

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.

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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.

Jury Tampering and Justice

Whether the judicial system can stand in the face of great wealth—that is the issue in what is now happening in the Sinclair-Fall case.

It has been said that you can't put a million dollars in jail. That has been done. But here we have a situation wherein multi-millions are centered in one individual.

It is well that the trial was halted when it was.

The duty now is to see that it is resumed with a new jury before the facts get cold and the witnesses get scattered.

Fall and Sinclair are entitled to a fair and thorough and full a trial as are the poorest in the land charged with crime. To that, and nothing more. Anything less—anything that would mean that, through collusion between jury fixers and money justice had miscarried in so great a matter—would mean the hardest shock yet administered to an already weakening public confidence in the courts.

Justice has been challenged in a high place.

We hope and pray that justice will come forth victorious.

Into the Light

When the representatives of the various civic organizations meet tomorrow to draft some citizen to be mayor, a long step will be taken toward the settlement of the affairs of Indianapolis.

The membership of the council will hardly dare, brazen as some of its members have been, to defy the advice given by such a group.

These men who will make selections as a guide to the council in its selection of a mayor on Nov. 8 come from organizations which represent and truly represent the sentiment of the whole citizenship.

They come from the stores, the factories and the industries and have the interests of the whole city at heart.

No one will suspect the Kiwanis Club, the Real Estate Board or any other of the dozen organizations which each week meet and discuss public affairs on a high plane, of desiring to control the government of the city for selfish advantages.

These representatives come from organizations which are in close contact with every phase of the city's life. Their advice should and undoubtedly will be a well reasoned decision as to what man in this city is the best and ablest to solve the present difficulties.

Undoubtedly he will be in sympathy with the change to a city manager form of government. It would be difficult to discover an outstanding citizen who is not convinced that the change should be made as the people have voted. That is a matter which is settled by a vote. It was so nearly unanimous that the only task left is to endeavor to get it into effect in advance of 1930, a task which can be accomplished if there is a persistent pressure of argument placed upon Governor Ed Jackson to right the wrong done to this city by the legislature with his full approval.

The members of the city council and the politicians who are now endeavoring to control their votes should be very cautious about refusing to accept advice which comes from such a group.

These council members have much to explain. The activities of many members in obtaining jobs for relatives when Duvall was took office, and that means their business conduct and financial conditions, has been such as to invite suspicion.

It may be said that the entire conduct of some of these members from the first day they took office, and that means their business conduct and financial conditions, has been such as to invite suspicion.

They must know that the people are tired of politics and politicians.

The people are no longer interested in fights between Republicans and Democrats or between the Dodsons and the Coffins.

The people want a man who is not interested in using the office to get more power or secret profits.

This city deserves the biggest and the best man possible. The committee will undoubtedly select such a man or suggest such men.

The city needs a high class business manager, strong enough to break down any obstacles which the council may try to interject against honest and efficient government.

The people should impress these council members that the time has come for them to follow advice of responsible organizations which have no political purposes instead of being closeted secretly with cheap, scheming and venal politicians.

After these civic organizations make their selections of the men to be drafted for this job, the people ought to make the ratification of the occasion for rejoicing by attending the council session and watch the council vote.

Perhaps with the people watching, even these council members will not hesitate.

Casabianca: 1927 Version

The boy stood on the burning deck,
Whence all but him had fled;
The flame that lit the battle's wreck
Shone round him o'er the dead. . . .

Rumania is on the verge of revolution.

President Kondouriotis of Greece, lies shot in the head by a would-be assassin.

China, in the grip of civil strife, may yet be dismembered by greedy powers and become the scene of a bitter war between the powers over the pieces.

Latin-American peoples are becoming increasingly hostile and foreigners fan the anti-American wave in a maneuver to grab our share of the trade.

Former Premier Lloyd George of Britain, visions of hatreds, suspicions and preparations for war on all sides, and warns that the next kill-fest will be far more horrible than the last.

Lord Cecil, former British cabinet member, warns that world statesmen, the British included, are blocking the road to peace and grimly observes that no important nation can hope to stay out of the next war.

Mussolini is preparing Italy for a crisis somewhere around 1936, and de Jouvenel of France, foresees a crucial moment at approximately the same period. These dates coincide with the completion of Italy's great military program, the evacuation of the Rhine, France's small military classes due to the low birth-rate during the war, and the termination of the Washington naval treaties limiting the battle fleets of the first five powers.

Meantime relations between Britain and Russia are tense as Russia prepares to resist what she believes is Britain's intention to crush Bolshevikism. Rumania and Russia are at odds over Bessarabia and Poland, and Lithuania, Russia and Poland, Austria and her neighbors, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, and so forth and so on, are all tussling uncomfortably near the precipice at the bottom of which waits war.

Not in all this talk of trouble are we slighted. To the contrary. We are variously pictured as a rival, dangerous to British trade and sea power; as a money-god behind whose golden chariot all mankind hobbles in the clanking chains of debt; as a sinister octopus already in possession of a third of the total wealth of the world and reaching out our tentacles for more; as imperialistic, selfish and menacing and deserving to be put down.

