



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, Editor. ROY W. HOWARD, President. FRANK G. MORRISON, Business Manager.

PHONE—MAIN 3500. WEDNESDAY, FEB. 1, 1928.
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.

BRIDGE ME ANOTHER

(Copyright, 1928, 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. First hand bids 3 hearts. Second hand passes. What should third hand do holding: Spades—X; hearts—X X X X; diamonds—A K Q J X X; clubs—J X?
2. Declarer bids one no-trump. All pass. Dummy holds A Q X X. Declarer holds 10 X X X. What should declarer play, when opponent leads small card through dummy?
3. What do you bid initially holding: (a) spades—A K X; hearts—A K X; diamonds—X X X; clubs—X X X X; (b) spades—X X X; hearts—X X X X; diamonds—A K J; clubs—A Q J; (c) spades—A J 10; hearts—A J 10; diamonds—X X X; clubs—X X X X?

The Answers
1. Four hearts.
2. Small card.
3. (a) No trump; (b) no trump; (c) pass.

Times Readers Voice Views

The name and address of the author must accompany every contribution, but no reader need be published. Letters not exceeding 200 words will receive preference.

To the Editor: I have read with considerable interest an article appearing in the Jan. 25 issue of The Times, in which Allene Sumner puts one Henry Carey on the coals because he evidently has written an article in Harper's on married women working in offices, while they have a perfectly able-bodied husband, also presumably working.
Now I have not yet read this article appearing in Harper's, but if this Mr. Carey's argument deals with the fact that a married woman's place is in the home and not in an office, I certainly am in accord with Mr. Carey's statement.
Although it is true that approximately half the good positions are held by married women, in my opinion, it is not right. There are very few women, married and living with their husbands, who can do justice to working and keeping house, and if they do not want to keep house why do they get married?
Of course, circumstances alter cases. If a girl is married and her husband meets with some misfortune she should feel it her duty to help the man she married and take a position in the business world.
Another thing, a married woman will work for less salary in an office than a single girl can afford to. Why? Because she has a husband who is making a fair salary, and she doesn't have to worry about her bread and butter, the way the average single girl does, and because she will work for less money, she can get a position where a single girl cannot.
If it came down to a vote, I for one, would vote against married women working in offices.

A READER.

To the Editor:
According to Arthur Brisbane's past and present ravings the working people of the United States are enjoying very prosperous times. He pictures the working man as owning nice homes, one or two cars, and that their rosy-cheeked children are well-fed and clothed and are being properly educated. In a recent issue of an Indianapolis paper he states that mechanics are getting from \$10 to \$18 a day.
I have lived in Indianapolis for only a short while and have found the city to be a paradise for cheap labor. With laborers and factory workers receiving from 30 cents to 50 cents an hour, it is no wonder that cheap labor is offered as an inducement for new enterprises to locate in Indianapolis, and unless our Indianapolis workmen affiliate themselves with labor unions their wives and daughters will forever be condemned to work daily with the husband and father in an effort to exist.
The Indianapolis Times is very humane in its attitude toward labor, and your paper should be read by every working man in Indianapolis. Indiana's slimy political and industrial hogs be crowned with success.
Very truly yours,
A WORLD WAR VETERAN.

To the Editor:
The Indianapolis Times, which has given courageous leadership to exposure and punishment of political and official crookedness in its city, renews its call to Governor Jackson that a special session of the Indiana general assembly be convoked to repeal a law which bars the manager-plan of government for two years.
The Times has been persistent in the effort to obtain a special session of the Legislature. Its demands have fallen upon the unheeding ears of a Governor, who owes The Times thanks for nothing. There was for a considerable period excellent reason that Governor Jackson on his own account should deprecate a special session. That reason has more or less vanished. Governor Jackson will go to trial next month under indictments charging him with felony.
In this view of matters Governor Jackson might very well call the assembly. There no longer seems to be much that he need fear. The Marion County grand jury has done the job.

