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The Tribune
A Paper for the People.
F. A. MILLER, EDITOR.
FOUNDED BY ALFRED H. MILLER AND ELMER CROCKETT.
LARGEST—EDUCATION—IN—NORTHERN—INDIANA.
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THIS EVENING

DIVORCE AND THE SHYSTER.

In Indiana last year 4,852 divorces were granted. Startling as are the figures, they are doubly significant when it is added that the number in 1910 was almost 200 more than during the previous year. The figures then reached 4,494. In 1908, 4,253; in 1907, 3,890; in 1906, 3,649. Thus for four years past the figures show a steady and alarming increase.

In 1910 there were 56,877 marriage licenses issued in Indiana, bringing the percentage of divorce to marriage last year up to one in six. Thus are the alarming conditions presented in a bit different manner.

Divorce has become so common that the word no longer carries to the mind which does not ponder, the horror which once it did. To the thinker, however, the report of the statisticians brings a shudder, for in the majority of cases where decrees are granted there are children. It is rather the thought of these little ones left to the care of either one or the other parent—which means at the best, only half care—that causes the shudder.

It is a trite saying that children left without home training become charges of the state, barracks which retard and hinder the advancement of "our community. We are fond of referring to the home as the basis of the nation. Still thousands of homes are destroyed in Indiana each year; in every state each year.

Why this condition? Why the rapid increase in divorce? The replies are as interesting as they are varied. Even the sociologist gives various replies. He is at a loss to explain, but comes nearer the truth than anyone else, and quite naturally.

As for the situation in Indiana, it appears from the statistician's report that the cause assigned in the majority of cases last year was "cruel and inhuman treatment." But this cause might well be called the "charity clause," for it covers a multitude of sins. A Gouvin woman is now suing for divorce for cruel treatment because her husband only kissed her twice a day on their honeymoon, and seemed cold and distant. Also lawyers and court attaches know that cruel treatment is quite frequently alleged for more barbaric and fiendish treatment, growing most directly out of the social evil. Drunkenness was charged by 197 wives last year and 24 husbands. Seven hundred and fifty-four wives charged abandonment, while 369 husbands gave the same reason. A remarkable feature comes out in the report that 891 wives charged failure to support. No husband made that allegation.

Thus a variety of causes is charged in the complaints. One which appears to be most potent, however, is seldom mentioned, and never in the official papers. In Indiana a wife suing for divorce may sick only set an order from the court that her husband pay for her support and various costs during pendency of the trial but also her attorney's fees, and if he does not he may be jailed for contempt until he agrees to comply with the order. This provision actually makes the going easy for shyster lawyers. When consulted by clients who feel their rights have been impaired, be their cause just or unjust, these lawyers urge them to file divorce court and there get an allowance and fees. In some instances husbands have actually been thrown into jail for the debt brought about by shyster lawyers. And, oddly enough, we think imprisonment for debt no longer stains our judicial dockets.

No matter what the causes, no matter whether those cited in complaints are real or merely nominal, the conditions are appalling. And this is no mere generalization. Consider the situation in Indiana as shown by the 1910 statistics; consider the increasing record of the last four years.

Finally, it is significantly apparent that marriage is made too easy, but, much more to the point, is the fact that divorce, defensive or practically so, is also made too easy; far too easy; and in far too many cases the way is made easier by the shysters, who stop at nothing for the $25 fee the court allows. While the shyster lawyer, with all his baneful influence in the community, is far from entirely responsible for the evil, for the alarming increase in divorces in Indiana, he certainly is responsible for too many divorces. And this permits the conclusion: Put the shyster lawyer out of business—just as the St. Joseph County Bar association is endeavoring to do—and one of the direct causes of the fearful increase in divorce will be eliminated.

THE TAX SITUATION.

It now seems probable, according to democratic-state officials, that the next legislature will be compelled upon to increase the state tax levy.

It is said that the only way in which a demand for such an increase can be prevented is for county boards of review or assessors to raise the assessment on lands in the various counties. In this connection it is asserted that such assessments must be boosted not less than 50 per cent above the present figures if the increase in money collected is to prove sufficient. Action of this nature on the part of the boards or assessors in the various counties is decidedly improbable, for the very simple reason that such action either by boards of review or assessors would be far from popular. Hence the probability of a call for help to the next legislature.

The situation is interesting from a political standpoint, for it so signally proves that, despite the promises of economy so generously made in campaign, the expenses of the state have increased rather than decreased. This, however, is not the most important feature. It is not the point which most concerns those who bear the burden of taxation in Indiana, no matter how interesting it may be to the politicians, particularly the republican politicians, now that they are the "outs."

