



## The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)  
Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co.,  
214-220 W. Maryland Street, Indianapolis, Ind. Price in Marion County,  
2 cents—10 cents a week; elsewhere, 3 cents—12 cents a week  
BOYD GURLEY, ROY W. HOWARD, W. A. MAYBORN,  
Editor. President. Business Manager.  
PHONE—MAIN 3500 THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1927  
Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Newspaper Information Service and Audit Bureau of Circulations.

"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way"—Dante

### Better City Government

One of the greatest advantages of the city manager form of government, successful in over 300 cities which grew tired of misrule, is that partisan politics plays no part in its affairs.

In this and other cities which have suffered from machine rule, the bosses have been able to control through an appeal to the party loyalty of men and women.

The bosses have no real party loyalty. To them the party means a vehicle in which they ride into power in cities and in States, through which they obtain patronage and power, by which they are able to get contracts at public expense.

But they understand that when a party ticket is named a certain percentage of voters will vote for no one, had if not for the very suspicious manner in which he has been treated.

The change in prison rules, hastily made at the bedside of one of the trustees of the prison, which made it impossible for newspaper men to see Stephenson at the time he said he wanted to talk, did more to convince the public than could anything Stephenson might have said.

Now he says that a conspiracy exists to forever close his lips. He says that there are politicians and high-Klan officials who would be glad to attend his funeral. He says that he is being brutally purged.

In the election to be held on June 21, this city will have a chance to change that system by adopting the city manager plan.

Under that system men must run on their records as men, not on their appeal to party service.

The candidates will bear no labels save those of their own character and reputations.

The voters will not be divided by words, but those who think alike can vote alike with some assurance that they will not be overwhelmed by a solid bloc who vote without other thought than putting a party machine into power.

There is, of course, no real connection between party principles and city government.

There is no such thing as Democratic policy of running a city nor a Republican policy.

City government is purely a matter of business. Its problem is that of the community, not the Nation. It is a matter of management.

There is no reason why a man is better fitted to be a city councilman because he believes in a low tariff than would be if he believes in a high tariff.

The very fact that the election will be held without party labels and that the man in charge is called a manager, not a mayor, will automatically aid in getting better government.

Citizens who appeal to a mayor for action on any problem think of him in terms of politics. If they went to a manager of a business, they would think of him in terms of an executive.

Only the politicians fear this change, which has worked well in other cities.

They understand that they will no longer be able to live off the public purse. They understand that they may really have to go to work.

Keep that date in mind. June 21 will make history for this city. It will mean a free Indianapolis and a better city, if the thinking people vote for this change.

### The Bishop and the Ambassador

A churchman with open eyes is Bishop Francis J. McConnell of the Methodist church.

This country, he says, is about to witness another wave of "red hunting."

There are evidences that he is right. Our amiable ambassador to France, Myron Herrick, has given the red hunters their cue. Hinting, as diplomats do, at portentious information in his possession, he declaims over the graves of our dead in France that the United States never will tolerate the spread of Bolshevism to its shores. Still hinting of things too terrible to tell, he asserts that we won't sit quietly by while a band of men (presumably Rooshians) attempts "with fiendish ingenuity to inject a fatal poison into our citizens and to undermine institutions which have brought comfort and happiness to our continent."

Too bad Charles Lindbergh had left for London before the ambassador made that speech. He might have kept Herrick too busy to utter it. Now that the pictures have arrived, it is plain just how busy the ambassador was during the boy's visit.

Bolshevists. Reds. Just how many have we in the United States. Not enough either Russian or American to engage the Boy Scouts of America in a real battle! Ah, says the ambassador, the soviet government doesn't fight that way; "it secretly sends against us the germs of a loathsome malady, instead of dispatching armies."

Forgetting for the moment the fact that under the Constitution and the law, it is entirely permissible to spread such germs—by which is meant ideas—how far have the advocates of communism got in this country?

Not far enough to engage the Boy Scouts in a man-to-man joint debate! There are fewer now than there were ten years ago.

They just don't count in the American scheme of things.

Bolshevism and communism are not actual things in this country. They are names to throw at persons who sometimes rise to protest against political or economic or social conditions.

And here is the irony hidden in Herrick's speech. The father of young Charles Lindbergh was a "Bolshevist"—that is, he was one of those at whom that term was thrown. He was a progressive Republican Congressman—a radical, a great friend of Senator La Follette. He was a Nonpartisan League in the days when excited reactionaries were charging all members of that party with being Bolsheviks.

Actually, he was merely a hard thinking, honest Swedish-American with a modesty and a courage that he passed on to his son.

No harm ever came from permitting Congressman Lindbergh to talk. None can come from permitting even the rattle-brained radicals to talk.

Indeed, as this wise bishop of the Methodist church says, good will grow out of their talking, for talking is a safety valve.