Kokomo Dispatch (Democratic)
The present move to oust Mayor L. Ert Slack from office of the mayor of Indianapolis that has been instituted recently by the majority faction of the city council, has its origin in the gambling ring of that city, according to Indianapolis newspapers who now are displaying the first support that has been offered Mayor Slack since he has been in office.
The mayor and his police department have displayed sudden activity in raiding the gambling dens in Indianapolis. It was not long until it was discovered that some of the councilmen were holding conferences with the Armitages, Republican bosses of Indianapolis, and commonly reported to be interested in the gambling business. It was not long until the resolution to rescind the action of ousting Duval made its appearance.
The reply of Mayor Slack to this action has been to redouble his activity in stopping commercialized gambling in Indianapolis. It is to be hoped that the citizens of that city will awaken sufficiently that they will defeat the challenge of the gambling interests who have, in effect, declared that no man can hold the office of mayor of Indianapolis unless he is a gambler. When the gambling interests of a city presume to take control of that city's government, it is high time that decent citizens took a hand and

BOOK MARK
The Rules
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 can not be changed.

SMOKE
STROKE
STORE
STORK
STOCK
STACK
The Rules
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 can not be changed.

The Log Rolling Champeen



THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION

Lucretius Becomes Philosophical

Written for The Times by Will Durant

THIS endless movement takes two forms, growth and decay, evolution and dissolution, life and death, reproduction and destruction, "Venus" and "Mars."
All forms begin and have their end; only atoms, space and law remain; birth is a prelude to death, and even this massive universe will thaw and flow back into formlessness.
No single thing abides, but all things flow.
Fragment to fragment clings; the things thus grow and name them. By degrees they melt, and are no more the things we know.
Glebed from the atoms falling slow or I see the suns, I see the systems lit. Their forms, and the systems and their suns, shall go back slowly to the eternal drift.
Thou too, O Earth—thine empires, lands and seas, with thy stars, of all the galaxies, glebed from the drift like these, like these thou art going, hour by hour, into the void.
Nothing abides. Thy seas in delicate haze go off; those mooned seas forsake their shores; and where they shall other seas in Mow with their scythes of whiteness other seas.

the fortuitous concourse of atoms; the recurrent denudation of the soil and its recreation from the depths of the ocean in the eternal war between continent and sea; the phenomena of rain and rainbow, of thunder and lightning, of earthquakes and storms.
Here in this marvelous poem are astronomy and geology, physics and chemistry, biology and psychology, sociology and history, religion and ethics; everything is here.
MAN
AND among living beings, all things die, and nothing dies; everywhere the strange resilience and persistence of life makes fresher and younger forms to balance the death of the old; love reproduced life and renews the face of the earth.
Individually we miss immortality, but collectively we are deathless; we are cells that fall from the body of life, that more vigorous and vital cells may take our place.
And at the grave of the old, who have lived out their years and quietly return to the sheltering peace of the earth, rose-cheeked children stand and sapling youths, ready to carry on the ceaseless adventure of life.
Death is the instrument of growth, it is part of that natural

selection of the healthy and clever and strong, and that elimination of the intelligent and the weak, on which the development of life depends.
"Many monsters too the earth of old tried to produce, things of strange face and limbs; some without feet, some without hands, some without mouth, some without eyes.
"Every monster of this kind the earth produced, but in vain; for nature set a ban on their increase; they could not reach the coveted flower of age, nor find food, nor be united in marriage.
"And many races of living things must then have died out and been unable to beget and continue their breed.
"For in the case of all things which you see breathing the breath of life, either craft or courage or speed has from the beginning of its existence protected and preserved each particular race.
"Courage has protected the fierce breed of lions and savage men; craft preserved the fox, and prudence to fight the stag.
"Thus to whom nature has granted none of these qualities would lie exposed as a prey and booty of others, until nature brought their kind to extinction."
(Copyright, 1928, by Will Durant)
(To Be Continued)

What Other Editors Think

St. Wayne Journal-Gazette (Democratic)
The Indianapolis Times, which has given courageous leadership to exposure and punishment of political and official crookedness in its city, renews its call to Governor Jackson that a special session of the Indiana general assembly be convoked to repeal a law which bars the manager-plan of government for two years.
The Times has been persistent in the effort to obtain a special session of the Legislature. Its demands have fallen upon the unheeding ears of a Governor, who owes The Times thanks for nothing. There was for a considerable period excellent reason that Governor Jackson on his own account should deprecate a special session. That reason has more or less vanished. Governor Jackson will go to trial next month under indictments charging him with felony.
In this view of matters Governor Jackson might very well call the assembly. There no longer seems to be much that he need fear. The Marion County grand jury has done the job.

