

The Indianapolis Times

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DETROIT FOLLOWS US

DETROIT, the home of the flivver, is following Indianapolis in at least one traffic safety regulation that should make the citizens of this city feel sincere efforts have been made here to save life and limb.

After years of failure to secure passage by the city council of a law giving traffic on main arteries the right-of-way, Detroit automobile clubs and police officials had come to consider the move impossible in the greatest of all automobile centers.

Then a Detroit newspaper went into action. It conducted a two months' educational campaign. As a result a "boulevard stop" ordinance was passed. It specifies thirteen streets as main arteries and provides that motorists crossing or turning into these arteries must first come to a full stop.

Despite the fact the ordinance has been in effect only a few weeks its soundness and success seem assured. Police statistics show traffic accidents have decreased 14 per cent.

We believe the boulevard stop system has proved its worth in Indianapolis and are mighty glad to see Detroit following in our footsteps.

YOUR SHARE OF WEALTH

HOW much money do you make? If your family's income is \$636 a year for each member of the family, you are getting exactly your share (using simple arithmetic in determining the share.) For the income of all the American people combined now is around seventy billion dollars a year, or \$636 for every man, woman and child.

So claim the economists after studying the official records of the Treasury Department for the fiscal year ended June 30. On this basis, to be doing just average well, a family consisting of husband, wife and three children should have an income of \$3,180 a year.

Some economists, however, believe that seventy billion dollars is too high an estimate of the national yearly income. Their opinions vary, down as low as forty billions. Which would pull the average person's income to about \$364 a year.

How much are you "worth"? If your family wealth is more than \$3,600 for each member of the family, you have more than your arithmetical share.

For the treasury figures indicate that the entire national wealth is equivalent to \$3,600 for every man, woman and child.

If any American has a fortune of a billion dollars, he has as much as the arithmetical share of 300,000 average Americans. Let that sink in.

Our national wealth is mortgaged to the extent of \$112 for each of us, figuring on the basis of the national debt and not including the ten billion dollars or so that we loaned to foreign governments incident to the war. Even if this big sum never were paid back, it is just about balanced by American investments abroad.

This, then, is the financial condition of Mr. Average American: He apparently has an income of \$636 a year. He is worth \$3,600. He is in debt, through his national government, \$112. Congress should keep these humble figures pasted on its desks, for repeated reference when carelessly handling millions.

LABOR DRAFT IS TRIED OUT

PROPOS of the reported shortage of farm hands in some sections of Indiana, come dispatches telling that Bulgaria is trying out a labor draft. It's modeled after the military conscription system, by which all able-bodied males have to serve a certain length of time in the army.

This labor draft applies to women as well as men. It requires all members of both sexes—unless legitimately entitled to exemption—to perform a certain amount of work on behalf of the state.

The period of service is eight months for men and four months for women. It may be demanded at any age between 20 and 40 years for men and 16 and 30 for women.

Here, we believe, is something new in history—conscription for peace-time service. It's a novelty. But it's workable, for the average person unquestionably would rather be drafted to work during peace for the common good than for battle service.

The labor draft, being tried out in Bulgaria, has interesting possibilities. Playing no favorites (theoretically, at least) it should help break down any caste system and eliminate snobbery, just as army service under conscription places all draft victims on a common level.

A common level is the ideal of what we call democracy. The idea of a peace-time labor draft might not appeal to Americans, but we have plenty of drones for whom a little compulsory work would do worlds of good.

As our money aristocracy continues developing along roads now clearly laid out, something like a labor draft may become an imperative necessity, to put the brakes on the system and help maintain a semblance of balance.

For rich and parasitic idlers, we'd recommend a few months' service at street cleaning or highway building.

As you ponder the possibilities of a labor-draft system, maybe the same thought will strike you that occurs to us: We are creating in our country a financial aristocracy, with hundreds of degrees of money caste. And this is the gravest danger facing our democracy.

Autocracies usually are destroyed from without, democracies from within.

Democracy is born as a co-operation of the impoverished. It has its source in money. And in money is the fatal germ most apt to kill it.