Small wonder nobody leaves us out when they fall to talking of "the next war."

Still, strange to say, amid all this acrid smoke forewarning of fire to come, there are those who persist in believing, apparently, that our country can hold aloof and let the rest of the world roll by with its wars, trade rivalries, increasing armaments, cartels against our products, corners on essential raw materials, combinations to grab out trade and all the rest. Well intentioned they no doubt are, but nevertheless they court fate of Felicia Hemans' hero who stood above the open powder barrels—the boy upon the burning deck:

"There came a burst of thunder sound;
The boy, Oh! Where was he?
Ask of the winds, that far around
With fragments strewed the sea. . . ."

"Beautiful and bright he stood," no doubt, but just the same the poor lad went up in smoke—and fragments.

And so will we, all of us, unless all the nations, including the United States, soon join hands, form a bucket brigade and seriously set about putting out the gathering conflagration.

Law Enforcement

In Maryland a Federal dry agent was arrested and indicted on a charge of first degree murder.

It is alleged that he shot and killed an aged farmer, as the latter lay, unarmed, on his own doorstep. The killing occurred during a raid on the old man's farm. Some one had told the dry agents that beer was being made on the farm. "They made the raid without warrants. No beer or other liquor was found.

A county grand jury returned the murder indictment, but the prohibition officers succeeded in having the case transferred to the Federal court at Baltimore. The Federal court released the dry agent on bail.

Yesterday it was discovered, that pending his trial, this alleged murderer is still on duty, participating in other raids—"enforcing the law."

And there are still good people who wonder why one community after another is growing impatient with the kind of law enforcement that prohibition has brought.

A young man needn't look forward to being heavyweight champion or president any more. Any young fellow stands a chance of being chosen the average man.

One of these days we can look for the headlines: POOR BOY BECOMES AVERAGE MAN.

A Russian is practicing mass hypnotism to cure alcoholism, according to a dispatch. We are wondering if he can make them say "insatiable."

There isn't any wild west any more, so just where is a young man supposed to go?

Law and Justice

By Dexter M. Keezer

A man had an accident insurance policy which provided for double payment if he should be injured "while in or on a public conveyance—provided by common carrier for passenger service." The man took a ride in an airplane and was killed.

The beneficiary sued to collect the double payment. The company refused to make it on the ground that the airplane in which he had been killed was not a common carrier.

The plane had been operated for ten-minute pleasure trips from a fixed base and on no regular schedule. The company claimed that the fact that it was a casual entertainment service did not make it a common carrier, in which the man was required to be riding in order to entitle his beneficiary to double payment.

The opposing contention was that it was a public conveyance available to any one who wanted to use it, and consequently a common carrier.

HOW WOULD YOU DECIDE THIS CASE?

The actual decision: A United States Circuit Court of Appeals held that the company was not liable for the double payment. The court said that the airplane which was operated on no schedule and for brief pleasure trips did not come within the classification of common carriers.

Perhaps with the people watching, even these council members will not hesitate.

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

"We Have Become Astonishingly Infatuated With the Czar Idea; We Have a Baseball Czar, Movie Czar and a Czar for the Fur Trade."

I find myself agreeing with Mayor Thompson of Chicago that American history ought to be taught from a more patriotic standpoint.

I do not agree with him, however, in the idea that this hinges on aspects of the American Revolution.

It seems to me that American history began after the Revolution.

It is quite generally understood that our forefathers not only knew what they were fighting for, but had the courage to see it through.

However some of our highbrow critics may regard the dispute that arose between our forefathers and England, not only we Americans but the whole world has accepted that dispute and the way it terminated as the beginning of modern republicanism.

First Real Republic

It seems to me that the importance of American history consists in what it reveals with regard to the growth of modern republicanism.

This country was the first real republic. Those of Greece and Rome had very little in common with it.

Of all nations ever in existence, this was the first to recognize manhood suffrage and the right of human beings to have an equal voice in the selection of their officials, regardless of birth, station or property.

Model for World

Since the United States came into being, practically every civilized nation has not only changed its form of government, but has changed it in accordance with the American model.

The experiment which our forefathers proposed to make was more generally laughed at and more generally abused than is that of Russia today.

Very few statesmen believed the United States could survive much less succeed and become a first-class power.

The fact that it has not only grown, but prospered, that it has not only carried out the original plan, but the inspired other nations to follow its example, seems to me the most important idea to date.

We have become astonishingly infatuated with the Czar idea. We have a baseball czar, a movie czar and a czar for the fur trade.

Reactionary Sentiment

It has become popular in certain circles to assume that democracy is a failure—meaning that kind of modified democracy which this government represents.

Now are reds and radicals the only offenders in this respect.

One finds many so-called conservative hinting and suggesting that we have become too liberal for our own good, and that a man like Mussolini may be needed to set us right.

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No President Ousted

This government of ours has been in existence 133 years.

During that time it has held thirty-five presidential elections and seventy congressional elections.

