



The Indianapolis Times

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

Hoover or Hand-Picked?

After the tumult and the shouting of the Wood-Lowden battle had died, Warren G. Harding was nominated in the Republican national convention of 1920.

While the actual nomination occurred in the convention itself, the real job was done in the smoke-filled room of a Chicago hotel.

Harry Daugherty was in that room, and Jake Hamon. Boise Penrose of Pennsylvania was there in voice, if not in person, for the long distance telephone was working between Chicago and Penrose in Pennsylvania. Other "professionals" were in attendance. The trick was quickly turned after the psychological moment had arrived. The deadlock between Wood and Lowden was broken and Harding was sent in.

To turn the trick many promises had to be made. Jake Hamon was scheduled for high place in the Harding administration—a high place that death at the hands of Clara Smith prevented him from attaining.

And so were Albert Fall and Daugherty, and so were other members of the "Ohio gang" of which Daugherty was the presiding genius. "To the victors belong the spoils," and promises always go along with such "settlements."

The great game of politics as played every four years has as its equipment three chief bits of paraphernalia. One is the favorite son. Another is the uninstructed delegate. The third is the unit rule.

To be able to control a State delegation; to deliver the delegates at the critical moment during a national convention, is the professional politician's supreme ambition. In achieving that ambition, a favorite son may help, as a means of holding a delegation in line, or if the delegation is uninstructed and the unit rule is in vogue, the professional leader can keep his flock together for "the break."

The Jake Hamons, the Harry Daughertys and others of their ilk who typify professional politics, succeed or fail according to their ability to control State delegations. Out of success grow lower in patronage and all the other fruits of political preferment, even unto a Teapot Dome.

Such professional politicians get in their work ahead of the time when the general public wakes up to what is going on. Even now they are busy, arranging things so that when June comes and the convention assemblies, they will have the power to direct the nomination.

The "work" starts with the precinct meetings in some States. In others it is performed in the presidential primaries. But regardless of what the system to delegate-selection may be, you will find the professional politicians adept at bringing forth a crop of pawns.

It is for that reason that Herbert Hoover, opposed by many of his party's most astute professionals, is in danger, despite the flood of favorable public sentiment that has been sweeping the country in his behalf since Coolidge issued his famous "do not choose to run."

It is entirely possible for a man like Hoover, though possessing a vast majority in public sentiment, to lose, nevertheless, when the real game starts in convention hall.

This newspaper desires most earnestly, to repeat the warning, as the time approaches for the precinct meetings, the county conventions, the State conventions, the presidential primaries, and all the other preliminaries.

For, unless the rank and file take a part in those preliminaries, and thereby see that delegates responsive to the popular will are selected, the professionals will control when nominating time comes around.

And, instead of a man like Hoover, the country will again be voting in November for some candidate such as 1920 brought forth, hand-picked in the wee small hours of a smoke-filled hotel room.

Kellogg and Nicaragua

No whit of the sting of the Nicaraguan tragedy is removed by the fact that it should never have happened. The way was wide open to Secretary of State Kellogg more than a year ago to deal with Nicaragua in a way fully to protect our interests and make friends for the United States among Latin Americans at the same time.

The cue came from none other than Dr. Juan B. Sacasa, president of the liberal, or revolutionary, government, whose capital was at Puerto Cabezas. Dr. Sacasa, offering to eliminate himself entirely from the picture, suggested that the United States invite two or more South American republics to cooperate in regulating affairs in Nicaragua, agreeing in advance to abide by whatever plan a Pan-American conference might decide upon.

Had Secretary Kellogg had the foresight to follow this suggestion, the benefits to the United States would have been incalculable. Today there would be at the head of the Nicaraguan government a president quite as favorable to the United States as could be desired. Second, such a president would have the support of a majority of his own countrymen, which President Diaz assuredly lacks, and in addition, the moral backing not only of this country but of all Latin America as well. And lastly, had the peace of Nicaragua been disturbed and measures needed to restore order, the United States, if it so desired, could have had a Latin American mandate to take such steps as were deemed necessary.