The snobbery and idleness that are made possible by wealth, coupled with greed for more wealth, destroy the democratic spirit of working for the common good. A labor draft, in the form of a net from which none could escape, might be an antidote for many of the problems that our nation is attempting to handle as matters of education and emotion. As in war, a labor draft could be camouflaged as "selective service."

And, while we were at it, we might during the draft period sentence the poor to a taste of the luxury enjoyed by the rich, and the rich to a taste of the terrific grind and near-privation endured by the poor as habitual routine. A social leveler? You bet!

IRENE CASTLE isn't going to get a bit of sympathy from us in her domestic troubles. She started the bobbed-hair craze.

WHAT Mr. Bryan is trying to convey is that he stands at Armageddon, too.

RETAIL COST OF BREAD IS STILL HIGH

Price Remains Same Despite Drop in Wheat—Cut Is Unlikely.

WHEAT prices have tumbled from their high places to pre-war levels. But it doesn't mean anything yet to the consumer. American consumers of bread need not look for a reduction in the price of bread for some time, if at all, according to a nationwide survey made for The Indianapolis Times by NEA Service.

Upward trend of wheat prices sent bread skyrocketing in 1918. But bakers insist now the price of flour is but a small part of bread cost, and scoff at hopes of Old Nickel Loaf doing a comeback.

The most optimistic reports come, strangely enough, from opposite ends of the country. New York and Los Angeles buyers MAY in thirty or forty-five days, have a cent clipped from the price of a loaf. They MIGHT be able to do it, but that's as far as grocers, millers and wholesalers will venture in the business of prognosis.

In other large cities of the nation, the prospect of a cut seems dim. Flour to the wholesaler has slumped, but the latter has at least a month's supply on hand that they bought at the high figure. Moreover, they complain that the cut in price of a barrel of flour would have to be very sharp before it would make a dent in the retail price of a loaf of bread, because labor is the biggest item of cost to contend with, and not flour.

Dispatches from Washington, New York, Los Angeles and Chicago are printed below.

Farmer Suffers

Other telegraphed news from New Orleans, Denver, St. Paul, Cleveland, Seattle and San Francisco reveals about the same conditions, except that in these latter cities the belief that the price of a loaf won't be cut for a long time, if ever, is more positive. The fact that the farmer is getting only about 50 cents for a bushel of wheat—said to be actually below his cost of producing it—seems to make no difference in the price of bread.

In San Francisco, lower wheat prices caused a drop of 80 cents to \$2 a barrel, depending on the grade. The demand is off, as bakers are waiting developments in an agitated market. No immediate bread reduction is in sight. The same condition holds for Seattle, where flour dropped 40 cents a barrel—but bread prices remained stationary. S. B. Asia, large wholesaler, says sugar, labor and delivery constitute the greatest expense in making bread.

Flour men of Minneapolis and St. Paul, big grain centers, expect the price of wheat to rise soon. Consequently, instead of further reductions, they expect increases in flour and consequently no changes in price of bread.

Dealers at Denver say the drop in price of a barrel is negligible when split among 200 loaves. There isn't a chance of a reduction, they report.

"Little Fellows"

Bakers in New Orleans complain that millers, despite the drop in price of wheat, have quoted them no lower figures on flour. They believe this is the time for the "little fellows" to get together and cut in on their wholesale opposition.

The grocery trade is of the opinion that housewives will get busy with their ovens again if millers allow the price of flour to drop along with that of wheat. As to the dining-out public—bah—they will continue to pay as usual.

Cleveland prices of bread will not change, according to present outlook. Flour is slightly cheaper, due to the wheat drop, but as in other cities, bakers say this slight cut can't possibly mean lower price for the loaf.

A Thought

They that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition.—1 Tim. 6:9.

THERE is nothing keeps longer than a middling fortune, and nothing melts away sooner than a great one.—Bruyere.

Observations

There is now one automobile to every eight and five-tenths persons in the United States. The fraction represents those who have been maimed, but not killed, no doubt.

Mr. Harding, having announced himself as "an apostle of understanding," ought to get a kick out of that Minnesota senatorial election.

