



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.

FRANCIS G. MORRISON, Business Manager.

PHONE—MAIN 3500.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 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.

Justice to War Veterans

In all justice to the vast majority of veterans of the World War who returned from fields of battle abroad to become decent, law-abiding citizens once more, it seems that the time is here to call a halt on citing war service as extenuation for crime.

In Lake County jail at Crown Point, George Chisholm, confessed slayer of his two sons, in a particularly griesome and fiendish manner, is preparing a defense based partly on his World War record, with insanity as a bolstering plea.

An honorable discharge from the United States or any other army and citations for bravery in action should not be considered in the light of permits to engage in crime, despite the fact that scores of men caught in offenses against the law so have sought to use them.

No true soldier would fall back on his war record for such purpose. In ninety-five cases in a hundred, it is the malingerer, the slacker, the coward who does so. In the other cases wounds and shock so may have injured and warped the mentality of the victim that he does turn criminal.

There should be a distinction made in these cases, and it is time that consideration be given to this serious matter.

The slobbering, squalling, snivelling sentimentalists who lionize criminals with greater fervor because they served overseas rarely, if ever, investigate the extent or the merit of this service. Enough it is to them that the criminal once wore a uniform, whether with disgrace to that uniform or not.

Indianapolis, all Indiana, and the nation were stunned by the enormity of the Hickman crime. There seems to be only mild interest in a far more fiendish crime by a man held prisoner within this State, only a few hundred miles from here.

Justice undoubtedly will be meted out to this man for his brutal deed. He has admitted that he drowned his two sons because of "love" for a woman who complained bitterly of the fact that he had these two sons.

Now that he is called to pay for his crime, he suddenly discovers, ten years after, that he has a war record, that he is suffering from shell shock which may have been responsible for the mental state which prompted him to commit a double murder, and he brings this forward as an extenuating circumstance.

The time is here to halt miscarriages of justice on war record pleas.

A Filipino's Cry of Alarm

"In the name of God . . . give us our independence before the Philippines, like Teapot Dome . . . are donated to campaign contributors, whose mouths are watering for them!"

The ruddy blush of shame will mount the cheeks of every loyal American, pondering over this plea of Gabaldon, retiring resident commissioner of the Philippines.

We boast of our capacity to govern. We say to Filipinos and others: "Watch us. Learn to govern yourself honestly and efficiently as we do and some day, maybe, we'll set you free."

And then to have them reply, as Gabaldon replied, hurts like rubbing brine in an open wound, because we know the rebuke is not unmerited.

Gabaldon, in his good-by to Congress, took sharp issue with Governor General Stimson, successor to the late Gen. Leonard Wood as American viceroy in the Philippines. If you would be free, Stimson told the Filipinos, speed up the development of your natural resources—with the aid of American capital, of course, though he did not say so specifically, to which the retiring resident commissioner rejoins:

"The very reason we have not been given our independence is the investment of American capital in the islands. Every additional dollar of American investment there, is an additional nail in the coffin of our independence. Not that I am opposed to American investments in the islands," he added, "but give us independence first."

Said Governor Stimson in his inaugural address:

"I believe that nowhere in the world are relations of capital to the public watched with more jealous eye than today in the United States. The abuses of capital, which excited criticism a generation ago, have been cured. The American captains of industry today have a very different standard of duty toward the public from their predecessors of the nineteenth century."

It that is the case, explained Gabaldon, "then God forgive those predecessors of the nineteenth century! If they had anything on that great captain of industry, Harry F. Sinclair, multimillionaire oil man, and former Senator Albert B. Fall, they must indeed have been bad!"

Recounting the shameful story of Teapot Dome and the naval oil land lease scandal, the Filipino observed that "all this happened more than three years ago, and neither Sinclair nor Fall ever has served a day in jail."

"And now," he went on, "it comes out that Sinclair secretly contributed \$260,000 to the campaign funds of the Republican party. What frightens me, as a Filipino, is that those American 'captains of industry' who have millions invested in the Philippines also are heavy contributors to the campaign chest of the Republican party."

"In the name of God, members of the American Congress, I beseech you to give us our independence before the Philippines, like Teapot Dome and the naval oil lands, are donated to campaign contributors, whose mouths are water for our golden natural resources!"