Not one of these elections ever was held except on the prescribed date, and not one was ever re-pudiated.

We have had thirty Presidents, but not one was ever removed from office.

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Credit Is Due

We have a right to claim credit for our political structure and for the smoothness with which it has worked.

We have a right to contrast the happiness and well-being of our people with those of other lands and to draw the obvious conclusion.

We have a right to say to Mussolini that he must make Italy as prosperous and contented as the United States before he can justly claim that his theories of government are superior to ours.

We have a right to say to the Bolsheviks that when they come to power in Russia where life and property are as secure as they are here, we will admit that their theories of government should be given equal consideration with our own, but not before.

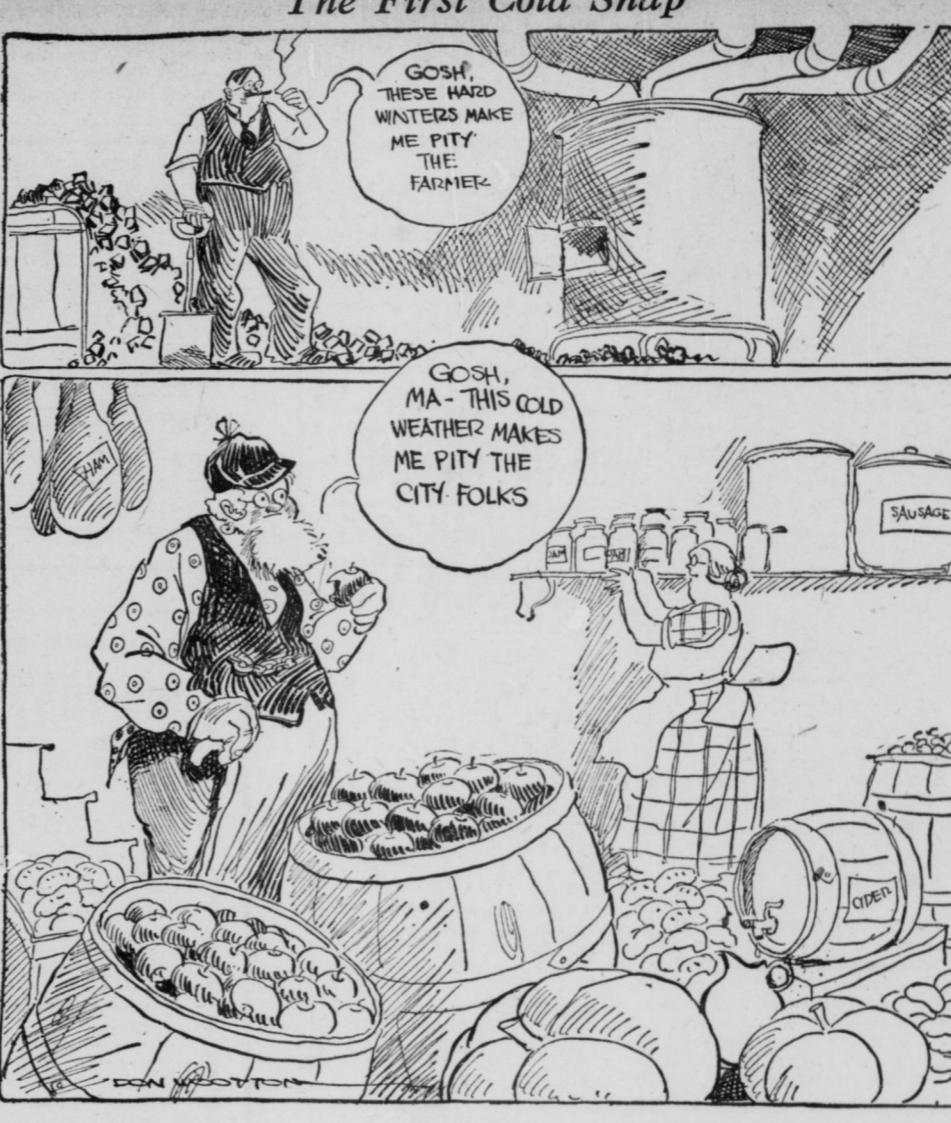
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The First Cold Snap



What Other Editors Think

(Elkhart Truth) (Republican)

There are enough real evils in the world to combat without wasting time and energy on imaginary ones. The National Committee of the Veterans of Foreign Wars is said to be considerably exercised at present over a history text in use in some public schools. The book is "Modern History" by Professors Carlton J. H. Hayes and Parker Thomas Moon.

The New York World has looked into this text and finds it does teach some of the things objected to. For example, it teaches that Americans used "British institutions and theories of representative government" in framing their new government; that the doctrines of the Declaration were "not new or original" but had previously been developed by Locke and other English political philosophers.

If such charges are the worst that can be brought against the "Modern History," its opponents are taking offense where none is given. What has gone before in history inevitably influences what comes after.

There is no disgrace, no lack of patriotism, no ignorance in admitting that the founders of this nation knew the most advanced political thought of their time and drew upon the theories of outstanding