Decatur Democrat
Mr. Jewett may find that his denouncement of the primary law may not be the best platform in the world to run upon. While it is generally agreed among political leaders that the law should never have been enacted it seems that feeling is not so general among the voters who delight in the fact that they have some recognition each two years. Previous attempts along the line have not proven very popular.
Hartford City News (Republican)
M. Burt Thurman must be a little doubtful of the friendship of some of the persons, who are slapping him on the back and congratulating him upon his withdrawal from the race for Governor. All over Indiana comes to him warm words of commendation, some terming the action as admirable sacrifice in the interest of party harmony. And before the ink on Thurman's letter to the press, explaining the reason for the action he had taken was dry, out pops Charley Jewett of Indianapolis, former mayor, who indicates that he will just about fill all the requirements for Governor at this time. There will be others to join Jewett, and, as the News has said before, the next campaign will not lack for interest or plenty of action.

Bluffton Banner (Democratic)
In voting to seat Frank Smith of Illinois, Senator Jimmy Watson was only living up to his former record. He voted to seat Newberry of Michigan, back there some years ago, but Newberry, like Smith, got the boot. A couple of Bluffton attorneys had much to do with putting Mr. Newberry on the outside looking in. Frank G. Dailey and W. H. Eichhorn were the prosecuting attorneys in that case, it will be remembered.

Questions and Answers

You can get an answer to any answerable question of fact or information by writing to Frederick M. Kerby, Question Editor, The Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1325 New York Ave., Washington, D. C., enclosing two stamps for reply. Medical and legal advice cannot be given, nor can extended research be made. Other questions will receive a personal reply. Unsolicited requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential. You are cordially invited to make use of this free service as often as you please.
EDITOR.

What books has J. Aubrey Tyson written?
"The Scarlet Tanager," published in 1922, and "The Barge of Haunted Lives," published in 1923.
Did Barbara La Marr finish the last picture on which she was working before her death?
It has been reported that, due to illness that eventually resulted in her death, Lolita Lee doubled for Miss La Marr in some of the scenes of "The Girl From Montmartre," her last picture.
Where is Dahomey?
A colony of French West Africa and extends from the Gulf of Guinea northward to the indefinite limits of the ancient kingdom of Dahomey, with Nigeria on the east and Togoland on the west. The coast line measures 75 miles. The total area of the colony is about 40,000 square miles.
How should a pipe be broken in for smoking?
Fill it with damp salt and allow it to stand for four or five hours. Another way is to dampen the pipe

by dipping it in water and after shaking out the water fill with tobacco and smoke slowly the first few times.
What were the seven wonders of the ancient world?
The pyramids of Egypt, Pharos of Egypt, hanging gardens of Babylon, temple of Diana at Ephesus, statue of Jupiter by Phidias, mausoleum of Artemisia and the colossus of Rhodes.
What does the expression "to turn turtle" mean?
It means to overturn completely or capsize, as a boat or vessel. It is a descriptive expression based on the helplessness of a turtle when turned over on its back.
Are Sam 'n Henry, the dark comedians heard at 10:10 each evening over radio station WGN, Chicago, colored men or white?
They are white.
What did Franklin Pierce do after the expiration of his term as President?
After three years of travel in Europe he retired to his New Hampshire home and died there in 1869.
What is the highest mountain in the world? Has its summit ever been reached by man?
Mount Everest in Indo-China is the highest; it is 29,141 feet high and its summit has never been reached by man.

TRACY

SAYS:
"Politicians Do Not Want Hoover. The Boys Have No One Particularly in Mind; They Simply Want a Candidate Who Conceives Politics as More Important Than Statesmanship."

In the beginning a game usually is simple. Its object is to amuse, and those who start it care little about the frills. Later on suggestions and appliances are added, a technique is developed and the game becomes so scientific that the object is lost sight of. Bridge-whist, cribbage, chess and boxing are examples in point.
The same thing is true of politics in a democracy. At the outset parties are born of issues, their purpose being to improve the government. The issue is fought over successfully, or dropped, but the party remains. Then comes the boss, the slate-maker, ward healer and machine. The idea of improving the government fades out of the picture and in its place there develops a system. You get efficiency without effectiveness. The government comes to be regarded as a place where one connects with the public pay roll, and the party as an instrument by which to make the connection.

