



The Indianapolis Times

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

Keeping the Newspapers Quiet

Judge John Marshall of Kokomo, presiding over the Howard Circuit Court, blames the newspapers for difficulties in prosecuting those suspected of responsibility for the American Trust Company failure in Kokomo.

He is reported to have threatened to impose jail sentences on newspaper men who act "contrary to his wishes," in connection with news of the investigation, opening in Kokomo today.

Speaking of failure of efforts to date to return the former president of the bank from Florida to face trial, the judge said, according to dispatches from Kokomo: "Authorities would have made much better headway if newspapers had kept quiet about the case."

With all due respect to Judge Marshall's views on what is legitimate news and what are the functions of a newspaper, we would like to ask him what he thinks conditions would be in Indiana today if the press generally had adopted a "keep quiet" attitude on crookedness in financial institutions and corruption in government.

The people at large do not need his answer. They know.

What is done to bring to justice those who may be responsible for the Kokomo bank failure is news, legitimate news, news of vital import to thousands of bank depositors in Indiana. The Times will have a representative in Kokomo today to get that news.

Japan's Epochal Elections

Slowly turning her back upon the mystic age of fables, devils and despots in which she lived for 2,000 years, Japan this week took another long stride in her experiments in practical democracy.

Returns from the most significant elections in Nippon's history are now about complete, and while the political layout of the country remains practically unchanged, the new universal manhood suffrage law ultimately can not fail to have a tremendous effect upon the future of the country.

Thirty years ago, due to property qualifications, only 500,000 Japanese could vote. Ten years later a new law enfranchised another million, while the law of 1920 raised the total number of voters to approximately 3,000,000. This week, in the first election under the law of 1925, more than 12,000,000 subjects were eligible to vote for the new members of the diet, or lower house.

As in the United States, after women were granted suffrage, there was much speculation as to how the voters—men more than 25 years of age, able to read and write—would use their new privilege, and in Japan, as in America, no appreciable difference resulted, as the two major political parties poling their proportionate share of the additional ballots.

The legislative situation following this week's elections in Japan is similar to that in the United States. The Seiyukai, or party in power, was a meager majority of about ten seats over the Minseito, or opposition party, the independent and farmer-labor groups, with a total of twenty-three seats, having a balance of power. The position of Premier Baron Tanaka, therefore, is more than ever critical.

Nor is this the only similarity. Both parties advocate farm aid and both, more or less, are playing up to labor, and while the Seiyukai advocates subsidies for big business and a "positive," or imperialistic, foreign policy, the opposition is slightly more liberal.

In addition, there are some half a dozen lesser parties, including four farmer-labor organizations. And all sorts of reforms are demanded—the right of workers to strike, organize and bargain collectively; labor legislation; government control of public utilities, particularly electric power, and so on, covering a wide range from the business party's demand that the government curtail its monopolies and get out of business to the abolition of all laws governing the proletariat.

To jump at conclusions because the 12,000,000 voted this week just like the 3,000,000 had voted before would be a little rash at this stage of the game. Unified, the nine million new voters naturally followed the crowds. The new election laws are complicated and violations are punishable and as the government frankly had admitted it would post spies to watch the polls, both new candidates and new voters were inclined to play safe rather than break into jail.

At that, the percentage of those voting puts to shame the voters of America, notorious for staying away from the polls.

How They Feel About It

It is interesting to note the impression made on the principal characters when Justice Siddons of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia found a few prominent citizens guilty of contempt of court. Here are some illuminating remarks:

Harry F. Sinclair: "It is impossible for me to understand why I should be held guilty of contempt."

Henry Mason Day: "I did only what I know the Department of Justice and the United States attorneys throughout the United States have been doing for fifty years."

William J. Burns: "This astonishing decision clearly indicates that I was not convicted because of any evidence produced, but in the personal opinion of the judge."

As somebody once remarked: "No rogue e'er felt the halter draw with good opinion of the law."

Educating Parents

More than 600 people attended the first North Carolina Institute on Parental Education, and heard speakers set forth the parent's responsibilities toward his child.

In the old days we heard a great deal about the child's duties toward its parent, and less of the parent's duties. The new way is better. It is idle to tell a child to honor his father and mother if the father and mother have not done their level best to give the child the wisest, most kindly training possible.

Ed Jackson Has Not Resigned

It becomes increasingly apparent that Ed Jackson intends to sit tight in the Statehouse, hoping, ostrich-like, that if he keeps temporarily out of the limelight the people of Indiana gradually will forget that he remains Governor only by grace of legal technicality.

It is certain that the Republican State committee intends to do nothing to remedy the situation. Any action in the matter is "outside its province," says the committee. Its members are steering wary away from the issue. They wisely do not attempt to gild the party lilies, but their evasion might be construed as an effort to perfume the party polecats.