Getting right down to brass tacks, the situation is due to the fact that taxes are not borne proportionately. If there was such a thing as equalization in taxation in Indiana there would now be no demand for either an increase in the tax levy by the legislature for a raise in assessments, and this despite the fact that the democratic state administration has signally failed in cutting down expenses. The fact is that the assessments on larger real estate properties have not been increased proportionately with those for small properties. The one pays approximately one-third of the total value and the other about two-thirds of the total value. Illustrating this point, the Indianapolis Star well says: "that in Indianapolis, for example, the owner of a small residence property pays taxes on the full value of his holding, or an amount closely approaching it, while the owners of down town business property are taxed on a valuation far below what it is actually worth." Thus, instead of proposing that the entire tax levy be increased so that assessments generally be equalized,

The Star significantly remarks in this connection that it is high time small property owners, who are more numerous than larger holders, should take up the matter in an organized and serious way and force an equalization of values.

If the Chamber of Commerce produced no other result than to bring business men together and make them better acquainted it would be worth all it costs. We believe this is a statement which will meet the endorsement of every active man in the organization. In fact, it has been testified to time and again in the campaign for members now in progress and which will end tomorrow. Men who hold aloof from the association do not appreciate this, perhaps, but those who are active in the organization do. They know they have become better acquainted with each other and are glad for it. Competitors are brought closer together and they find it satisfactory. If the Chamber of Commerce did nothing else it would be worth a membership. The business man who does not belong ought to realize this fact.

A movement for a public market has been inaugurated in Gary. The Gary Evening Post, in the course of an editorial in behalf of the project, says: "South Bend has recently established a public market and finds that it brings trade to the city that formerly went elsewhere, and there is no reason to believe that the same benefits may not be enjoyed by Gary." A bit previous. A public market has not yet been established in South Bend, although chances seem to be good that it will be during the present season. When once effected there it little doubt but that trade which "formerly went elsewhere" will be brought here, just as indicated by the Gary paper.

The fight now on in Connecticut, a struggle which has attracted little or no general attention, is against corporate domination. The New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad is determined to maintain its old-time sway and those fighting for the people are just as determined that the power of the corporation must be broken. The struggle is centered over a public utilities commission bill. An interesting review is presented in another column of this page under the caption, "The Connecticut Fight."

It is now said that the tariff tangle in the senate may cause the defeat of reciprocity. If it does, will it certain senators have their way.

Putting our faith on J. M. Allen one love change, we cautiously await the result.

Even the weatherman is on the Indiana society's list that ...

Join the Chamber of Commerce now. It is a good investment.

Still, many a crown has been tilted during the festivities.

FACES FRIENDS MAY BE ABLE TO RECALL

NO. 12.

Represented in the above picture is one of the most delightful women, who ever graced a drawing room and one whose name is very well known.

Yesterday's picture: S. T. Applegate.

THE INDIANA PRESS.

It Was "That" Legislature!

(Elmer Reeves.)

The Marion Chronicle, in explaining why Judge Paulus, of that city, differentiated between "horses" and "politics" in the trial of Mrs. Rose Bonheur Shaw Berry, formerly of Elkhart, says:

"The necessity of the differentiation may be non-foolishness, but, if so, the blame belongs to legislators in responsible for it by making the discriminations in the statutes. Ignorance of the body of the law excused for the punishment of horse stealing. One thing a good many newspapers seem to have yet to learn—and that is that courts do not create, but only interpret the laws."

Another anomaly of the law is that it made it necessary for the judge, in passing sentence on Mrs. Berry remanding her to prison for one year and handed fined her $1 and costs and sending her to the women's prison at Indianapolis for one to 14 years. Distranchisement would hardly prove a deterrent to crime, but it would be a punishment, and one that has to be under any circumstances.

By the way, that disfranchisement phase of penalties for criminal acts, which has been so much discussed, particularly as an absurdity, because much the humiliation may be in theory, but in many cases has any one ever heard of a released criminal being called to account for voting illegally because he violated the judge's sentence? Nothing doing! Nothing of the kind.

What Will Happen to Gray?

(Indianapolis Star.)

It was greatly to the credit of Indiana that the one lone democrat who stood up to denounce the betrayal of free wool comes from the Sixth district of this state. In that self-same set Henry Underwood Johnson—a man of the mold, who would probably have done the same thing. Such "perfidy" as was shown by Mr. Gray and others was in the surrender of free raw materials was not for them.

No one attempted, of course, to answer Mr. Gray's pitiless exposure of the insincerity of protection. Not a word. Trembling in the soul-searing voice he actuated by solicitude for the treasury. He showed conclusively that calling this protective duty a tariff for revenue is the merest pretense. He made plain the historic democratic principle, that the tariff is a tribute levied upon the people of the Sixth district, especially the people of Mr. Gray's own party, will turn and rend him next year for this exhibition of independence. Nevertheless, Mr. Gray made a bold, courageous and true prophecy. We applaud a man for putting the public against the party lash, and then we repudiate him at the polls. We do not, of course, hope for Mr. Gray, but, unless we are mistaken in the man, he would carry into such retirement a self-respect more dear to him than re-election at the price of its loss.