The failure of Secretary Kellogg to follow some such course as this was, and is, inexcusable. There was ample precedent for his guidance. President Roosevelt and President Diaz of Mexico joined hands in 1906 to bring peace to Central America. In 1910 the United States, Argentina and Brazil cooperated to settle a boundary dispute between Peru and Ecuador, while in 1914 President Wilson accepted the mediation offer of the ABC powers (Argentina, Brazil and Chile) in our near-war with Mexico.

With what result? In each instance American prestige soared. Everywhere Latin Americans were singing our praise. "Now this is real Pan-Americanism," cried the able Dr. Naon, Argentine ambassador to Washington. "Before it was only an ideal." And John Barrett, then director-general of the Pan-American Union, correctly stated that these steps did more "to bring the American nations closer together than any other influence in many years."

A similar procedure in Nicaragua would have netted like results. And what a wonderful prepara-

tion it would have been for President Coolidge and his good will speech before the coming Pan-American Congress at Havana! Instead, opinion is daily mounting against us in Latin America, as stories of the fighting appear in the public print. In many Central and South American capitals, it would even seem, the murmur is heard that the Havana congress should be called off. What, people are asking, is the use of holding such a conference against such a background?

When one stops to think of what might have been and what it is, it is enough to wring tears from a stone.

Bettering the Race

Certain learned men, convening with their peers at the Race Betterment Conference in Battle Creek, Mich., express fears that the "better stock" of the race is dying out.

Successful people—people who make money, attain leisure, get educations—are not reproducing as fast as poor people. As a result, the population is increasing through its weakest members, not through its strongest.

So runs the plaint voiced at Battle Creek. It is risky business for a layman to dissent from the opinion of a scientist. Yet it seems to us that these men are worrying themselves unduly. In fact, it even seems as if there were just a trace of snobishness in their remarks.

The expression, "better stock," sounds suspiciously like "upper classes," somehow. One fears that somewhere there is a feeling that the children of a college professor, for instance, are in the nature of things more worthy and more valuable to the race than the children of Giuseppe, the pick-and-shovel man.

With such a feeling we must disagree emphatically. For the entire point of our American democracy is that children of Giuseppe need not grow up to be pick-and-shovel men if they do not want to. The State will give them all the education they are capable of assimilating. We submit that Giuseppe's children are every bit as likely to be physically and mentally sound as the college professor's. Our form of government and society give them every opportunity. If it is in them to rise, there is no reason why they can not themselves enter the ranks of professors or stock brokers or newspaper editors, or, possibly, even movie orchestra conductors.

For ourselves, we are not in the least worried by the fact that the birth rate is lower among college graduates than among the poor. We can not help remembering that some of the greatest men ever born in America came from what our Race Betterment friends might call the "lower classes."

If you are interested, we are thinking of such men as Abraham Lincoln, Henry Ford, Walt Whitman, John D. Rockefeller—and so on, ad infinitum.

The President's Prediction

President Coolidge foresees increased production of goods during 1928. This, he says, will mean that greater number of persons will have things which heretofore have been denied them, since an abundance of goods will mean wider distribution.

The President no doubt is right in his prediction. The outstanding fact in our economic life in recent years has been the greater output of our factories, not only in total volume, but in the amount each man employed has produced. There is little reason to believe that this process will be checked, at least for a long time.

Labor is abundant, and so are capital and credit. The problem, in fact, is not to obtain any one of these things. It is rather to find markets for the increasing flood of goods, and to find uses for the enormous reserves of capital that have been accumulated.

The development of credit buying vastly has increased the country's purchasing power. A high wage level has enabled wage-earners to buy more. Our surpluses have made possible the widespread use of many luxuries, such as the radio. And still the problem remains.

