

## The Indianapolis Times

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This corruptible must put on incorruption, and this  
mortal must put on immortality.—1 Cor. 15:53.

Dead! God, how much there is in that little word.—Byron.

## THE TEAPOT DOME RECORD

It might be well to record here the names of those United States Senators who went down the line for the Teapot Dome affair, who opposed Senator T. J. Walsh at every step in his efforts to get at the truth regarding the Fall-Doheny deal. They fought Walsh to the last.

A vote was taken in the Senate the other day on the question of accepting Walsh's report. Senator S. D. Spencer of Missouri, chairman of the investigating committee, who overlooked no opportunity to hinder Walsh's work, tried to prevent acceptance of Walsh's report.

Spencer lined up thirty Republican regulars' votes against the report. Their names are: Republicans—Bingham, Burren, Butler, Cameron, Capper, Couzens, Cummings, Curtis, Ernst, Fernald, Fess, Gooding, Hale, Jones of Washington, Keyes, McCormick, McKinley, McLean, Means, Metcalf, Oddie, Pepper, Phipps, Smoot, Spencer, Sterling, Wadsworth, Warren, Watson, Willard.

Concluding, it might be added, that not in recent history, at least, has a statesman ferreted out a wrong, single handed, against constant opposition, with the dignity, thoroughness and persistence that featured the work of Thomas J. Walsh, Senator from Montana.

His was the service of a genuine public servant.

## LET THE STATES DO IT

SENATOR Capper of Kansas says that because the time is so short he has little hope that his so-called Federal bread bill will be acted on at this session of Congress.

It is to be hoped that the Senator is a better prophet than he is statesman, if his Federal bread bill is a test of his statesmanship merits.

The Capper bread bill would regulate the weight of loaves of bread in interstate commerce. That is what seems to be its purpose. Its real purpose, however, is to add one more to the already far too many things which the Federal Government is doing that the States should do for themselves.

Every State may regulate the weight of loaves of bread to suit itself. Many of the States have. If the people in the States which have not regulated the weight of bread loaves do not want to, that is their business.

The ideal of Senator Capper and other statesmen and near statesmen who want the Federal Government to regulate every detail of the lives of the one hundred and twenty million Americans—what they shall eat, what they shall and shall not drink, etc., etc., etc.—probably is a bread constitutional amendment, providing for a Federal commission to regulate the weight and price and quality of bread and to say how much or how little each man, woman and child must or must not eat.

We are now drinking or abstaining federally; if a lot of well meaning but misguided busybodies have their way, we soon shall be "educated" federally and Capper proposes that we eat federally.

There are some things that ought to be done, that can not be done unless done federally. The regulation and prohibition of child labor is one of them.

But in our view the less butting in the Federal Government does in those things which the States can do as well or better for themselves, the better.

Bread and education seem to come within this category.

## PARDON OR RETRIAL?

By HERBERT QUICK

LAST month a desperado was killed while resisting arrest in Mobile. He left a note-book in which he solemnly asserted that he killed Thomas Griffin in Des Moines a year or more ago and that two young men now serving life sentences in Iowa are "innocent as babies."

Whether or not this statement is true is not the question which I wish to raise. Rather, frequently circumstances come to light which show that men in prison under conviction for crime are innocent. Let us suppose for the sake of argument that this is such a case. The conviction hangs on the books of the State a solemn record that they are murderers. Unless the law of Iowa has been changed since I practiced law there, there is no way to change this record. That is the case in most States. Once convicted and the sentence affirmed on appeal, if there is one, the record stands, saying to all the world forever, "These men are murderers."

And the remedy? Of course, the State will not allow men clearly innocent to remain in prison. The Governor will pardon them. And by being forced to call it "pardon," he is obliged to repeat that they were guilty. The only person to be pardoned is one who has offended.

## Tom Sims Says

Being afraid to live is often called prudence.

While an operation is painful it may improve your health. The same is true of cutting out a bad habit.

Perhaps others don't think as you think because they think more.

A train of thought travels fastest when it is running express instead of local, but it is more likely to make a wreck.

Being sure you are right before going ahead would be better advice if you could ever be sure of anything.

The past is gone. And we would have used up no more time in doing as we should than we have in doing as we shouldn't.

Human nature is what makes life worth living.

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But in such cases, the State has been misled and has injured most deeply the convict. He should be compensated for his damages. He should be able to say, his children and family should be able to say, "Look at the record! This man did not injure the State by a crime. The State injured him. He was the victim, not society. The record stands thus."

Therefore, in all such cases the Governor or the pardon board ought to be free of the duty of saying that the men convicted are guilty or innocent.

