

The Indianapolis Times

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Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips, and from a deceitful tongue.—Ps. 120:2.

A liar is a bravo towards God and a coward to towards men.—Bacon.

WHAT THE FIGURES PROVE

No good is served by allowing to go unchallenged all the misrepresentations current regarding the Government operation of the railroads.

Director General James C. Davis made a final report to the President the other day. From his figures the assertion has been broadcast that Government operation of the railroads cost the people \$1,674,500,000.

Leaving out of consideration the fact that the Government was compelled to take over the railroads in order to carry on the war, and leaving out, also, the millions saved to the people in freight rates, compared to present rates, let us consider that figure of \$1,674,500,000. Director General Davis says it is composed of two parts. For the twenty-six months of Government operation there was spent \$1,123,500,000 more than was received in freight, passenger and other income. For the six months following Government operation, the period in which the Government continued the guarantee of railroad earnings although operation was entirely in the hands of the railroad owners, the cost to the Government was \$536,000,000. Putting those two sums together, you obtain the \$1,674,500,000 figure which has been blazed across the country to show how expensive Government operation proved.

Very well. Twenty-six months of Government operation, by Director General Davis' report, cost the people \$43,000,000 per month. Six months of private operation, by that same report, cost the people \$89,000,000 per month.

A \$43,000,000 monthly deficit under Government operation.

An \$89,000,000 monthly deficit under private operation.

It is to be hoped the people will see the true significance in Director General Davis' report. In considering the matter they will be helped by remembering that immediately following the return of the railroads to their owners' vast claims for damages were filed against the Government, growing chiefly out of alleged "undermaintenance" of the railroad properties. The aggregate was \$768,003,274. These claims were exploited for all they were worth. They really were worth very little, it now appears from Director General Davis' report. This shows that the Government has settled all of these claims—and settled them out of court—for a total of \$48,574,901. The railroads asked for more than three-quarters of a billion dollars. Examination of their claims showed they had less than fifty millions coming to them.

The people owe it to themselves, since they pay the freight, to fix some of these facts in their minds.

DAUGHERTY BACKFIRES

NE H. M. DAUGHERTY of Washington Courthouse, Ohio, former Attorney General, was called to the stand in a New York court the other day to testify as to the reputation of the defendant, whom he knew.

After testifying, he threw in, for full measure, this observation:

"Taking a little liberty, if the court please, possibly—I hope it is within reasonable bounds—considering what we have gone through with in this country in the last three or four years especially, I could not testify to the reputation for integrity and honesty of hardly any man, especially if he held high public office, because the higher and the more efficient he is, the more subject he is to attack, and I could not testify that I would have anything like a good reputation when I get home the day after tomorrow—until I read the newspapers in the morning, at any rate."

Whereupon the judge held that a court was not the place to take the lid off the Capitol much as Mr. Daugherty might want now to bare his version of the truth about Washington.

This Daugherty is the same Harry M. Daugherty who was Attorney General of the United States a year ago. At that time, a committee of United States Senators was trying to bare the truth about the Department of Justice. Daugherty refused to testify before the committee and denied it access to Department of Justice records. Agents from his department sleuthed on Senators and did all they could to make the investigation difficult and embarrassing. A brother of this Daugherty is still defendant in a contempt case because he refused to furnish the committee with facts in his possession. Daugherty was finally removed from office by President Coolidge because he hampered the committee's efforts to investigate.

Let's keep Daugherty's role straight.

In New York

By JAMES W. DEAN

NEW YORK, Jan. 30.—Over on Montague St. in Brooklyn is a gymnasium where several score of young men are training with boxing gloves, nourishing the hope of becoming a champion some day. In one corner is a regulation boxing ring. It is occupied almost every night with youngsters biffing away at each other in good zest.

The windows of the gymnasium are of stained glass. The building is brown stone, with many arches of ecclesiastical order. It is the Holy Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church.

"We are trying to give to young men the chance for exercise and physical training in a wholesome atmosphere," says Rev. John Howard Mellish, the pastor. "All are welcome regardless of creed or race."

The hobby of Henrik Van Loon, the author, is the violin. He played an hour without stopping at a publisher's office the other day. He often promised to play, but failed to bring the violin. This time the publisher told him that an invitation to visit his office would not be extended unless he proved that he could play.

Elevated trains on steel superstructures and trucks rumbling over streets hollowed for subways create a din that drowns all ordinary noise. The housebreaker and

the safe-blower employ this great noise for their protection; doing their work while the noise is going on, and remaining quiet in the noiseless intervals. Working thus the other night, yeggs drilled through four walls on Tremont Ave., and blew a safe while a policeman patrolled his beat out front.