'The Boys' Line Up

Politicians do not want Hoover, because they say he is not enough of a politician. In their opinion he not only lacks knowledge of the game, but will not play it according to the rules, will not trade with those who are ready to deliver the goods and who have no object except to get paid for it when they do.
So we find the good old cabal forming, just as it did eight years ago when Daugherty and his associates maneuvered Harding into the White House. And we have visions of poker games, oil leases, and a dominating third house to pilfer the public treasury as the driving force back of it all.
The boys have no one particularly in mind. They simply want a candidate who will conduct himself according to Hoyle, who will give due reverence to party technique and who conceives politics as more important than statesmanship.
All that they are sure of just now is that they do not want Hoover.

Appalling Navy Program

The Navy program grows appalling as it unfolds.
Starting with the idea of constructing so many cruisers, submarines and airplane carriers at a cost of \$700,000,000 it has ramified until even some of its most enthusiastic supporters are getting scared.
The cruisers and carriers need airplanes to give them a balance, the submarines need mother-ships and every kind of a craft needs men.
It now develops that nearly 15,000 airplanes will be needed to give the new fleet symmetry, not to mention twenty-five or thirty thousand additional sailors.
It also develops that, instead of doing away with several Navy yards as Admiral Magruder suggests, the Government will have to establish some new ones.
The latest calculation indicates that if the program is launched, as Secretary Wilbur desires it will involve a total expenditure of something like \$7,000,000,000 for the Navy during the next ten years.

Propaganda Stamps

A hue and cry over stickers, with the All-American Anti-Imperialist League ready to take chances with prison and the postoffice department wobbling.
Protesting Marine rule in Nicaragua" is different from boosting the Red Cross, yet if one is tolerated, why not the other?
We are hopeless opportunists when it comes to granting privileges or imposing restrictions. That, more than anything else, is what gets us into so many legal snarls. The idea of thinking in principle has gone out of fashion. If an object seems good, we are willing to pass a law, or violate one to help it along, forgetting the precedent established.

Special Privileges

As a matter of exact justice, one individual or institution has just as much right to stick stamps on an envelope as another.
Once this method of free advertising has been opened up, it is too late to draw lines.
Constitutional rights and civil liberties fall flat if we attempt to make fish out of one movement and flesh out of another.
Privileges which cannot be granted to everyone, become special, and restrictions that cannot be applied to everyone become unjust. If the Government were not willing for various kinds of propaganda to be spread with stickers and stamps, it should not have permitted the Red Cross to use them.

Tribute to Straus

Nathan Straus celebrates his eightieth birthday. Few men live long enough to do that and fewer still live well enough to make the event one of world-wide rejoicing.
The President of the United States, the Governor of the State of New York, the mayor of the City of New York, Cardinal Hayes, John D. Rockefeller and innumerable other celebrities gladly accept the opportunity to pay Mr. Straus tribute.
Wonderful as that tribute may be, it is of small consequence compared to the gratitude of the inarticulate thousands whom Mr. Straus has helped.
Some one has said that what a man earns shows his ability, while the way he spends it proves his character.
Nathan Straus is not so remarkable for the fortune he has made as for the sensible, judicious manner in which he has used it.

A Latin-American Foretells War

War between the United States and Latin-America, perhaps even a war between the United States and a world coalition headed by Great Britain, is envisaged by Gen. Rafael De Nogales of Venezuela, unless we change our policy of "imperialism" into one of friendship and good will.

This not altogether pleasant outlook is the underlying thought running through a brand new book, just off the press, called "The Looting of Nicaragua." This volume, the work of General De Nogales, whose life seems to have been spent alternatively in world-moving and fighting, ought to be read by every American. Even if it were only 50 per cent accurate, and it is surely that, it would still contain much the public should know.

Ranging from way back in the foggy past up to the present day, whereof he writes, the Venezuelan soldier of fortune flays our dollars diplomacy, bombards our State Department for its meddling in Central America and rakes Secretary Kellogg with his withering fire. He charges that the will of three-fourths of the people of Nicaragua is being nullified in Washington, while President Diaz, who went from a \$30-a-week clerkship in a mine to the presidency at one step and to be maintained there by American bayonets. He shows us a tiny nation held helpless while American fortune-hunters, concession grabbers and financial exploiters plunder to their hearts' content.