If rottenness inside the G. O. P. is not within the province of the committee, then there seems to be precious little left on the hands of committee members. If the committee is relying on the traditional forgetfulness of voters for Republican success in the 1928 election, there will be a sad awakening. The voters of Indiana will not be allowed to forget the record of the Republican party in this State in the last four years.

Nothing more is needed to whet the memories of the voters than the spectacle of Ed Jackson sitting in the Governor's chair in the Statehouse, deaf to all demands that he resign.

And the Nation will not allow Indiana to forget. Pitiless public is this State's portion in journals all over the country. But mixed with the broadsides hurled at political conditions there is sympathy for Indiana's predicament and hope that the Hoosier commonwealth will take steps at once to clean up.

Indiana's problem is described with striking clearness in the following editorial, which appeared in the Milwaukee Journal, headed, "Indiana Still Has It":

Indiana must view with a good deal more of chagrin than satisfaction the outcome of the Jackson trial. The guilt or innocence of its Governor on the charge that as secretary of State he tried with \$10,000 to bribe and debase the then Governor, McCray, is not settled.

The only thing determined is that if there was bribery, the crime has outrun the statute of limitations. And Ed Jackson is still at liberty to administer the highest office in the State.

This outcome only makes the whole Indiana situation the more untenable. Everybody knows that there was super-government, everybody knows that Ed Jackson was a beneficiary of that super-government, everybody knows that housecleaning day is long past due.

Also, everybody has seen that all efforts to clean house have failed—whether through elections, grand jury hearings or court trials. Every time it is the blank stone wall for those who try.

And now the State must suffer the further indignity of having a Governor from whom the cloud of accusation that he committed a crime cannot be lifted.

This, of course, is Indiana's problem. Maybe public sentiment which is now beginning to speak will grow strong enough to force Jackson to resign, since his name is not cleared.

Maybe Indiana will some day decide to make a clean sweep of that "slime and disgrace" which Judge McCabe, who heard the Jackson trial, says was brought on by the Ku-Klux Klan. Maybe.

But what an object lesson it is to other States when they are tempted by the wiles of those who deal in super-government. When you get it, what are you to do with it, and how in the world are you ever to get rid of it?

That is harder than getting a divorce in South Carolina.

Law and the People

Senator James A. Reed of Missouri, in a recent campaign speech in Denver, asserted that the average man had come to regard the law "as a sword of oppression, rather than a shield of protection."

"Basically, many of these regulatory statutes are mistaken or vicious because they invade the realm of morals," he said. "We seek to do by legislative enactment that which belongs to the schools, the church and the home. We fail because a constable cannot take the place of a minister or a priest; neither can the coercions of a police matron be substituted for the precepts of a mother."

"Like it or not, the cold fact is that no people will obey a law they do not respect. And no law can be enforced by officers which is not in the vast majority of instances voluntarily obeyed and enforced by the people."

The truth of Reed's contentions has been demonstrated repeatedly. The failure of the prohibition law alone is ample proof that people cannot be made moral by statute. People do not regard violation of prohibition as a crime, and all the legislative enactments in the world will not make them change their view.

It is unfortunate that more of those who make our laws are not willing to face the facts in the same way that Senator Reed does.

The Hoover Training

(From the New York Herald-Tribune)
It is amusing and instructive to note that none of the opponents of Mr. Hoover questions his ability to fill the office of President. Here is the most difficult executive post in the world, a man killing job. Yet by common consent, even of his critics, Mr. Hoover has demonstrated his ability to handle it.

To find reasons against him, Senator Willis is obliged to hint that Mr. Hoover is not a good enough American to be President. His Democratic critics, at first inclined to praise him when his candidacy seemed doubtful, are now beginning to see popular distaste for an engineer in the White House.

The notion seems to be that Mr. Hoover may be kept out of the Presidency, not because of any doubt of his extraordinary fitness, but because of some supposed prejudice against the world wide career which has produced that fitness.

We do not believe that many voters will reject Mr. Hoover on any such fanciful ground. The engineer turned executive is a peculiarly American institution. His organizing ability is the basis of our present prosperity.

America is talking and thinking engineering above everything else. The problems facing the Federal Government are such as a statesman with engineering training is peculiarly fitted to understand. To turn to the specific issue confronting the State of Ohio, Senator Willis is a good enough American, but his wide gestures and narrow experience belong to an obsolete school of American statescraft that died, every one hoped, with the late Williams Jennings Bryan.

To almost any regular American not in his dotage, Mr. Hoover, who says little and does much, will seem far more truly an American of today and be far easier to understand and like.

Mr. Hoover has not a cathedral-chime voice and he does not wave his arms when he talks. But his engineering is the American kind that handles human beings as well and considerately as it directs machines.

He is, in fact, peculiarly and essentially American. No other nation could possibly have produced him.