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TOM SIMS - - - Says

While censoring books considered unhealthy for people, they might include cook books.

About seven times out of ten a man with his hands in his pockets is about broke.

Of course there are exceptions, but wives usually have more relatives than husbands.

After forty years' eating practice some men still never know when they have had enough.

Nearest approach to perpetual motion is a real fat man wishing this summer was next winter.

Best acting in the movies is done by the man who smiles as you sit on his straw lid.

Among the things looking better going than coming are boils and unexpected company.

While tripping the light fantastic a Boston girl tripped her partner also and broke his leg.

A Cleveland ball player's hands are a foot long, so his son never makes him very mad.

Don't worry about the heat too much. When fall comes we will all see better days.

Finding a four-leaf clover is not considered good luck if you fall to see the bee on it.

Best place to go for a vacation is out where they use calendars for time tables.

What Editors Are Saying

Laws

(Alexandria Times-Tribune) We ought all help enforce the laws. We could stop liquor law violations, we could put an end to sudden deaths from automobile speeding, we could put the closed season on wanton murders, we could see the finish of the yegg and safe blower, we could do all the things if we but help to enforce the laws instead of negatively accepting them and passively watching them being violated from day to day.

Crossings

(Huntington Press) Another fatal accident has occurred at Whip-Poor-Will crossing east of Huntington. How many deaths will be required to pay for the customary grade crossing safeguards there? Several deaths and a number of serious injuries have been caused at this crossing when automobiles or other vehicles have been hit by interurban cars or railroad trains.

Vocational

(St. Wayne News-Sentinel) Down at Anderson the other day several men were found making white mule in the basement of a school-house, which leads one of our exchanges to exclaim that this is carrying vocational education a little too far.

Sanitation

(Seymour Tribune) The breakdown in the present system for the removal of garbage in Seymour has reached the point where it cannot longer be ignored by the city council. There are garbage containers in all sections of the city that have been neglected for weeks. With the approach of the melen season garbage will accumulate more rapidly than at present and unless it is hauled away regularly it will result in odors even more noxious and offensive. This condition strikes at the sanitation of the city and the health of the people.

Science

Dr. L. E. Houghley of Concordia, Kas., recently announced that interesting experiments were being made by Prof. Blair-Bell of the University of Liverpool, Eng., that might result in a cancer cure. The agent reported as a possible cure, colloidal lead. This is metallic lead in which the particles of lead are so small and so peculiarly arranged with reference to one another that they form a jelly-like substance.

There has been no later information indicating further success with these experiments. Therefore, there is still no announced cure for cancer. Scientists and doctors agree, however, that one will be found. Cancer, if discovered soon enough, is now curable with X-rays, radium and surgery. The reason it is so deadly is that it is seldom discovered in time.

Large sums are now being donated by philanthropists for experiments along this line, thereby removing the chief handicap that generally confronts scientific research.

Heard in Smoking Room

"The young lady left. I called the marshal at Weiser who informed me there was no Agnes hotel there, but he searched the little hotel in vain. I tried several other nearby towns without better success.

"Suddenly it dawned upon me to look in the Boise directory and sure enough there was an obscure rooming house named the Agnes. Without another second's delay I dashed to the police station, took two policemen to the Agnes and we broke into room 24.

"We were too late. My visitor lay still upon the bed, three notes at her side.

"She had simply forsook her own suicide!"

COOPERATIVE BODIES GROW IN ENGLAND

Societies Started 90 Years Ago and Thrive Despite Opposition.

By MILTON BRONNER, NEA Service Writer

LONDON, July 25.—Nearly ninety years ago, twenty-eight hard-working, poorly paid weavers in the Lancashire town of Rochdale saw a vision, called it cooperation, put their pennies together and started a little shop at which they themselves should be the chief customers.

Out of this little shop has grown the mighty oak of the English cooperative movement with 1,195 shops run by 1,195 retail cooperative societies whose total membership is 3,494,335, representing perhaps, with their families, more than one-fifth the purchasing power of the English people.

Furthermore, these retail societies are shareholders in the immense Co-operative Wholesale Society whose net sales last year were more than 300 million dollars, which has financial resources amounting to more than 170 million dollars, its own factories all over England and estates abroad.