This condition never before has existed in American history, and apparently no one has any clear idea of just where the economic currents are carrying us. Many theories believed sound have had to be abandoned, and the philosophies of producing, buying, selling and consuming, have undergone many changes. Since the future seems obscure, perhaps we should stop worrying about it. We have one genuine problem which deals wholly with the present. That problem is to see that increased production and greater wealth benefit all of us; to see that the millions whose labor makes possible the thing of which the President speaks gets their just share of what is produced.

As Others See Us

The American, with his keen nose for news, with his curiosity about what other folks are doing and saying and experimenting, gets a fair day-by-day picture of what is going on in Europe. But the reverse is not true. Europe persists in believing that we are something raw and untamed and particularly uncivilized. The average reader of a European newspaper thinks that all Americans wear huge goggles, chew gum, drop a big cigar from the left end of their mouth and start all polite conversation with: "Say, bo, I'll tell the world!"

Nor is that all. America as presented to him is made up of movie stars, divorce court defendants, gunmen, hijackers, bootleggers and freaks.

Which, perhaps, accounts for their great astonishment when they find us the most prosperous nation on earth and with a very neat habit of constantly cornering more and more of the world's business.

Pa says he has never doubted he is the light of Ma's life. She won't let him go out at night.

If you broke diet and gained ten pounds, don't complain. The weight of the transgressor is hard.

Add similes: As unexpected as a jury summons.

A lot of people do not have to be weighed in the balance to be found wanting. They are always wanting—if they don't want this they want that.

Crocodiles can go three months without eating. But what makes a fellow suspicious when he looks at one is, will he?

Politicians seldom if ever write their memoirs. They have an instinctive fear that they will misquote themselves.

BRIDGE ME ANOTHER

(Copyright, 1927, by The Ready Reference Publishing Company.)
BY W. W. WENTWORTH

(Abbreviations: A—ace; K—king; Q—queen; J—jack; X—any card lower than 10.)

1. Playing at suit bid, how do you echo?
2. What does the echo signify in not-trump?
3. First hand bids. Second passes. Third hand passes. Fourth hand bids. Has third hand denied normal support for first hand?

The Answers

1. By playing a high card first and then a low card.
2. It indicates four cards of a suit, or three with an honor or more.
3. No.

Times Readers Voice Views

The name and address of the author must accompany every contribution, but on request will not be published. Letters exceeding 300 words will receive preference.

To the Editor: United States Secretary of Labor James J. Davis, in discussing the question of labor and capital, ignores entirely the land question and no doubt believes in the socialist "iron law of wages." He is on a par with the one-time head of the Knights of Labor, who declared that every time he drank a bottle of pop he broke the bottle, so as to make more work for the bottle-makers—why stop at pop bottles? Both are and were poor political economists and evidently have not gone deep enough into the matter. Mr. Davis is a protectionist and why should he not be, since the United States tariff on tin closed many tin-plate mills in Wales, which drove him from his native country to Elwood, Ind., looking for work in tin-plate mills. In his "Christmas greeting to the people of Indiana" he thanks them for having taken him out of the mills by electing him city clerk of Elwood and recorder of Madison County. Yet, to be consistent, he should thank the so-called protective tariff, better called "a legalized hold-up."

In the face of the following from Washington, D. C., how much longer will our Republican orators seek to frighten us with the "free-trade bugaboo"? Dr. Julius Klein, chief of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, reports that our exports for 1927 amounted to \$4,925,000,000. This includes \$360,000,000 in steel alone; also, automobiles, machinery and office fixtures. He adds that this "should effectually dispel any remaining fears as to the futurity of our competing with the reviving trade masters of the old world." Quite recently there have been strikes in Germany for higher wages, so let not our upholders of that obstruction to trade, the tariff, have us believe that Europeans will be satisfied with any kind of wage in order to compete with America.

Why will not the Democratic party call the bluff of our Republican platform makers who will try it again on the unthinking public? Why should not a free people have free trade, as free as it is between the States of the Union?