The thing presents difficulties to the legal mind, but there surely is a way in which it may be done and the rights of society still protected against such a thing as guilty men being freed by a confession in a notebook on the person of a dead desperado. The new trial should be freed of all technicalities, should be an act of conscience on the part of the State, but it should give those two Iowa boys another chance, say to all the world forever, "These men are murderers."

And the remedy? Of course, the State will not allow men clearly innocent to remain in prison. The Governor will pardon them. And by being forced to call it "pardon," he is obliged to repeat that they were guilty. The only person to be pardoned is one who has offended.

## Atta Girl

By HAL COCHRAN

Say, little tot, you're a real inspiration. The smile that you've got simply seems a sensation. You take all the bitter from out of our cup 'cause your cheerfulness seems to just brighten things up.

The world, after all, is a sad enough place, so the world ought to just take a peep at your face.

The message it gives us should travel along and prove very plain that the frown stirs the soul.

How easy you find it to spread forth in smile and giggle and laugh in the finest of style. No wrinkle of crossness appears on your brow. You smile, and we thank you for showing us how.

I wonder, wee lady, if you'll take a tip that is just meant to help as you travel life's trip. Don't ever forget, in the aftermath, that it always will pay to know how to smile.

It's sometimes too easy, as people grow up, to feel that there isn't enough in their cup. That thought you may have, but 'twill easily erase, if you'll keep up the habit of cheer on your face!

Report of Secretary of the Interior.

## FARM BLOC CEASES TO FUNCTION IN U. S. CONGRESS

Group Representing Agriculture No Longer Active in Washington.

Times Washington Bureau,  
1322 New York Avenue.

**W**ASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—A lovely little four-letter word meaning group, has just about disappeared from the American language. In its best known hyphenated form, farm-bloc, it is seldom seen or heard any more. This appears to be because the farm bloc itself has lapsed into complete quietude. The farm bloc, as such, hasn't functioned for perhaps a year.

Three years ago it was born and for two years it flourished, striking varying degrees of terror in the hearts of the Senate Old Guard, causing some legislation to be passed and some to be killed, and getting itself admonished from time to time by editorial advisors of Congress. At the top of its strength it included twenty-eight Senators. One became a member by the simple process of announcing his membership or by attending one of the occasional meetings. It was a voluntary association without initiation fees or dues, high signs of grip, frat button or colors. It didn't even have a yell. The only officer was—or is—Senator Capper, who became the chairman when he gave the bloc its first Kansas hand-dinner.

## Group Not Radical

The farm bloc never was a radical group—despite the alarms so frequently expressed concerning it. It was not even obstreperous in legislative matters. It was composed almost equally of Republicans and Democrats and could only be brought into action on questions where there was little or no division of opinion among the farmers of the country as a whole. When practically all the farmers' organizations lined up together as they did in the case of the packer control act, the act to ease the formation of cooperatives and a few other issues of that character, the farm bloc could and did vote together. The informal organization aided in pressing the legislation through, helping to obtain agreements to vote and avoiding delays.

## Farmers disagree

During the past year there has not been a great deal of unanimity with regard to agricultural legislation, even among farmers' organizations, and therefore nothing on which the members of the bloc could get together. Capper himself in the past year has been a pretty regular majority organization man. His Kansas colleague, Curtis—who never was a member of the bloc, but is the way—is now majority leader and it is possible Capper sees nothing to gain by maintaining a rival, even though informal, organization within the Senate.

On the other hand, it is fairly certain that if a solution of the farmers' troubles should simultaneously appear to all the conflicting farming interests, the farm bloc would immediately reappear for the purpose of expediting any legislation that was wanted.

## Income Tax

It should be noted that the revenue act of 1924 provides specifically that the status of a taxpayer relative to the amount of his personal exemptions shall be determined by apportionment in accordance with the number of months the taxpayer was single, married, or the head of a family on the last day of the taxable year.

Under the preceding act the amount of the exemption to which a taxpayer was entitled was determined by his status as a single person, married person or the head of a family on the last day of the taxable year.

A taxpayer, who was married on June 30, 1924, is entitled to an exemption of \$1,750. For the first six months of the taxable year he is classed as a single person, entitling him to an exemption of \$500—one-half of the \$1,000 exemption allowed for a single person who has the complete taxable year, and for the last six months he is classed as a married person, entitling him to an exemption of \$1,250, one-half of the exemption allowed a married person living with wife or husband for the full taxable year. If on June 30 he becomes a widower, he is classed as a married person for the first half of the year and as a single person for the latter half. In such computations a fractional part of a month is disregarded, unless it amounts to more than half a month, in which case it is considered a full month. These figures are based on the assumption that the return is made on the calendar year basis, as most of the fowls that you discover has the habit. (B) For ten hens take about two large slices of bread and spread about one-quarter inch thick with good lard; break in pieces one inch square and feed to the chickens once a day for three days and keep plenty of meat scraps in front of them at all times. Increase the number of slices of bread according to the number of hens. Give larger doses in bad cases.