To what a low estate have our national scandals brought us! We who would teach the Filipinos honest government, today can only listen, flushed and humiliated, while our pupils taunt us with the facts of our own corruption.

The Lesson of the Los Angeles

Did you notice that nobody got very excited over the Los Angeles' recent voyage from New Jersey to Panama and back again?

There's a reason. Had it been undertaken by an airplane there would have been much more interest. Why? Because it would have been more of a gamble.

Nobody seriously doubted that the big dirigible would be able to do the job, whereas the chances of an airplane falling into the sea with all on board were more than even.

There is a lesson in this for Congress. In many ways and for many purposes airplanes have it all over dirigibles. But when it comes to long distance flights, particularly over water, the dirigibles have it over the planes.

In a crisis, even arms, ammunition, and men could be transported to Panama, Hawaii and probably to the Philippines, by large dirigibles, while in peace time their mail, express and passenger possibilities are enormous.

Congress should act to make possible the two giant dirigibles authorized years ago, but which are still hanging fire in Washington. Britain is leaving us far behind in this type of craft.

Men—Not Parties

The main reason why there is much discussion of men in this year's presidential campaign and little talk of principles or parties is that there isn't enough difference between principles enforced by the two old parties to stir up a real difference of opinion.

Woodrow Wilson tried to put the party of Jefferson and Jackson back on its Democratic feet, but it wandered off after false gods when it passed the Volstead act over his veto and accepted the political leadership of the Republican Anti-Saloon League. Since that time the little group of Ohio Republicans who created and built up the league have acted as a holding company for both old parties.

While apparently losing its grip gradually, the Anti-Saloon League still is powerful enough, through its influence on the Protestant evangelical churches, to frighten both old parties into submission this year.

So there is no prospect that either of the parties will take any kind of a bold stand against prohibition. Certainly none of the Republicans who has a chance of being nominated for President will take such a stand, and even Governor Al Smith and Senator Jim Reed now are singing low on the eighteenth amendment.

Tacit understanding has developed that both parties will pussyfoot on prohibition this year, and about the best anybody can do is to get back of the strongest man, without regard to the party tag he happens to wear.

The politicians in both parties are mortally afraid of the Anti-Saloon League and its following. So the only thing left to do is to rescue from the mess the best we can in the way of candidates. Instead of weak candidates, the situation demands strong men of the calibre of Hoover and Smith, who will have the courage to tackle prohibition and other problems with a strong hand when public sentiment develops to the point where it will demand a change.

Daughters On Strike

The good old days when father's word was law to the daughters of the house seem to have gone forever. Harken to the plaint of James Tuscano of New York.

The other night Tuscano scolded a daughter for failing to study. Instead of saying, "Yes, father," and agreeing to study harder, as all daughters would have done a few years ago, the girl up and walked out on him. And not only that; her four sisters walked out with her.

And Tuscano, instead of succeeding in his efforts at paternal admonition, now finds himself short five daughters. Verily, the old order is changing!

Where War Roots

BY BRUCE CATTON

Schemes to make war legally impossible have flowered since 1918 like dandelions on a suburbanite's lawn. If laid end to end (which is exactly what has happened to all of them to date), they would reach from here to Armageddon, or beyond.

The latest is a suggestion from His Excellency Frits Holm of Denmark. His scheme provides that, in case of war, the president or premier, together with all of his immediate male relatives, the entire cabinet, all members of Congress who voted for war and all bishops and prelates of the nation's churches, be at once conscripted as privates, to serve for the duration of the war in the infantry shock troops.

Holm believes all possibility of war will be forever averted by every nation that adopts this plan.

Maybe he's right. His proposal is drastic enough. It might well prove an effectual curb on the fire-eating proclivities of some dime-a-dozen statesmen.

Yet it shares the defects of all other anti-war schemes in that it attacks the whole problem wrong end to.

Despite all our talk about the machinations of "international bankers," "secret diplomacy," and the like, the roots of war lie far down in the heart of the average man. Trying to root war out by legislation from above is like trying to lift yourself by your bootstraps. It will furnish a lot of exercise but nothing more.