CHARLES H. KRAUSE, SR.
674 E. Dr. Woodruff Place.

Questions and Answers

You can get an answer to any question of fact or information by writing to The Indianapolis Times Washington Bureau, 1111 New York Ave., Washington, D. C., enclosing 2 cents in stamps for reply. Medical, legal and marital advice cannot be given nor can extended research be undertaken. All other questions receive a personal reply. Unsigned requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential.—Editor.

How far is it from San Francisco to Vladivostok, Siberia?
Approximately 5,225 miles.

Is Jack Mulhall, the motion picture actor, married?
Yes, to Evelyn Winans.

Is the land on which the battle of Shiloh was fought a national park?
In 1894 Congress passed an act providing for the purchase of 3,700 acres of land, covering the field of battle now known as Shiloh National Military Park. It is a national cemetery.

WIRE

BURN

TIRE

ARE

PARK

PERK

PEAK

LEAK

1. The idea of letter golf is to change one word to another and do it in par, a given number of strokes. Thus, to change COW to HEN, in three strokes, COW, HOW, HEW, HEN.

2. You can change only one letter at a time.

3. You must have a complete word, of common usage, for each jump. Slang words and abbreviations don't count.

4. The order of letters cannot be changed.

The Annual Auto Show



THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION

Durant Begins the Story of Rome

Written for The Times by Will Durant

JULIUS CAESAR AND THE RISE OF ROME

WHAT nation has given genius most abundantly to the human race? Limit the question to a city, or a century, and one would have to answer, Athens; taking a nation in all its spread and all its history, one must answer, Italy. Never has one land produced a greater dynasty than that which begins with Lucretius and Caesar, rises to its apex in Dante and Leonardo, and decays (or is reborn?) in Marconi and Mussolini, in Verdi and d'Annunzio.

All in all, that passionate peninsula has borne and bred the greatest race of all. Behold the famous boat, poised as if to play with Sicily—Sicily the football of the Mediterranean, sport of Greeks and Romans and Carthaginians, or Vandals, Normans and Italians.

Here on the west from Naples to the toe, Greek colonists dotted the shore and crowned the hills of Paestum, and transmitting as best they could, to the barbarous Romans, something of the glory that was Greece.

Along the eastern shore only the rudest peasants lived, for there the mountains rose like a camel's spine, or the back of an angry cat, from the Alps to Italy, not sloping gradually as in the west, but flinging themselves precipitately into the Adriatic, daring the hardest to find sustenance among these stones. Geology had destined the Latin genius to flower along the western sea.

Even before the coming of the Greeks, immigrants from beyond the Alps had settled (1000 B. C.) among the northern hills. Some of them—the "Latins"—moved down into the

central plains; others—the "Etruscans"—stayed on the mountain sides.

Between these two peoples, breeding too fast for a scarcely arable land, perpetual rivalry raged, breaking out into recurrent war; until at last the Latins, strengthened because the plains gave them unity of stock and freedom of communication against an enemy physically and ethnically divided by mountain peaks, won a decisive victory and consolidated their mastery by building on the Tiber a fort which became the source and center of the greatest and most famous city in history—"eternal" Rome.

At first the little state was ruled by kings. But of these rough rulers we know hardly anything; even the beneficent law-giver, Numa, the Lycurgus of Rome, seems as legendary as those mythical founders, Remus and Romulus, nurslings of the wolf that was to serve so well as a symbol of imperial Rome.

About 500 B. C. the monarchy was overthrown by a group of warlike "patricians," who set up nobles or "patricians" who set up an aristocratic republic under the historic aegis of "the senate and the Roman people."

The senate, as its name revealed, was a gathering of the old men of the tribe, heads of established families; it ruled the state with practically absolute power, limited only by two consuls (advisers) whom the land-owning citizens annually chose from the ranks of the nobles themselves.

As the "plebs," or common people, grew in number, it rebelled against these limitations, and forced the senate to recognize the veto

power of "tribunes," elected by the popular assembly from among its own democratic ranks.