No Legal Protection On Dec. 21, 1844, the Rochdale pioneers opened their little shop. The law offered them no protection. They had no credit. The landlord demanded \$200 per annum and wanted it in advance.

Painfully the weavers gathered together a capital of \$140, spending half the money on fixtures and the rest on flour, butter, sugar and oat meal. By the end of the year their membership had increased to eighty and the shop had sales amounting to \$150 per week. How meager were their resources is shown by their first books, which state that the two men who attended to their banking business should get 10 cents each for their services every week.

The Rochdale pioneers believed it possible to run a shop taking the profit element out of it. The ordinary shop was run for profit only. Theirs should be run for service.

So successful has this idea been since they started that over a billion and quarter dollars have been turned back to the customers. The cooperative movement had no bed of roses. The law was not smoothed for it. Government gave it no subsidy, support or encouragement. Capital and the banks were against it. Parliament was and in some instances still is hostile to its demands. Big business still makes its opposition felt.

Banks Still Dislike 'Em The banks didn't like the cooperatives because the latter sell shares to their member customers and pay a fixed interest on these. In this way money pours into the cooperative societies which the banks would get otherwise. Even today, thanks to the regulations of the banks, no cooperative society may sell more than \$1,000 worth of shares to any one person.

Other things the co-operative societies had to fight for and finally got from Parliament after long battles were: The right to deal with the public instead of being confined to their own members. The right to sue and be sued in their own name instead of by trustees. The right of one society to hold shares in another, thus paving the way to the creation of the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

Even today there are insidious attacks upon the whole cooperative system. The little scheme has so far been held up, largely due to the activities of the Labor Party representatives in Parliament.

Family Fun

It Never Fails

An old lady was on a visit to her married daughter. One day there was company, and little Theodore, the hope of the house, was doing his best to amuse his mother's visitors. Presently he left the room, to return soon afterward with a zinc bucket. This he planted right in front of his grandma. "Grandma," said little Theodore, "will you kick it?" "Bless the child," said the surprised old lady, "why do you wish me to do that, darling?" "Because I heard pa say he should be awfully rich when you kicked the bucket!"—Brisbane Mail.

Read This to Daughter

"Physical culture is awfully interesting," cried the eager girl who had just come back from boarding school for a vacation. "Look, papa! To develop the arms I grasp this rod in this way and the move it slowly from right to left. Do you see?" "Wonderful!" replied the father in admiration. "What extraordinary things teachers have discovered! If you had a bundle of straw at the end of the rod you'd be sweeping."—Youth's Companion.

One on the Wife

"Isn't this wonderful? You can now talk thousands of miles." "That's nothing! I took my wife to California and she talked all the way from New York to Los Angeles!"—Film Fun.

Mother's Statecraft

"So you persuaded your husband to join a glee club?" "Yes," answered Mrs. Bliggins. "When he starts to sing in the house now I can advise him not to tire his voice!"—Boston Transcript.

A Use for Baby Brother

"Willie?" "Yes, mamma." "What in the world are you pinching baby for? Let him alone." "Oh, I ain't doin' nothin'! We're only playing along, and he's the horn!"—Boston Post.

Father Reminds Mother

What have you ever done to save others from suffering and misery? I married you, didn't I?—Chicago News.

Such Polite Fellows, They Are



QUESTIONS Ask—The Times ANSWERS

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to the Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1322 S. W. Avenue, Washington, D. C., enclosing 2 cents in stamps. Medical, legal, love and marriage advice cannot be given, nor is extended research be undertaken, or papers, recipes, etc., be prepared. Unsigned letters cannot be answered, but all letters are confidential, and receive personal replies.—Editor.

What is "hard-tack," and is it still used? Is it wholesome?