For the simple and regrettable fact is man has not yet grown into a thoroughly peaceful animal. We are still a few thousand miles removed from the spiritual heights of the Sermon on the Mount.

A flag, fluttering in the sunlight, can still sway our emotions so powerfully that reason and cool judgement are forgotten. A few taps on a drum, a few sharp notes on a bugle, are still more potent than all the cautioning lectures in the world.

We are fond of talking about how such and such a nation was "led into war." Such talk is ordinarily so much agar-agar. The common people of the world—you and I and the English and the Germans and the French and all the rest—still think in terms of war.

"In the name of God, members of the American Congress, I beseech you to give us our independence before the Philippines, like Teapot Dome and the naval oil lands, are donated to campaign contributors, whose mouths are water for our golden natural resources!"

To what a low estate have our national scandals brought us! We who would teach the Filipinos honest government, today can only listen, flushed and humiliated, while our pupils taunt us with the facts of our own corruption.

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—Partner bids no-trump. Holding: spades—X X; hearts—X X X; diamonds—X; clubs—A K Q J 10 X X, what should you bid?

2—What is the golden rule of bridge?

3—What sentence should be imposed upon acrimonious bridge players?

The Answers

1—Three clubs.

2—Do unto your partner as you would have him do unto you.

3—Solitary confinement.

Times Readers Voice Views

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

Editor Times:

Just a little word about these girls saying they wouldn't marry Lindy. I don't think the girl loves who would refuse him. I'd hate for him to propose to many of them. I'm afraid he would be killed in the rush.

MISS KATHLEEN BIRMINGHAM, 2028 N. Meridian St.

Mr. Fixit

Outlines Steps to Eliminate "Eyesores."

Let Mr. Fixit, The Times' representative at city hall, present your troubles to city officials. Write Mr. Fixit at The Times. Names and addresses which must be given will not be published.

An old shed, which is an "eyesore" to north side property owners, today was reported to Mr. Fixit.

Dear Mr. Fixit: Will you kindly give me an opinion upon how to proceed in the following matter: I own property on a street facing a large stretch of unoccupied ground on Fall Creek Blvd.

On the corner opposite my houses on this vacant ground, is an old shed, which is a wretched eyesore, being very weatherbeaten and absolutely useless, as it is very old. This shed is large, it is almost a barn in fact, and my houses, viewed from the boulevard, suffer from being associated with the ugly old shed.

Others feel the same way about this, but nobody seems to know what to do about it. Will you suggest a move we can make?

E. S.

Building Commissioner W. A. Smith will have an inspector visit the site and order the building condemned if conditions warrant such action. You will have to supply him with the address or name of the property owner.

Dear Mr. Fixit: Lawns belonging to the city at 308-311 N. Hamilton Ave. are being cut up by auto parking. Coal wagons use the front entrance when they should use the alley. Can you prevent this?

Citizens in the 300 block will appreciate anything you can do to beautify Indianapolis. MRS. L. E.

George Morgan, assistant park superintendent, said the property owners should be asked to stop the practice. The park board, which supervises city lawns, would have no jurisdiction over the ground, he said.

Questions and Answers

You can get an answer to any answerable question of fact or information by writing to Frederick M. Kerby, Question Editor, Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1322 New York Ave., Washington, D. C., enclosing two cents postage. Your question, if it can be answered, will be published. All other questions will be held in confidence.

Unsigned requests cannot be answered. All other questions will be held in confidence.

Editorial and columnists' questions will be cordially invited to make use of this free service as often as you please.

EDITOR.

How much does a camel weigh at birth?

About sixty pounds.

Who started the fashion of bobbed hair for women?

Irene Castle is credited with being responsible for the modern custom.

SPARK

For the week ending March 7.

For the week ending March 14.

For the week ending March 21.

For the week ending March 28.

For the week ending April 4.

For the week ending April 11.

For the week ending April 18.

For the week ending April 25.

For the week ending May 2.

For the week ending May 9.

For the week ending May 16.

For the week ending May 23.

For the week ending May 30.

For the week ending June 6.

For the week ending June 13.

For the week ending June 20.

For the week ending June 27.

For the week ending July 4.

For the week ending July 11.

For the week ending July 18.

For the week ending July 25.