But numbers never give much power, except to wealth; soon the Senate, endowed with permanence in the face of tribunes holding office for a year, found means to control the new dignitaries, and under Democratic forms, made its supremacy secure.

Now it became the strongest ruling body ever known to history. Recruited yearly by the addition of consuls whose term had expired, and composed of strong and solid men protected by life-membership from the vicissitudes of politics, it was in effect a deathless monarch, stable through all changes of personnel, and endowed with homogeneity and continuity that favored long-term policies and an unswerving statesmanship.

In 275 B. C. helped with an army of yeoman land-owners fighting for their homes, and by a fleet which clever diplomacy had brought from Carthage, the Senate resisted with characteristic patience and persistence the attempt of the King of Epirus to make Rome a vassal State; and Pyrrhus, after useless "Pyrrhic" victories, went home discomfited, predicting a life-and-death struggle between southern and northern Mediterranean, Semite and Indo-European, Carthage and Rome.

Within a generation his prediction was fulfilled. For Carthage held Sicily; and Rome, having extended her power to the very toe of the Italian boot, now found herself face to face, across the straits of Messina ("Scylla and Charybdis"), with the greatest naval power in the ancient world.

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(To Be Continued)

What Other Editors Think

(Newcastle Times)

A message from the Governor says that the State administration adopted the pay as you go plan for paving roads. We were of the opinion that this plan was adopted in 1882 by the makers of our constitution, before the Governor or any of our present State officers were born. Perhaps this pay as you go provision was thought up in another world, from whence came our State officials. Might as well claim everything, including the authorship of the Decalogue, so long as it can be put across.

(Kokomo Dispatch)

The indictment of Clyde A. Walb, State Republican chairman of Indiana, did not come as a surprise to many citizens, because it was pretty generally known that grave charges were being made concerning his connection with the defunct First National Bank of La Grange. Some such development, therefore, was inevitable.

Serious as are the allegations recited in the grand jury findings, these should not concern the people of the State of Indiana at large, so much as some of the matters which have not yet been mentioned in the news dispatches. For instance, the public is entitled to know how much State money has been kept on deposit in the banks of La Grange—and why such large amounts have been kept there.

If the Walb Construction Company has been financed by juggling funds of the defunct bank, as indicated by the charges already preferred, certainly Walb is not the sort of man with whom the affairs of a major political party of the State should be entrusted. If, in addition, it is found that excessively large deposits of State money have been kept in the La Grange bank, the people of Indiana will want to know why.

It is about time that a thorough investigation be made of the depositing of Indiana public funds. It would be very interesting and no doubt enlightening, to have the State finance board make public a complete list of State depositaries together with the amount with which the Indiana treasury is entrusting each. No doubt, the citizens would be shocked to find with what apparent care the weaker and more insignificant institutions have been so studiously sought out in preference to the stronger and better known banks. There is no question but that

now since Indiana is learning what a temptation the banking of State funds has evidently proven to our officials, some definite reform will be tardily taken. However, records of the statehouse will show, to the everlasting honor of Robert Bracken, the last Democratic auditor of State, that he sought upon more than one occasion to compel the McCray administration to pro-rate State deposits entirely upon the basis of capitalization of banks. It seems evident at this late day, why Governor McCray fought this move so stubbornly and why Governor Jackson, head of the present finance board of Indiana, has continued to permit huge sums to be deposited in small banks for no evident reason in the world.

Perhaps the Walb indictments ultimately will bring out what connection the head of a political organization has with determination of State depositaries—and how much lubricant such a system furnishes the invisible mechanism of the machinery which has been perpetuating the G. O. P. in power in Indiana.