In any block of this vast city liquor, some good, most of it bad, can be purchased. Rum sellers make the rounds of offices, restaurants, delicatessens, barber shops, butcher shops, drug stores, shoe shine parlors, hotels, hardware stores, gasoline stations and private homes. School children of Jamaica, arrested for stealing \$100 worth of whisky, confessed they had been peddling liquor for two months.

How may hens be cured of the egg-eating habit?

There are various methods. Two good ones are as follows: (A) See that the nests are properly supplied with straw or other nesting material and have them darkened so that if an egg is accidentally broken the fowls will not be likely to discover it. Supply plenty of lime in the form of oyster shells, bone or similar substance. Remove any one of the fowls that you discover has the habit. (B) For ten hens take about two large slices of bread and spread about one-quarter inch thick with good lard; break in pieces one inch square and feed to the chickens once a day for three days and keep plenty of meat scraps in front of them at all times. Increase the number of slices of bread according to the number of hens. Give larger doses in bad cases.

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Can you give me a clear definition of a "vitaminine"?

A vitaminine is a substance that occurs in various food products, especially in the outer coat of cereals which apparently is an essential element in rendering foods healthy.

Of what nationality is Adolphe Menjou, the movie actor, was he educated in this country and what is his address?

He was born in Pau, France, Feb. 18, 1893, a French father and an Irish mother. He was educated at Culver Military Academy and Cornell University. His home address is 1911 Carmen Ave., Los Angeles, Cal.

A Spectacle

The outstanding feature of the year in Hawaii National Park was the spectacular eruption of Kilauea Volcano in May. For several months the crater had been only a smoking pit drained of lava when suddenly the volcano gave vent to a series of terrific explosions, hurling rock and ashes for miles into the air. Red-hot boulders weighing many tons were hurled over a mile away. All this was accompanied by an amazing electrical display.—Report of Secretary of the Interior.

Is there any way to prevent apples from bursting during baking?

Prick the skin a little before putting them in the oven.

## RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

## Precaution

**H**ARRY G. LESLIE, speaker of the House, after a private investigation, demanded the summary removal of the House enlisting clerk Thursday—which was done.

No charges were made. The move was simply precautionary. Investigation disclosed that the dismissed clerk had been arrested **several** times—although never convicted—on charges of vagrancy, blind tiger, and gun-toting.

Despite this record, however, he was appointed to the place in the House organization when the "blunder committee" dispensed its patronage.

Then his personal character and fitness weren't investigated. Was he right politically and geographically? That was the only question entering into the appointment.

An engrossing clerk may seem a minor legislative employee, but no one through whose hands pass laws in the process of manufacture is negligible.

The alteration of a word in a bill—by accident or design—might nullify a law or change its intent. One misplaced comma in a tariff act cost the Federal Government over a million dollars. Therefore, like Caesar's wife, an engrossing clerk should be above suspicion.

The speaker is to be commended for his vigorous precautionary act. It would be fine if dispensers of patronage would likewise exercise precautions as well as politics.

## Sovereignty

**T**HE Ohio public utilities commission informed an Indianapolis motor bus operator that it would arrest his bus drivers crossing the line into that State without Ohio bus licenses. The action affronts the dignity of Indiana.

However, war hasn't been declared, Ohio and Indiana militia continue to eat their meals in peace and ploddingly.

Probably the horrors of bloodshed will be averted, and the dispute adjusted by mail and telephone. Nothing more than retaliation will be proposed. If Indiana busses are molested on Ohio soil reciprocal action will be taken against Ohio busses.

It was forged in a highly political atmosphere by plain men. The framers didn't consider the instrument possessed of a sacred character. Even such a profound student of government as Jefferson thought it might well be rewritten every nineteen years.

The constitution succeeded not because of its inherent perfection, but because of the capacity of the people for self-government. The same constitution, practically unchanged, in Latin-American republics produced a century of internal discord, civil wars and dictatorships.

Making an idol of the constitution and compelling reverence for it would be beneficial neither to the document nor popular government. Criticism will do both good—if the criticism is intelligent.

## Ask The Times

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times, Washington D. C., inclosing 2 cents in postage for reply. A legal or medical question cannot be answered. A newspaper cannot give legal advice. Unsigned requests for answers will not be answered. All letters are confidential.

Name some of the largest oil burning vessels?

Leviathan, Olympic, Acquitania, Berengaria and Majestic.

Where should one write to find out about the Civil Service examination for rural mail carrier and what is the entrance salary?

Write to the Secretary of the Civil Service District or to the Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C. The entrance salary is \$1,400 per year.

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