Coming Home.

(Hartford Journal.)

This is to be a great week for Indiana. Perhaps it would be better to say that this is to be a great week for Hoosiers who are now assembled in Chicago, for they are to be given a real "back home." The exiled Hoosiers are coming back, bringing with them honors won in a foreign field. For two days Chicago may turn her city entirely over to suffering Hoosiers, these hard working Hoosiers who are bringing fame to Chicago, report says, in the Chicago Tribune. The Tribune adds: "Not much wonder the Hoosiers are in inspiration. The exiles are coming back and the teacher class will receive them, without asking any questions. The Hoosier teacher is the country over acknowledged to be at sixes. There is to be a baseball game between the exiles and the stay-at-homes and sportsof various kinds will occupy the time. The exiles will win this game by going away from the class. There is no event on the programme of greater importance than the horseshoe match between Charles W. Fairbanks and Vice President Marshall. Fairbanks is one of the best horseshoe "throwers" in the country and Mr. Marshall claims the world's championship. But we expect the senator from Indiana to demonstrate that he is a good "thrower" during this pitching match. It is a blessed thing that the Hoosiers who have gone to Chicago can come back again. There will be little inspiration in Chicago were it not for these occasional visits home.

Irrevelant.

An associate justice of the supreme court of Patagonia was sitting by a river.

"I wish to cross," said a traveler, who was anxious to reach the other side.

"It would," was the reply; "it is my boat."

The traveler dashed him and rowed across the big boat and the judge was drowned.

"Heathen idiot!" said an indignant spectator. "Why did you not tell him that your boat had a hole in it?"

"Why should I? Is it my business? I am the judge, quite judge, judge and nobody else."—From Harper's Magazine.

"Way Far Down Was Water."

(Kansas City Star.)

Cannon fired two short-men the ground. One shot struck Wolf in the ...

THE CONNECTICUT FIGHT

(Special correspondence of The Springfield Republican.)

The New York, New Haven & Hartford railroad is again engaged in the familiar task of embarrassing the general assembly of Connecticut. The railroad is now in the midst of a fight for a public utilities bill. This is the second session of a peculiarly complicated situation. The issue is therefore in the alternative. It is whether there shall be enacted a bill which will be a real bill for regulation, or a bill which will be a mere simulation (such as the bill passed by the senate) or a bar filled with wounding phrases, but of little comparative effectiveness, or, finally, a bill which will be a deadlock, possibly to be satisfactorily maintained between the two branches of the legislature, there shall be no bill at all, and the responsibility for the non-doing devolved for a public utilities law in last fall's campaign.

* * *

To weeks ago the senate, to the surprise of the house, passed a bill which, despite the fact that it was claimed that it had received the support of only a minority of the joint judiciary committee of the two houses, the majority of the house committee, and the house representatives, came as a surprise on the part of those charged with the interests of the railroad was quickly followed by action. Stories are current and about the corridors of some 44 automobiles being dispatched to scour the state for the purpose of bringing back to their own houses representatives in the small towns. But notwithstanding this amount of the extremelle brigade is somewhat exaggerated, it is certain that the unofficial change had come over the house of representatives when it gathered yesterday in Hartford to work out the day, after the week-end recess. Before the house had passed the first half of the bill which had passed the senate felt confident that they had with them nearly two-thirds of the entire membership of the house. But when the house had completed its work gathered in that one house representative expressed it to-day, the old faction of railroad lobby "with the hoots, feet and dragons," in such numbers as to make it seem as an experience shocking even to them.

"The result came last Thursday. Instead of conferring with the senate, the house, after being presented by the committee on judiciary, with a bill, a new bill which had authority, and suspiciously been brought upon the scene, stood a tie upon the proposition to substitute this measure for the so-called senate bill. The house committee, which had been thwarted even by its friends. The tie was dissolved by the speaker of the house, who cast his vote in favor of the new bill. To-day the senate, which had taken a week's rest for consideration as to Thursday's action, it is hoped by those who favor an adequate measure, that it will be decisively rejected and sent back to the house committee, where those who are working for a good bill are still hopeful of obtaining a majority.

