

The Indianapolis Times

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AN UN-AMERICAN PRECEDENT

THE policy of our Government is supposed to be one of non-intervention in the internal affairs of foreign countries.

Comes along a revolution in Mexico. And State Department and other administration officials proceed to make hash of that policy.

First, the War Department sells rifles, ammunition and airplanes to President Obregon. The deal is even rushed through so that Congress is given no opportunity to make objection. Deeds, not words, put us on record here.

Then State Secretary Hughes in a statement made public through another State Department, the Justice Department, says the State Department does not look upon the shipment of arms by private firms to Mexico for the insurgent De La Huerta with favor and they are against the Government's policy.

Obviously, it isn't simply the shipment of arms to Mexico that is against this Government's policy, because the Government is shipping arms there for Obregon.

Plainly what Hughes means by "against this Government's policy," is helping De La Huerta instead of Obregon.

And if that isn't taking an active official interest in Mexico's internal affairs, what would be?

The precedent that Mr. Hughes and other agents of the Administration seek to establish is that American policy is to be on the side of the existing governments and against revolutions, at least so far as the American continent is concerned.

The precedent is vicious and un-American. It is also foolish and short-sighted.

The fact is that with regard to the present Mexican trouble this newspaper believes by and large Obregon and his associates stand for liberalism and the interests of the common people of Mexico, and that De La Huerta stands for special interests and against progress. But that has nothing to do with the principle involved, which is that our Government has no business taking sides officially with either of the warring Mexican parties.

ANOTHER FAT BILL

THEODORE ROOSEVELT was right when he said the public was slow to fight.

But it does fight when harassed to the extreme. Hoosier motorists have been willing to contribute their share in the cost of maintaining State roads and of building new ones. But the present law more than doubling the former fees, 66 2-3 to 300 per cent, is regarded as the proverbial last straw.

If the State highway commission had an Aladdin lamp to rub, it probably would wish:

"Give us eight or nine millions a year and we'll keep up, improve and build your roads."

Total revenue, as provided by the 1923 General Assembly, to the State highway commission, will provide this sum, according to official estimates:

License fees, \$7,500,000; gasoline tax collection, \$4,000,000; and inheritance tax collection, \$900,000.

Hoosiers will pay \$12,400,000 in taxes for one year and that despite the fact Indiana has more improved roads than any other State in the Union!

UTILITIES AND 1924 POLITICS

WHAT factor the status of the public service commission will have upon party politics in 1924 is a problem that many a politician is speculating about.

Recent agitation against the commission, aggravated by the order in increasing valuation of the Indianapolis Water Company and depriving the city of Indianapolis of "free water" at a cost of many thousands of dollars, has been offset somewhat by the fact the water company is asking Federal Court to boost the valuation still higher.

If the commission's order was a "victory," then why the appeal to the Federal Court?

In the State political campaign in 1920, the Democrats and Republicans considered a pledge in the party platform to abolish the public service commission.

The movement was defeated.

Whether an attempt will be made again is one for speculation when discussion of the commission is more widespread than ever.

If the commission should be abolished, it is just as logical to abolish the Federal Court.

THAT COLISEUM PROJECT

THOSE who braved the cold blasts Sunday to hear the concert of the city Police and Firemen's Band at Tomlinson Hall have certain impressions, to-wit:

The value of a city possessing a first-class musical organization.

And the need of a coliseum in which such concerts as well as conventions and meetings could be held.

It is not soft flattery to say Indianapolis should be proud of the city's musical organization.

Nor is it hokum to point out the need of a coliseum.

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT announces Mexico "produces more of the bullet-like vegetable known as garbanzos than any other country." What could be more appropriate?

NEW YORK landlord fainted when the judge commanded him to produce a record of his profits. That put an end to his feinting with the income tax collectors and the tenants.

NOW they've heard radio waves down in the Jersey tube, under the Hudson River. There just isn't any way to escape radio, is there?