Let's call the next red hunt off before it starts.

### Throw On The Light

It would be unfortunate if the State Board of Charities, now charged with the duty of investigating the treatment of D. C. Stephenson since his imprisonment, showed any inclination to hold their investigation in secret.

There has been too much secrecy since this former political dictator of the State went to a cell for murder.

There has been too much secrecy since he first belched forth his declaration that he could prove, by documents, grave political corruption.

The people have been made suspicious by the actions of those in authority. For months every effort seemed to have for its purpose the keeping of Stephenson away from public gaze and the locking of his lips.

His charges now are grave. They would probably have no importance with the public, world except one, had if not been for the very suspicious manner in which he has been treated.

The change in prison rules, hastily made at the bedside of one of the trustees of the prison, which made it impossible for newspaper men to see Stephenson at the time he said he wanted to talk, did more to convince the public than could anything Stephenson might have said.

Now he says that a conspiracy exists to forever close his lips. He says that there are politicians and high-Klan officials who would be glad to attend his funeral. He says that he is being brutally purged.

The State Board of Charities is asked by the trustees of the prison to make the inquiry. Let it be hoped that this body will not make the mistake of other officials and give even a semblance of secrecy to the probe.

The people want the facts. They are not interested in Stephenson, the convict. They are interested in knowing whether he is ready to confess.

### Too Much Food?

Over-production is the reason generally given for the unprofitableness of agriculture.

Too much food! Too much wheat for bread. Too many vegetables; too much fruit. Cotton and wool too bountiful. Meat going to waste. Farms being abandoned. State forestry departments, working with the national forestry department to reforest lands which once grew crops. The farm population of all the country actually growing less. The farmers and the farmers' children drifting to the cities.

Intensive farming, it is said, produces more food than the cities, even though overgrown, need.

Yet bread is 13 cents a loaf, where formerly it was 8 cents or less. Bacon is 50 to 75 cents a pound, where formerly it was 25 cents. Lamb is 60 cents a pound, where it used to be a third of that. Beef long ago ceased to have cheap cuts and the chuck and liver are in the class with steaks. And steaks are getting to be in a class by themselves with patrons of hotel banquets. Apples are 5 and 10 cents apiece. Oranges ditto, regardless of season. Cucumbers two for a quarter. Lettuce same. Strawberries, in season, 25 to 35 cents a box. Butter 65 and cheese 40 cents upward.

And so it goes.

What is the result? Fewer people eat meat. Fewer people eat fruit. Fewer people eat vegetables. Less milk is drunk. Less cheese and butter consumed. The pick of the market goes to the people who are rich enough to be able to disregard food costs. The great mass of buyers are frozen out. The income will not meet the prices. The population stints on its eating. The cigar store goes into the sandwich business. Coca cola takes the place of soup. The city population goes on a diet—a semi-starvation diet, if the doctors and hygienists would tell the truth.

But the farmer does not get the high price. That is the trouble. Any production for him is over-production.

In the old days at the gates of Paris every farm cart had to pay toll on its produce. That is the trouble—one trouble—with our farmers (and city people, too). There are too many people taking toll of his produce. The railroad takes toll, the jobber takes toll, the landlord in his rent for stores and stalls takes toll, the city delivery system and credit take toll, the wharf companies take toll and the wholesalers, jobbers and retailers take toll.

It is the old fallacy of selling less of a commodity to fewer people at a higher price, instead of selling more of a commodity to more people at a cheaper price.

If the goods were cheaper more people would buy them, and there would be less talk of over-production. And if the farmer got a reasonable proportion of the retail price he would be self-respecting prosperous.

One remedy, at least, is in bridging the gap between producer and consumer.

Some photographer is going to come into the office with the great scoop some day. It won't be Lindbergh driving a beer truck in Chicago, or it won't be Wayne B. Wheeler in court for hi-jacking. It will be a bathing beauty—in the water.

The young folk certainly are seen, if not heard, these days, especially at the bathing beaches.

### Law and Justice

By Dexter M. Keezer

A woman stepped off a street car into a hole in a city street. Although it was mid-day she said she couldn't see where she was stepping because of passengers ahead of her. When she got off the street car was stopped, somewhat beyond the usual stopping place. She sued the company to recover for her injuries, claiming that it was negligent in stopping the car at such a place. The company replied that the hole in the street was beyond its control, and that it couldn't reasonably be required to stop its cars so as to avoid all possible holes in the city streets.

HOW WOULD YOU DECIDE THIS CASE?

The actual decision: The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania decided that the street car company could not be made to pay damages for the woman's injuries. It said: "Street cars are not required to observe the conditions of streets over which their cars travel so as to stop their cars with exactness at places where passengers may avoid ordinary defects in the highway while alighting." The court said such a requirement would cause the street car company "to be liable as an insurer of the safety of a pedestrian coming from or going to a car."