The performance this far wears a very strong resemblance to a performance close similarity to certain details to what took place two years ago when the effort to pass a public utilities bill was finally balked after proceedings in the house by the railroad lobby which have passed into history as a state scandal. The bill which the senate has passed is one which, if it be called a utilities bill submitted by the special commission of investigation appointed in 1907, there was also suddenly produced in the senate, and, with no hearing, passed. There are persons cynical enough to question whether the bill introduced by Mr. Peaslee last week was as hastily prepared by his lawyer friends as the senate bill of two years ago, in the space of 48 hours or less, as has been represented.

It can hardly be denied that these things have a rather fishy look; but it is fair to the senate to say that it was that the Burke-Davenport bill, while not adequate to the demand for a real public utilities law, would not be absolutely worthless if it should, unfortunately, be the only measure available at the present session. It is admitted by competent lawyers to be somewhat better than nothing at all, in effect it is described as little more than a "scarecrow" to frighten the corporations. It would be a bad day for the courts instead of providing for enforcing regulation, but, for the time being, it would be a bad day also for the corporations, which would be probable at the present session. It is admitted by competent lawyers to be somewhat better than nothing at all, in effect it is described as little more than a "scarecrow" to frighten the corporations. It would be a bad day for the courts instead of providing for enforcing regulation, but, for the time being, it would be a bad day also for the corporations, which would be probable at the present session. It is admitted by competent lawyers to be somewhat better than nothing at all, in effect it is described as little more than a "scarecrow" to frighten the corporations. It would be a bad day for the courts instead of providing for enforcing regulation, but, for the time being, it would be a bad day also for the corporations, which would be probable at the present session. It is

Opinions differ as to the nature and extent of the opposition to the senate bill, which provides that the findings of the commission shall be prima facie evidence. But one of the things which has cast discredit upon it and its opponent has been the fact that the impression, which it had the appearance of being, was a bill which was drawn by Mr. Robbins, counsel for the railroad, and regarded as the directing force of the railroad's lobby.

LAFOLLETTE MAY WAIT.

(Oshkosh Northwestern.)

According to the Northwestern's special correspondent at Washington, who speaks with assurance of definite knowledge, although admitting his statement is not specifically "authorized," there is a strong probability that senator La Follette will not allow his name to enter the list of presidential candidates this time, preferring to wait until 1916.

There is a ready and plausible reason for such decision on the part of the Wisconsin senator, who is no novice in the game of politics, and who, while naturally willing to advance his cause, is sufficiently philosophic to wait for the time when it is deemed enough not to lead it into a hole, when extraordinary and unexpected that may be launched, but that he is not the man to lead it to victory in the coming fight. With the political atmosphere thus cleared the country would be in for a wide-awake fight to force upon the nomination and election in 1916 of a real progressive.

This report is not intended to mislead the people of this country and of more than ordinary importance because of Wisconsin's fame are apparently ready to follow the lead of Mr. La Follette for president at the time he does he should decide to be a candidate. Discretion is sometimes the better part of valor, however, and the La Follette forces have shown that they know it. Under these circumstances, if this means additional advantage for the progressive republican cause. That the latter will continue to grow and spread in the years to come, there is little room for doubt. It is probably—not soon—the most prominent factor in the progressive republican organization, also seems more than likely. And no one is in a better position to see and understand the situation in all its bearings than Mr. La Follette himself. He will not be in all strategy should this query of delayed candidacy be confirmed.

Three Would Do.

There are 200,000 words in the English language, and seven of them were used last Sunday by a lady who discovered that her husband had stolen that her new hat was adorned with a $2.75 ostrich feather. Chicago Record-Herald.—Northern, Mr. London.

Old Way Cost Too Much.

Senator Stephenson, of Wisconsin, voted for the direct election of senators by the people. He can not be blamed for the method that system which makes it necessary for a man to spend a fortune in order to be elected a senator.—Chicago Record-Herald.

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Little Journeys With the Gas Man—
NO. 15.—HOW TO SAVE.
There are a number of little ways by which a Gas Range can be made to appear less economical than it really is. That is because people who use them have not taken advantage of the following suggestions:
Use a flat bottomed tea-kettle. Fill it before you light the burner.
Do not light the giant burner except for special occasions.
Do not keep anything over a large burner if a simmering burner will do the work. Many cooks under-estimate the efficiency of this burner.
Turn the flame in the burners as low as practicable.
Do not leave the burner lighted because you expect to use it again in a few minutes.
Use sectional saucepans, with perpendicular sides. You can put two over one burner.
When you use the oven, plan things so that you can cook as much as possible at one time.
Steam cookers are very useful in saving gas. Several articles sometimes even a whole meal, can be cooked on one burner.
To-morrow we will close this series of "Little Journeys with the Gas Man." We hope they have been useful.
Gas Company

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Why not avoid expensive accidents to employes? Eliminate dangerous belts and line shafts from your factory and install our safe individual motor drive—safe because any employe can instantly shut off power from any desired point, in time to prevent accidents.
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