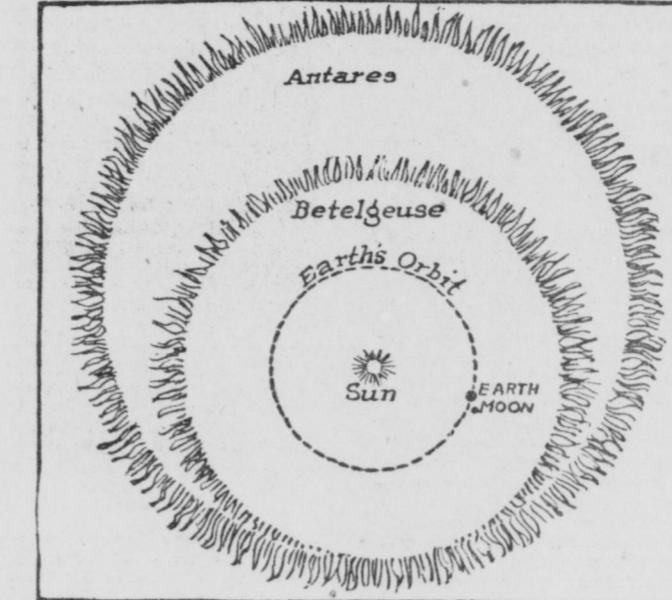
IF STATES keep on putting the ban on films of movie stars involved in scandals, it will come to pass the movie stars will have to live like other folks if they want to stay in business.

THE FURTHER away from him he gets, the more certain is Mr. Firpo that he packs the wallop that will lay Mr. Dempsey low. Distance makes the jaw wag freer.

HAROLD G. BRETHERTON, American vice consul at Aguas Calientes, Mexico, was shot in the leg by Mexican Federal troops. Guess they were just trying out some of the new ammunition the American Government just sold Mexico.

EARTH REPRESENTED AS MUSTARD SEED

True Size of Universe Beyond Imagination of Man—Stars Number Between Two and Three Million.



THIS DIAGRAM HELPS US TO UNDERSTAND THE REAL IMPORTANCE OF THE EARTH IN THE UNIVERSE. IT SHOWS HOW THE SUN WITH THE EARTH REVOLVING AROUND IT COULD BE PUT INSIDE OF THE GIANT STAR BETELGEUSE. BUT BETELGEUSE ITSELF IS SMALLER THAN THE GIANT STAR ANTARES.

This is the second article of a series by Dietz on "Secrets of Science." He discusses scientific facts and phenomena in every day terms.

By DAVID DIETZ
Science Editor of The Times
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THE true size of the universe and the relative size of the earth to it, can be grasped best by imagining the construction of a working model.

A grain of mustard seed is the traditional object taken, by astronomers to represent the earth in this model.

On the same scale, the sun would be represented by an orange. Let us imagine the mustard seed revolving around the orange in a sort

of flattened circle at a distance of forty feet.

That represents, then, the earth revolving around the sun at a distance of 93,000,000 miles.

The moon would be represented by a seed one-fourth the size of the mustard seed revolving around the mustard seed at a distance of one-inch.

Besides our earth, there are seven planets revolving around the sun. These would be represented in our model by objects ranging in size from one smaller than the mustard seed to one the size of a pea and at distances from the orange ranging from ten feet to a quarter of a mile.

Some of these planets have no moons. One has one moon. The others have various numbers ranging from two to nine.

The Solar System

The sun with its planets and their attendant moons represent what the astronomer calls the solar system.

The rest of the universe with its millions of stars constitutes the so-called stellar system.

If our model of the solar system was located in Cleveland, the nearest star would be represented by a small globe placed out in the Atlantic Ocean.

So far apart are the stars that if we kept our model to scale and used the whole surface of the earth for it, not more than three or four stars could be represented on it.

And astronomers now estimate the total number of stars at between 2,000 and 3,000 millions of stars.

Today a large number of astronomers also believe that in addition to our stellar universe, there are other universes, smaller ones, which they have named "island universes." More will be said about these later.