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

BRIDGE ME ANOTHER

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BY W. W. WENTWORTH

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

1—When you hold: spades X; hearts A K Q; diamonds K Q; clubs K X X X X X, what should you bid initially?

2—If a hand contains a singleton, should you prefer a no-trump to a four card suit bid?

3—When declarer holds K J 10 in hand and dummy holds X X X, how many possible tricks may be made?

THE ANSWERS

1—One club.

2—Four-card suit bid is preferable.

3—Two.

Times Readers Voice Views

The name and address of the author must accompany every contribution, but on request will not be published. Letters exceeding 200 words will receive preference.

To the Editor:

Congress is in session and we are reading much in the newspapers, and practically every man, on the street corner is declaring himself, that something ought to be done for the farmer.

We heartily agree that the farmer has been and is hard hit, but it seems to us that the great majority of remedies offered are not sincere or based on right or just principles of government.

It is a safe bet that much of this loud talk on behalf of the farmer is largely propaganda by politicians and the big interests of the country, who would have us believe the stress that now lies on the shoulders of the man behind the plow. But this is just before election and let us not forget they have an ax to grind. In fact, these politicians are not very anxious to maintain their seats in the saddle and well know they must have votes.

Again, this is a year when, in convention assembled, platforms will be built and many high sounding phrases will be used, which they hope will attract the farmer and again get his vote.

Let us not forget that this is only a means to an end to get into office and thus retain themselves on the pay roll of the taxpayer; but when they are again solidly entrenched in their swivel chairs, when they come to putting into force their pre-election pledge, it seems they have little or no regard for their pre-election promises and even trample them under their feet as so much scrap paper.

One Senator cries loud and long that farm products ought to be fixed by law at a living price, another expresses himself as highly elated that the International Farm Congress went on record in favor of the repeal of Section 15-A, the guarantee provision of the Esch-Cummins Transportation Act, still another that the excessively high freight rates ought to be reduced equitably.

This talk is all very well, but what have they really done to fix the price of farm products? Through their tax-exempt securities they have put on the shoulders of the farmer the bulk of the taxes of the country.

On the other hand, if they are sincere and really earnest as to the welfare of the man who tills the soil, why, may we ask, were these laws put on the books in the first place, which have dragged the farmer down to the lowest level in returns for his labor?

Was it for the interest of the farmer and the general welfare of the greatest number of our people? Or, did they have in mind the special interest class, to which these laws compel the farmer and consumer to pay tribute?

President Coolidge says that it is up to the farmer to work out his own destiny. So let us get together, gentlemen, and cooperate to the end that we elect only such men or women to office who are in sympathy, at least, with the man who feeds the world; and re-establish the government of our fathers, and once again demonstrate that the chief end of representative government is to represent and establish justice to ourselves and our posterity; to the end that each and every farmer may not only exist, but receive a living profit for his labor and a reasonable return on his investment. Property, to be real, must include the farmer.

But they in turn, if they produce a civilization, lose the arts of war in the pursuit of art; and once more cycle of conquest and barbarism is renewed. Perhaps it will not always be so; but so it has always been.

The Dark Ages were the barbarization of Europe. The Roman stock had been almost destroyed by disease and birth control; nothing remained except to repopulate the Empire with a race unspoiled in body and mind.

But the price that Europe paid

was half a thousand years of ignorance: from the year 529, when Justinian closed the ancient schools,

There's a Small Dose or Two Left



THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION

Printing Press Ends Glorious Age

Written for The Times by Will Durant

HISTORY has been a cycle of unity of Europe and led to that reformation which was in essence the revolt of kings and emperors against priests and popes.

THE crescendo, this forte, and this decrescendo, constitute what are called the Middle Ages. It is a vague and hazy scientific term, indefinite at either end, and implying that modernity is the climax and completion of all time.

Perhaps "The Christian Age" would be a better phrase; if we keep the old term it will be because habit has given it an almost irreplaceable utility.

To study this complex epoch we shall violate chronology now and then in order to achieve unity of topic and clearness of view. Let us put aside our prejudices while retaining our preferences; let us admit the possibility that an age of romance and art have been as interesting to live in as an age of science and industry.

"Real development," says Chesteron, "is not leaving things behind, on a road, but drawing life from them, as from a route." Let us examine the root and origins of our modern world.

Two elements make the Middle Ages: the barbarians and the church. On the one hand the development of Teutonic institutions and ideals in feudalism and chivalry, in town and guild and the mercantile state; and on the other hand the fusion, adaptation and transmission of Roman civilization and Oriental faith in the organization and doctrines of the church. To understand the church we must first understand the barbarians.

That glory ended because printing came in 1456, and undermined the intellectual foundations of the church; and because the Turks took Constantinople in 1453, and drove Greek scholars to bring to Italy their memories and manuscripts of an ancient and churchless world; and because the growth of commerce and cities and states destroyed the

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(To Be Continued)

What Other Editors Think