The hard bread used during the Civil war was known as "hard-tack," and is also used in modern war-time rations. At the time of the Civil war no extensive study was made in connection with the food of the soldiers, and hard-tack and bacon or salt pork were the principal articles of food. In modern times the United States War Department has conducted extensive studies in connection with the rations supplied the soldiers, and they have put up in hermetically sealed packages food for two meals which are planned with the object of supplying all the needs of the fighting man so far as food is concerned. The object of hard bread is to supply the bread ration in such form that it will not become moldy or unfit for food. It is made of flour and water, and seasoned with salt, and baked in either little square or round biscuits. These are put in tin containers and sealed. Such bread is known to have kept in good condition for seventeen or nineteen years and it is estimated that it could be kept longer and still be fit for food.

When did the leap years come in the past thirty-four years?

In 1892, 1896, 1904, 1916, 1920. There was no leap year in 1900 as leap years do not come at the end of the century unless the number can be divided by four. There will, for example, be a leap year in the year 2000.

Is there any reference to blood in connection with the institution of the Jewish feast of the Pass-over? Yes, see verse seven, chapter twelve, of Exodus.

What is the best method of preventing horns from growing on cattle?

As soon as the budding horns of the calf can be felt as small "buttons" they may be stopped by clipping off the hair over them and rubbing the spot with a moistened stick of caustic potash which has been wrapped with paper to protect the hands from burning. The caustic must not be moistened enough so that it will run, for it will remove the hair and cause unnecessary irritation. A spot about the size of a dime directly over the "button" should be made raw by rubbing with the caustic stick. Calves must be protected from rain to keep the caustic from running over the face.

Who is the author of: "Ever insurgent let me be. Make me more darling than devout; From sleek contentment keep me free."

And fill me with a buoyant doubt." Louis Untermeyer. The title of the poem of which this is a part is "Prayer."

When do you use "farther" and when "further"?

"Farther" is used to denote distance, for example, "He went farther than I did." "Further" denotes something additional, for example, "Jones said nothing further."

What was the "Thermopylae of America"?

The Alamo, a Franciscan mission later used as a fort, where, in 1836 Col. David Crockett, Col. James Bowie and Col. W. B. Travis held out against the Mexicans led by General Santa Anna until only five of the Texans remained alive; these five were killed in cold blood by order of Santa Anna after the capture of the fort.

What was Cleopatra's nationality? Egyptian or Macedonian descent.

What is meant by the indeterminate neuter?

In cases where animals and children are referred to by neuter pronouns, this is called the "indeterminate neuter." We refer to an animal or child as if it had no sex. For example, "The baby cried for its mother."

The Idealist

By BERTON BRALEY

In factory and grimy shop. Where shafting whirls and hammers drop; He hears—not strident dissonance—But rhythm of the true romance. The thunder of the rolling mill, The shriek of shears and plane and drill

Make mighty music to his ears, A march-song of humanity That throbs with strange deep harmony, That lifts the soul and makes the blood A tingling and torrential flood.

He knows that in this noise and din Of dull machinery at work There is a purpose and a plan Which shall make fair the world for man.

Out of the clamor and the grime He knows there shall arise in time Ships to go forth on high emprise And towers soaring to the skies.

The Realist can only sense The tumult and the toll immense, But the Idealist has seen The dream that springs from the machine.

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Consolation

Two-fifths of our country's imports in the last twelve months consisted of raw materials to be used in manufacturing.

American labor gets the job of working this stuff up into finished products, a lot of which are exported. With imports exceeding exports, it's consoling to learn that 40 per cent of the "flood of foreign goods" is raw material instead of finished products of foreign labor imported in competition with American labor.

THE GROWTH OF The Broom Industry DURING THE LAST FIFTY FLETCHER-AMERICAN YEARS



The last half century has marked a very steady growth in the manufacture of brushes and brooms in the city of Indianapolis. In 1870 the value of the finished product was about \$23,983. Last year the retail value of the brushes and brooms manufactured amounted to more than one million dollars.

In 1870 there were ten firms engaged in this business, while last year a big majority of the total was produced by two manufacturers.

The broom industry has repeatedly accepted the sound counsel of the Fletcher American National Bank and profited because of the close contact this organization has had with all Indianapolis industry since 1839.

Industry has banked at the Fletcher American National for more than half a century

Fletcher American National Bank Capital and Surplus \$3,300,000