(Crawfordsville Journal)

A good many persons at this time are demanding a "New Deal" and a "House Cleaning" by the Republican party. Several of those who would change conditions desire that all officials be removed from office and new ones put in their place. This would not remedy the situation as it affects Indiana. No doubt it is true that there has been misconduct in office and that some Republican officials may have committed wrongs, but this is not sufficient reason for a general house cleaning. There are many conscientious Republican officials in office who are discharging and have discharged their duties faithfully and in accordance with law. Just because some of their fellows have made mistakes is no reason why they should be made to suffer. We have enough faith in the Republican party to know that it will do the right thing.

M. E. TRACY

SAYS:
"It Is Comforting to Suppose That Crime Is Due to Ignorance and That We Can Eliminate It by Building High Schools and Colleges, but the Theory Just Does Not Work."

It may be friendly competition, instead of a trade war, as Henry Ford asserts, but the boys certainly are slashing prices to an extent which promise the public a lot of good luck, no matter what effect it has on the business.

Let us consumers be thankful and not waste time arguing as to what the thing should be called.

"A rose is just as sweet by any other name," and so is a price cut for those who buy.

Fear of Disaster

Just before he went to his death in the ill-fated S-4, Lieut. Donald Weller of Los Angeles wrote: "Something terrible will sure happen to an 'S' boat before the Navy Department will believe us when we say 'S' boats are unsafe and of no military value."

"The boat is in worse condition than before going into drydock."

"Given twenty-four hours' notice to get under way for Provincetown, allowing no time for satisfactory test of conditions of motor."

Indictment From Grave

This observation may be a bit of pessimism or misinformation, but it sounds otherwise.

It sounds pathetically true, not only because of what happened to the writer, but because of what has happened to other "S" boats.

It sounds like an indictment from the grave, especially when taken in connection with such facts as have already been revealed—no line to purify the air, although it had been requested, no stern precautions to prevent or minimize such tragedies, although they had occurred before, no connection with the SC tube until too late.

Humor Out of Place

It is all right to have a sense of humor, but, like everything else, it can be overdone.

It was overdone by that Australian weekly which suggested a newspaper contest to obtain a wife for the Prince of Wales.

It was also overdone by Will Rogers' clever imitation of President Coolidge over the radio.

Neither of these incidents calls for censorship, or even for people to paw the air. They merely represent nonsense out of place.

Steals \$35,000, Education

A young man in New York steals \$35,000 to get an education, as he claims.

He steals it by learning how to forge checks through weeks of laborious study and by telegraphing money for expenses to "salesmen" in nearby towns and then going to cash the remittances.

The question is whether this young man did not have more education than he knew how to use wisely in the first place.

Character requires more than the mere ability to do things.

Disfranchise Ignorance

Dr. William J. Hickson, head of the psychopathic laboratory of the municipal court of Chicago, wants ignorance disfranchised. He says that "the balance of political power should be restored to the better mentally endowed."

So say we all, but just how is it to be done? Who are the better mentally endowed and how are they to be picked?

"By intelligence tests," replies Doctor Hickson, but there is more than mere intelligence to be considered if eradication of crime is the object to be accomplished, which is what Doctor Hickson says he has in mind.

The chances are that Loeb and Leopold could have passed any sort of a reasonable intelligence test with flying colors. They were "honorary men" in the university and were regarded by their instructors as near prodigies. That did not prevent them from committing one of the most wicked, wanton crimes on record.

Prison Population Gains

It is comforting to suppose that crime is due to ignorance and that we can eliminate it by building high schools and colleges, but the theory just does not work.

If it did, we would have less crime in this country and less a percentage of people in prison than we did 100 years ago, but that is not the case.

Though our total population has multiplied only eleven times since 1828, our prison population has multiplied twenty times. The most appalling aspect of crime today is its pursuit by clever, intelligent people. Ignorance and poverty breed some of it, as they always have and always will, but they do not account for all of it or anywhere near all of it.

The Chapmans, the Whittemores, the Hickmans, the Sniders, the Grays and hosts of other offenders must be accounted for in other ways than lack of cash and education.

Peril to Genius

Doctor Hickson's idea that defectives should be segregated before they have an opportunity