Telling It to Congress

Better Times, Better People

People are cleaner, better, abler—physically, mentally, and morally—than ever before in the history of the world. — Representative Tullman (Democrat) Arkansas.

Saving Wild Life

The number of wild animals in the national parks showed an increase last year, due to the absolute protection afforded them from hunters and poachers. Owing to the drought that prevailed throughout the Western States during the summer much of the forage for these animals dried up, and considerable anxiety is felt by park authorities over the welfare of the elk and deer. The coming winter be very severe. Report of the Secretary of the Interior.

Paying Our Debts

The public debt has been reduced \$2,800,000,000 since March 1, 1921, and provision is made in each year's budget for debt retirements of about \$500,000,000, chargeable against ordinary receipts. Report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

SENATOR TO PUSH PROBE OF BRITAIN'S MYSTERY-SHIPS

Question of Aircraft Carriers

Enters Into Navy Investigation.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—"I most certainly do not intend to drop my resolution relative to whether the two new British warships, Nelson and Rodney, violate the treaty of Washington," Senator Kenneth McKellar of Tennessee told the writer today.

"It has been stated on the floor of the Senate and in the newspapers," he said, "that the Nelson and Rodney are the latest thing in battleships; that they will be 35,000 tons each; that they will carry nine sixteen-inch guns forward; that the after-decks will be used for airplane platforms, and that there will be no stacks."

"What I want to find out is this: First, whether the Nelson and the Rodney are aircraft carriers or battleships."

"Second, whether they conform to the limitations contained in the Washington treaty."

"Third, if combined battleships and aircraft carriers, whether or not such ships, as aircraft carriers, do not violate Article X of the treaty by carrying guns in excess of the caliber permitted."

"Fourth, whether, as aircraft carriers, they do not violate Section IX of the treaty in reference to tonnage and number of guns carried."

British Protest

"Another thing I want to find out is what has been done by this country to settle the question raised by the British protest against the elevation of the guns on thirteen of our eighteen battleships."

"My resolution asking the President to furnish the necessary information is now on the table, very much alive and right where I can bring it to the attention of the Congress at any time."

"This I shall do at the first opportunity moment. I feel that whatever may be said about it, we at least have a better case against the Nelson and Rodney, under the treaty of Washington, than the British have against the elevation of our guns."

"Article XI of the treaty provides that no aircraft carrier shall exceed 27,000 tons, save under certain specified conditions, when they might, at a maximum, be of 32,000 tons. The Nelson and Rodney both exceed the limit by 2,000 tons."

"Article X provides that no aircraft carrier shall carry a gun of a caliber in excess of eight inches and not more than eight of these. Britain's two new mystery-ships carry nine sixteen-inch guns each."

"Article II permits the British to build two new 'capital ships not exceeding 35,000 tons each,' but Chapter II, Part 4, specifically attempts to distinguish between type of craft. 'A capital ship, in the case of ships hereafter to be built,' it says, 'is a vessel of war, NOT an aircraft carrier, etc.'

Aircraft Carrier Defined

At the same time the treaty defines an aircraft carrier as "a vessel of war . . . so constructed that aircraft can be launched therefrom and landed thereon." In other words with a flight-deck such as the Nelson and Rodney are described as having.

What, then, are the Nelson and Rodney?

President Coolidge has removed his economy objection to gun elevation, the cost being a comparatively small item, and now bases his position entirely on the fact that Britain objects on the ground that the change would constitute a violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of the treaty of Washington.

Dissenting officials here hold that coincident with her stand against the elevation of our guns, Britain is apparently guilty of a far more serious breach of the spirit, if not the letter, of that same pact.

As one of them put it: "Britain is straining terribly at a gnat and at the same time is demanding that we swallow a camel."

Income Tax

Business expenditures are not always business expenses within the meaning of the income tax law. For example, a merchant may build an addition to his warehouse at a cost of \$100,000. This is a capital expenditure for an addition to his assets. Capital expenditures are not deductible. Distinction is made between expenditures for an asset and expenditures in connection with an asset. If the merchant, during the year, should spend \$500 for repairs to his warehouse, such as painting the roof or replacing broken windows, he may deduct such amount from gross income as a business expense, provided his plant or property account is not increased by this amount.

Medical, law or other professional books, machinery, tools, implements, or surgical instruments purchased by a taxpayer for his use in his business, trade, or profession and which are of a permanent character are capital assets, and their cost is not allowable as a deduction. A farmer may not deduct the cost of a threshing machine or tractor, these being capital expenditures, but is allowed to deduct the cost of hoes, rakes, and small tools which are used up in the course of a year or two in farming operations.