General Moncada, the Venezuelan pictures as a renegade and traitor, who betrayed the liberal cause which he was supposed to defend, in order to make himself solid as, a United States preferred candidate in this year's presidential elections.

Here you are given just a glimpse of what the Latin-American general has to say of the ways of our State Department. If we do not call a halt, he insists, there is bound to be a crash. Anti-American feeling, he says, is mounting fast, not only in Latin-America but throughout the world.

"There is no such thing as a small enemy," Nogales writes. "Nicaragua is only a dwarf compared with the United States, but even a flea bite in an elephant ear is likely to cause infection if not properly treated. The infection in this case is already apparent. It is rapidly spreading not only over Central America, but over all the Latin-American countries."

If the rebel General Sandino can defy the United States as he is doing, Nogales suggests, what would happen if all Latin-America, with its 80,000,000 people, joined hands to oppose Washington's "imperialistic" hold?

He repeats that there is no such thing as a small enemy. "That insignificant groups of isles called Great Britain, for instance," he observes, "has succeeded in destroying, one after another, the Napoleonic, German, Austrian, Russian, Turkish and Chinese empires by means of coalitions, because they were in her way. They might not have much difficulty in bringing about, some day, a coalition against the United States which has become a far bigger menace to British interests abroad than Germany ever was."

The author says he wrote "The Looting of Nicaragua" because he "thinks it about time" that Americans knew the truth. He thinks it a shame that North and Latin-Americans should continue to live like cats and dogs for the sake of a few financiers who, keeping the public in ignorance of what is really going on, are driving things to an extreme."

Unless there is a radical change, he warns, we are going to lose our \$2,000,000,000 trade with Latin-America, create an incurable hatred of us and possibly plunge the world into war.

Postoffice Censorship

Postoffice censorship is again running amuck. The order from Washington to the postmaster of New York to bar from the mails letters on which are pasted a sticker saying: "Protest against Marine rule in Nicaragua," is a stretch of arbitrary authority that calls for emphatic protest.

The only excuse offered is that the postoffice department is acting under a section of the penal code which makes it an offense to mail obscene, indecent or libelous matter. While there may be an honest difference of opinion as to the use of the Marines in Nicaragua, by no stretch of the imagination can a protest against the Administration's Nicaraguan policy be termed obscene, indecent or libelous.

If any such construction can be placed upon criticism of any part of our foreign policy, then any mail matter criticising an administration on any policy, foreign or domestic, can be barred.

We are not especially interested in the Anti-Imperialist League, but its efforts are legal, whether wise or not; and as eternal vigilance is necessary to preserve the liberties guaranteed by the American Constitution, we must be on the alert to stop any and every government attempt to infringe upon those liberties.

It doesn't make any difference whose liberty is attacked, or whether we approve of their opinions or like the color of their hair. Constitutional liberty itself is at stake.

Infringement of any citizen's liberty endangers everybody's liberty; and in the interest of all liberty this particular infringement should be sat down on good and hard.

"Idol Worship"

An article in the current magazine of Wall Street remarks that "idol worship" is a highly important factor in stock market dealings.

By this it means that there is a whole host of investors and speculators in Wall Street which follows implicitly the moves of certain "big names." If William C. Durant, for instance, is reported buying stock in a certain corporation, the "idol worshippers" rush to do likewise—with the result that the price goes sailing.

To some extent this is based on sound reasoning. If a successful financier like Durant thinks enough of a stock to invest in it, it ought to be good enough for other people to invest in, too. But the magazine writer points out one defect in the practice. When one of the "big names" sells his holdings, the fact usually is not advertised. Thus, the writer says, "the idol worshippers follow the sanctified footsteps into the stock market but not out of it." The net result is apt to be that the unthinking investor loses his shirt.

The old rule still holds good; don't buy stocks unless you know exactly what you are doing.

Big Bill and the Bombers

Dispatches from Chicago relate that Mayor Big Bill Thompson is aroused as a result of the latest bombing outrages in his crime-infested city. He announces that the police "will break the back of organized crime."