What is the total value of the \$50 gold coins issued for the Panama Pacific International Exposition in 1915?

The total of this coinage amounted to \$150,950.

## THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

# TRACY

Says:

One Cannot Help Wondering If Wealth and Power Will Corrupt the Ideals of This Nation.

By M. E. Tracy

In celebrating Lindbergh's achievement, let us not forget that he blazed a trail for others to follow.

If Columbus and Cabot had not been followed by thousands of daring navigators, their courage would have been of little value to the human race.

If such men as Daniel Boone and Jim Bridger had not been followed by multitudes of pioneers, their excursions into the western wilds would have meant little to America.

Lindbergh flew across the ocean, not to make a record for himself, but to show the way.

### Peroovich Case

In 1905 Vlaco Peroovich was convicted of murder by an Alaska jury and sentenced to hang.

In 1909 President Taft commuted the sentence to life imprisonment, with the condition that he should be lodged in such jail or penitentiary as the attorney general might designate.

Peroovich was first sent to Washington and then to the penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kan. In 1920 he petitioned the District Court of Kansas for a writ of habeas corpus on the grounds that his sentence had been commuted from death to life, and that he had been removed from the Washington jail to the Leavenworth penitentiary without his consent and without legal authority.

The district judge granted the petition and ordered his release, upon which an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court has decided that the President had a right to commute the sentence whether Peroovich consented or not; that his removal from the jail to the penitentiary was in strict accordance with the law and that he must return to prison and complete his term.

### Bauer Murder

Harry Hoffman killed Maude C. Bauer on Staten Island three years ago and was indicted for first degree murder.

The jury brought in a verdict of second degree murder.

The Supreme Court at Albany says that this verdict is unlawful, because it did not agree with the indictment, and that Hoffman must be tried over again.

### Where Fault Lies

There is no question about the justice of a life sentence in the case of Peroovich or of a conviction of second degree murder in the case of Hoffman.

The quibbling arises over the President's authority to act in the former and over a faulty indictment in the latter. Such cases impress the layman with the idea that judges and lawyers are far more interested in correcting technical errors than they are in stopping crime.

### Between the Lines

Coupled with the policy we have pursued toward Nicaragua, Mexico and other nations, Mr. Coolidge's Memorial Day address reads like a choral of the Bobbs-Merrill Company.

Later we have heard a great deal about "dirt farmers," now we hear some more about the "ex-residents of the mud."

I rather like that expression. In the first place he proclaims that "when this nation has been compelled to resort to war it has always been a justifiable cause," and that "no greed for territory has ever caused us to violate the covenants of international peace."

In the second place he declares that we have come into possession of great wealth and that "there is scarcely a civilized nation which is not our debtor."

In the third place he asserts that "we are sufficiently acquainted with human nature to realize that we are often times the object of envy," and that "it is to protect ourselves from such dangers that we maintain our national defense."

But the farmer does not get the high price. That is the trouble. Any production for him is over-production.

In the fourth place he asserts that "we are sufficiently acquainted with human nature to realize that we are often times the object of envy," and that "it is to protect ourselves from such dangers that we maintain our national defense."

He is a trifle confused, but that is all right. The Times' article is replete with pithy truths. To quote one instance—where would the citizens of this city and State have obtained a plain, truthful, unvarnished account of the Stephenson case of unsavory memory had it not been for The Times?

The Times should be heartily commended for its straightforward, fearless portrayal of that case. Also for its stand on political corruption in Indiana. I for one cordially endorse The Times. A constant reader, P. H. TRAVERS, 540 E. Market St.

To the Editor:

After reading all that has been said about the Cipollin-Jackson medicinal whisky controversy I want to express my opinion that it is a crime to refuse to give a small quantity of whisky when it is prescribed by a physician.

If a doctor ever tells me that he will not prescribe whisky I do not want him to prescribe for my family.

We must not, however, condemn those drs. who are so weak that they cannot let whisky alone when they can get to it.

W. H. CROUCH.

When was the Philadelphia Centennial held?

In 1876.

Who built the first steam locomotive to run on rails?

The first steam locomotive to run on rails was constructed in 1803 by Richard Trevithick in South Wales. It was a failure. The first one built in America was constructed by the West Point Foundry of the South Carolina Canal and Railroad Company and was christened "The Best Friend of Charleston." It was put to work in November, 1830.

What is the name of Germany's President?

Friedrich Ebert.

What is the full name of Jack Dempsey, the heavyweight boxer?

His full name is William Harrison Dempsey. He was born June 24, 1895, at Manassa, Colo., and is an American of Scotch-Irish descent.

Should chop suey be eaten with a fork or spoon?