The purchase price of an automobile, even when used wholly for business or professional purposes, is not deductible, but is regarded as an investment of capital. The cost of gasoline, repairs, and upkeep of an automobile is deductible if used wholly in business. If used partly for business, and partly for the pleasure or convenience of the taxpayer or his family, such cost may be apportioned. Only the proportion of such cost attributable to business purposes is deductible as a necessary expense.

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RIGHT HERE IN INDIANA

By GAYLORD NELSON

Enrollment

CHARLES R. YOKE, school board president, declared that there are 127 classes of Indianapolis school students in basements and cottages. This despite the several new buildings opened this year.

School enrollment this year exceeded last year by 1,400. This normal increase alone is sufficient to fill four buildings.

More pupils are listed in every city high school now than in September with no additional facilities except at Manual Training, where a new wing has been completed.

Shortridge is an educational sarcasm. Teachers have to correct

papers and perform similar duties while standing on one foot in street cars or equally convenient places.

Meanwhile not a shovel of dirt has been turned nor a brick laid for the long-discussed West Side High School. School buildings on paper look nice but somehow don't accommodate pupils.

Constantly growing congestion is the acute school problem. New construction proceeds at a snail's pace.

Another thing I want to find out is what has been done by this country to settle the question raised by the British protest against the elevation of the guns on thirteen of our eighteen battleships.

"My resolution asking the President to furnish the necessary information is now on the table, very much alive and right where I can bring it to the attention of the Congress at any time."

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What does the name 'Paddy' mean?

It is a nickname for Patrick, which is, in Irish, "Padraig."

Can you give a formula for cutting off the top of a bottle?

Fill the bottle with linseed oil to where you want it to break; place a red hot poker in the oil. Have two pieces of iron ready in case it does not work with one. As soon as you put one in and the oil starts to boil, take it out and place in the second one. Rub a stone around the sharp edge of the glass, after it is broken, to smooth it.

Who made the world's trotting record for the half mile, and when?

Lou Dillon at Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. 17, 1904. The time was fifty-eight and three-fourths seconds.

Can you give a recipe for turtle soup?

Boil a turtle until the flesh leaves the bones. Add a grated carrot, one sliced onion, soup herbs, a teaspoon of allspice, a salt spoon of paprika, and salt to taste. Boil for one hour. Strain, thicken with two tablespoons of butter rolled in as much flour, which has been browned, add two teaspoons kitchen bouquet, and when the soup has cooked to the proper thickness, add the juice of a lemon. Serve at once.

The memorial is no temporary expedient. It's intended to be something of which the State will be proud for generations. The project can stand delay better than haphazard alteration of plans.

Spokesmen

PUBLIC hearing on several proposed regulatory acts was held by the House public morals committee Wednesday night.

Friends and enemies of the various measures were present—and a score took part in the discussion.

The most interesting thing brought out was the impressive number of people sundry speakers claimed to represent, and for whom they were spokesmen.

One asserted, without gulp or stutter, that 600,000 people were united in backing the bill he supported. Another declared she represented an organization of 50,000 members, who unanimously endorsed her views. Another was spokesman for a party of 20,000. And so on.

Perhaps all of them actually represented the numbers they claimed—but it is doubtful. Enthusiastic propagandists are no shrinking violets in claiming popular backing. They are very prodigal with digits and ciphers.

Who were the men who were rescued alive by Commodore Schley from the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition under Lieutenant Greely?

Lieutenant A. W. Greely, Sargents Fredericks and Ellison, and Private Connell. Sargent Ellison died shortly after the rescue. Of the twenty-five persons composing the expedition, seventeen perished from starvation at the point where found.

Attending almost any public legislative committee hearing will convince one that the census is wrong. The State must have several millions more inhabitants than the official enumeration records.

Verbal flourishes large bundles of people is a favorite trick employed to influence legislative bodies from Congress down to city councils. Revolving always in such an atmosphere it is not surprising that legislative mills frequently grind out more chaff than wheat.

The man who keeps plugging and faces the test is paid for the fight he endures. You'll find there's a kick in just doing your best, for happiness really is yours.

No man is so small and no task so great! "I can't" needs enter his living. Your efforts, remember aren't based upon fate, but rather the stuff that you're giving.

Even though it was an army dentist a soldier shot at Washington, we say he shouldn't have done it.

But about this arms argument and the big guns others are making; wonder what they are aiming at?

They do strange things in Texas. Besides electing a woman Governor they arrested an oil stock salesman.

Girls at school in Vassar have voted to smoke. May be all right. But we have found that where there's smoking there's fire.