not dissimilar, will promptly advise you to go ahead and buy the private plant. Your problem will never be solved until you do."

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Starr Jordan lecture at Richmond Sunday.

Miss Isabella Chenoweth of Winchester was the guest of her grandfather Murray Chenoweth last week.

Harry Young of Richmond was the Sunday guest of Mrs. Hill and family. Mrs. Gus Gerlach and daughter, Catherine are visiting relatives and friends at Farmland.

Rev. and Mrs. I. R. Godwin of Gas City visited their daughter, Mrs. Howard Chenoweth last week. Mr. and Mrs. John Martin, Mr. Russell Swiper, Misses Jennie, Eckerle, Elizabeth Fagg autored to Winchester Sunday and visited Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Moroney.

Russell Isenbarger, who is a student at DePauw, is spending vacation with his parents.

Bob Mann of Indianapolis, has returned home after a winter's school in the city.

Luke-warm water often will revive wilted flowers upon which cold water will have no effect.

**The Constipation Cure**  
Constipation-clogged bowels cause pain and sickness; 95 per cent of our ill, say the authorities. Santalax laxatives bring quick relief. All vegetables contain no calomel. Ten doses for a dime at any druggist's. Physician's sample free upon request if you mention this advertisement. The Santalax Remedial Co., Inc. 800 Madison Ave., Covington, Ky.

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"The dependable kind" packed in yellow cartons only. See that you get this kind.

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## Masonic Calendar

Tuesday, June 15—Richmond lodge, No. 16, F. and A. M. Called meeting. Work in Master Mason degree. Refreshments.

Wednesday, June 16—Webb lodge, No. 24, F. and A. M. Stated meeting. Friday, June 18—King Solomon's chapter, No. 4, R. A. M. Called convocation. Work in the Royal Arch degree. Commencing at 7 o'clock. Refreshments.

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Old Mother Earth herself vied every single ingredient in the may-apple root to the constipation, that goes into Santalax Tablets. Santalax contains no mercurials; they're easy on the bowels, but they do their work well. A physician's trial package (containing 4 doses) will mail you if you write, mentioning this advertisement. The Santalax Remedial Co., 800 Madison Ave., Covington, Ky.

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*Elbert Hubbard*

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## Semi-Annual Clearance Sale USED PIANOS

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It will pay you to investigate these this week as they are great bargains, being taken in exchange on player pianos and brought in from rents in homes. All in first class condition and fully guaranteed. Come see them Tomorrow.

<b>I COTE</b> Upright—Fancy Oak Case.	<b>1 MELIN-WINKEL</b> Upright—Mahogany Case.	<b>1 REMINGTON</b> Oak Case.
<b>1 McCONAHA</b> Oak Case Fine Condition. Cheap	<b>1 REMINGTON</b> PLAYER Golden Oak Case. Almost new.	<b>1 LINDEMAN &amp; SONS</b> Parlor Grand Cost new, \$1,000—Sale Price \$375.

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