Here are a few figures for those who like them:

From the earth to the moon is about 239,000 miles.

From the earth to the sun is about \$2,000,000 miles.

Earth to Star

From the earth to the nearest star is about 25,000 billions of miles.

Light takes one second to travel 186,000 miles. Therefore it takes light eight minutes to get from the sun to the earth.

Go outdoors tonight and look up at the stars. The light that reaches your eyes from some stars left them only a few months ago expressed great surprise when I told him Dr. Edwin S. Slosson, the eminent author of "Creative Chemistry," was a church deacon!

How Is It Possible?

"How is it possible for a great scientist to be a Christian?" asked this editor.

That the Episcopal or Presbyterian church will be riven in twain by these threatened "heresy" trials is unlikely.

But, even if such a thing were to eventuate, probably the joint membership of the riven parts would soon be much greater than the whole body at present. This has been the story of the great movements which have started in religious churches throughout the ages past and which probably will continue in centuries to come.

How are peanuts grown?

The conditions best suited to the culture of the plant are an early and warm spring, a hot summer free from drought, and a long, sandy, friable loam.

Lime in some form must be added to soils deficient in this element. The soil is finely pulverized from 4 to 5 inches deep and the seed planted about 1 inch deep in rows 26 to 36 inches apart and from 12 to 18 inches in the row, when danger of late spring frosts has passed. About two bushels of nuts in the pods are required to plant an acre. After planting and during the growing period of the crop the soil is kept loose and open and free from weeds. The crop is harvested before frost in the fall, the plants being loosened by means of a special plow, then taken up and put into shocks. After drying, from 15 to 20 days, the pods are picked. Fifty bushels of pods and from one to two tons of hay or straw per acre is considered a good yield.

What are red-winged blackbirds?

They are plenty of folks in different prisons in the State that can pay money instead of serving time. Let them pay the State \$1 per day for their unexpired time. Some will say only those who have money or friends could then get out. Well, let those who have money stay out of trouble. The jail is full of men and the taxpayers have to pay their board.

Look at the thousands of dollars that could be saved by making every man and woman take care of their own children. They ought to be made to take care of them.

There are plenty of folks in different institutions and other places that should be turned out and their parents compelled to take care of them.

We have old folks in poor farms that have children. They ought to be made to take care of them.

There are many ways to reduce expenses. There are folks with jobs, drawing from three to five thousand dollars a year. We have many who would be glad to get the job for half the money and give the same service. But they have no political pull.

We have thousands of children in feeble-minded institutions and other places that should be turned out and their parents compelled to take care of them.

There are no ways to reduce expenses.

They are not so high if the taxpayer could get anything in return. Economy is what we need.

There are many ways to reduce expenses. There are folks with jobs, drawing from three to five thousand dollars a year. We have many who would be glad to come home to its mother, and the mother would be glad to get it, but for different reasons the court sends the unfortunate child to these places and they are punished as criminals.

Look at the thousands of dollars

that could be saved by making every man and woman take care of their own children. Use the law on the parent instead of the child. Many a child is in the home at Plymouth and in the State school at Ft. Wayne that would be glad to come home to its mother, and the mother would be glad to get it, but for different reasons the court sends the unfortunate child to these places and they are punished as criminals.

What is French Coffee; how is it prepared? Also Turkish coffee?

French coffee is filtered or percolated coffee. The coffee is placed in a strainer, strainer in coffee pot, and pot on the range. Add gradually boiling water and allow it to filter. Cover between additions of water. Turkish coffee is made of half pulverized coffee and half sugar. This is boiled together and served without cream. Allow the sediment to settle at the bottom of the cups before drinking.

What are the average salaries of university professors?

They vary widely, according to the size of the college. As a rule, the salaries are around \$3,000 in a fairly good-sized institution.

What was "Ramona"?

The heroine of Helen Hunt Jackson's novel of the same name.

What does the expression "There was more Samson than Solomon in him" mean?

That his physical ability was greater than his mental ability. Samson was noted for his great strength, and Solomon for his wisdom.

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