Big Bill's sudden indignation and activity is a bit surprising at first blush, for there were 112 explosions in Chicago last year, to say nothing of murders and like crimes.

The explanation may lie in the fact that the bombs were exploded on the doorsteps of the city controller and the former city smoke inspector. Big Bill says he is convinced the acts were directed against the city administration. If that is true, who knows but what a bomb might be planted under the home of Big Bill himself? This latest episode sort of brings it home to Bill.

"If Chicago needs proof that the gamblers and thieves are on the run, I guess these outrages are convincing," proclaims the mayor.

Fine words, but certain cynical observers of Chicago politics have another explanation. It is simply that the gamblers who were not being permitted to operate were seeking revenge. The story goes that the old system of protecting syndicates and cliques has been abandoned. Instead, individuals are now being protected, paying 50 per cent of the net revenues from handbooks, for which they are allowed to operate other games without molestation.

Whether this explanation is correct, we of course have no way of knowing, but it sounds very much like Chicago.

Salve for the Hurt

A Nevada woman recently sued another woman for alienation of her husband's affections. She demanded \$50,000 damages.

Thousands of such suits have been filed in this country, and many a woman has collected handsome damages thereby. But this suit had a different ending.

Judge George A. Bartlett of Reno dismissed it, ruling that human affection is not property and can not be treated as such. One can give or withhold one's love as one's heart dictates, he said, and no court should be called on to intervene.

His decision seems to us a bit refreshing. The loss of a dear one's love is a heartbreaking affliction; but it isn't the sort of hurt that calls for money as salve.

Issuing Short Wave Permits

The Radio Commission should proceed with care in allotting short wave lengths to the hundreds of applicants for permits who were represented at its recent two days' hearing.

As a member of the commission said, the short wave bands eventually will become more important than those now used for broadcasting. There are many channels in the short wave band.

But with the radio only in its infancy, it is probable that the short wave bands will be as crowded in a few years as the higher bands now are.

Commissioner Caldwell told a House Committee a short wave used by the police force of a small town may project signals as far as New Zealand, so it is probable that each wave length must be devoted exclusively to a single user.

The commission was right in seeking from every applicant an outline of his purposes.

A drunken man operating a machine gun was arrested in Chicago the other day. Even the police get disgusted sometimes with the way machine gun operators conduct themselves.

Seventy-five per cent of the prohibition agents fell down on civil service exams, according to a dispatch. Evidently Uncle Sam want them to be able to both raid and write.

During the World War veterinarians found a way to make mules quit braying. Would it be too much to ask one of the political parties to nominate some veterinarian for Vice President.

Senator Glass of Virginia told the Senate he never had taken a drink in his life. Condolences have been offered.

"Bandit Holds Up Drug Store as Hundreds Pass," says a headline, probably from Chicago. Well, you can't blame them for that.

A Southern editor calls Senator Heflin a "roaring jackass." We disagree. Senator Heflin is a braying lion.

Bert Acosta was arrested for flying his plane too close to the ground. We thought people were jailed just for flying high.

Headlines you never see: Oil Men Express Appreciation to Walsh With Car Block Long.

Editorial Independence

(From The Missourian, of the University of Missouri.)

Twenty-six editors of newspapers in widely separated parts of the country met recently and decided to support Herbert Hoover as a candidate for the presidency of the United States. They agreed upon Governor Al Smith in case Hoover did not receive the Republican nomination and Smith was named by the Democratic party.
These papers were the Scripps-Howard newspapers—an outstanding example of chain newspapers in the United States—and their action is a refutation of the theory that there is something sinister and foreign to the freedom of the press in "syndicated journalism." Undoubtedly, such a system has its faults, perhaps the individually owned newspaper is more of a mirror of the affairs of its locality; yet no one can say that this particular newspaper chain is subservient to the dictates of one party or political clique.

The fact that the editors hit upon men of opposite parties for first and second choices, shows their independence. The fact that they will all support the candidate does not depreciate this independence—each editor presumably has a vote in selecting the men to be backed. They have merely joined forces to help carry out the will of their majority.

A small newspaper, privately owned, may be freer from political domination than a member of a chain; yet compare the action of the Scripps-Howard editors with that of many "independent" newspaper men, blindly endorsing the candidates of one party year after year, be they geniuses or rouses.