

The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)
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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."—Dante.

Times Readers Voice Views

The name and address of the author must accompany every contribution, but on request will not be published.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

Editor Times: I've been free to voice my disapproval of some things I have seen in The Times. Now I want to show my appreciation of things I approve. You editorial recently, "What Is A Radical?" was very fine, only you didn't give the answer to the question.

Now Webster says the word "radical" pertains to the root as fundamental origin, as a radical truth or error. Hence one may be radically right or wrong. However, only those radically right are considered radicals.

I think we have a very radical Governor, yet he is not considered so by the majority of people. He undoubtedly is very radically wrong, as he has sunk to the lowest depths of error.

Take for example, Gene Debs and Woodrow Wilson. Both were very radical. Most people consider Debs radically wrong and Wilson radically right. Webster says in politics "radical" means "a person who advocates a radical reform."

Radicalism is the doctrine or principle of making radical reform in government by overturning and changing the present state of things. W. B. SCHREIBER, 622 Lexington Ave.

Editor Times: I noticed in The Indianapolis Times of Feb. 29 an article by J. Ed Burk that your police department needed an addition of 150 men to cope with the crime wave and the growing population of your city.

At one time, I was a resident of Indianapolis, and I still believe it to be one of the best cities in the country. Naturally, I keep pretty well posted on its affairs.

I agree with Mr. Burk, and very likely had given the matter a thought before he did. He also urges the various civic and commercial clubs to take action. Now that's the thing to do and your Chamber of Commerce should be the leader. However, I fear that they, the clubs, and citizens, as well, will follow the old slogan of "Let George Do It."

You people of Indianapolis appreciated the fact that in L. Ert Slack you have a very good Mayor. It may be of interest to you and your citizens to know that Hamilton, Ohio, has gone under the city manager form of government. We hired an outside man, Mr. Price, of Florida, and his salary is \$10,000 a year. We also have seven commissioners, some of whom are Leo Welch, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Meyers, Mr. Bierman, and Mr. Burke, who is appointed mayor.

Mr. Price is sure on the job and his plans will, no doubt, be a great saving of money for our city.

So you people of Indianapolis get back of Mr. Burk and other city manager form of government workers, to make it a reality in 1930. And in the meantime, see that Mr. Burk's suggestion for more policemen is carried out.

A. J. GAKING, Hamilton, Ohio.

Editor Times: Referring to an article in The Indianapolis Times headed "Teachers May Spank Children, Judge Rules."

Has Judge Clifford R. Cameron of municipal court any children in Marion County schools? If not, how can he justly make this kind of a ruling against the parents of the King boy?

I have a girl in the lower grades and she has been jerked by the chin and spanked by her teacher three times I know of. With that kind of a ruling her teacher will think she can handle her any way.

I guess the only chance the parents have is to get up a petition and have the teacher dismissed from school. In my case, I can get several parents to sign same whose children have had the same treatment as mine.

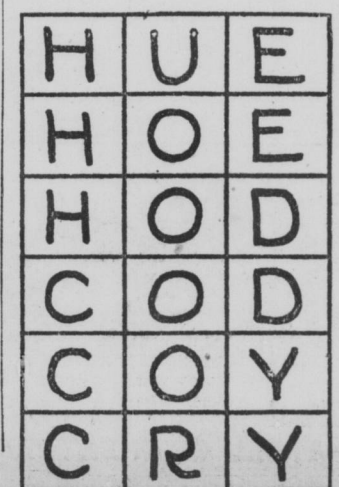
Please advise who this petition should be taken to. K. R. R.

Judge Cameron has no children in Marion county schools. Your petition should be filed with the school board.



The Rules

1. The idea of letter golf is to change one word to another and do it in par, or 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.



Not Necessarily Incurable



THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION Church Rules Life of People

Written for The Times by Will Durant

TO GIVE the monastic picture its fairer side we must place beside the monks the nuns. Probably the world has never seen an organization more unselfishly devoted to human kindness than the various orders which gathered the holy women of Christianity together during the Middle Ages.

The convents were not only the natural home of saints, like Hildegard and Theresa; they were an admirable refuge for women bequeathed or deceived, or left unmarried as a result of the numerical excess of women over men in an age afflicted with violence and a thousand petty wars.

In the hands of the nuns and the secular (i. e. non-monastic) clergy, the church placed the administration of its charities; and many of the great hospitals that survive to-day were founded in an epoch in which charity was personal and complete.

Mingled with this good was considerable evil. The writers of the time are never through denouncing the immorality of the clergy. Peter Damian aims his "Book of Gomorrah" against the sins of the priest-hood, accuses them of simony and concubinage, and exhorts them to abandon their lives of frivolity and vice. St. Bernard preaches still more violently:

"Today foul rottenness crawls through the whole body of the church. If a heretic foe should arise openly, he would be cast out and withered; or if the enemy raged madly the church might hide herself from him. But now whom shall he cast out, or from whom hide herself?"

"All are friends and all are foes; all necessary and all adverse; all of her own household and none pacific; all are her neighbors and all seek their own interest. Ministers of Christ, they serve anti-Christ. They go clothed in the good things of the Lord and render Him no honor. Hence that ecclat of the courtesan which you daily see, that theatrical garb, that regal state.

"Hence the gold-trapped reins and saddles and spurs—for the spurs shine brighter than the altars. Hence the splendid tables laden with food and goblets; hence the feasting and drunkenness, the guitars, the lyres and the futes; hence the swollen levees and the storehouses heaped and running over from this into that, and the jars of perfumes, and the stuffed purses. 'Tis for such matters that they wish to be and are the over-seers of churches, deacons, archdeacons, bishops and archbishops. For neither do these offices come by merit, but through that sort of business that walketh in darkness!"

DOUBTLESS the institutions of celibacy, which had been established after considerable resistance in the eleventh century, in order to prevent the transmission of ecclesiastical property to private individuals, and to concentrate the loyalty of the priest upon his church and nothing to do with the growth of sacerdotal lechery.

For a time the sins of the clergy were so extreme that it was a common medieval question whether it was possible for a clergyman to be saved. Nevertheless the picture of the village priest, visiting the sick, consoling the bereaved, and comforting the poor, is one of the brightest corners of the medieval scene.

Under the rule of the church the people lived an intellectually narrow and motionally happy life. Their ignorance, their relic-worship, their miracle-mongering, their uncritical acceptance of such pious legends as the "Lives of the Saints," their belief in spirits that filled the air and dominated human lives and made pious women strangely pregnant, may seem to our contemporary taste abominable and unredeemed.

But when we consider how small a part science and philosophy play in our lives, we may be inclined to admit that the people of the Middle Ages could live as vigorously and

completely as we. At least they ate as heartily and drank as deeply and with fewer puritan inhibitions.

They were not subject to coffee, but they knew how to make good wine and beer. They fasted on Fridays—fish was a delicacy to them. It is true that their manners were rude; not until the fourteenth century were forks used; and Queen Elizabeth, Louis XIV and William Shakespeare, still ignorant of this new invention, or disdaining it, ate comfortably with their fingers.

Homes were simple, but they were pretty; and the weary tourist of today finds his best moments in leaving the hot stone walls and pavements of a modern thoroughfare and losing himself in the narrow, incalculable alleys under the picturesque over-hanging windows and balconies, the crowded peaks and gables, of a surviving medieval street.

IN THESE homes there was not much liberty, but there was much consolation. At night the whole family knelt together at their chairs and recited the rosary aloud. Mass on Sunday was a dream and a feast; there the village met, exchanged gossip, compared hats, and made assignments for the week; and the fine Gregorian Chant of the High Mass thrilled their hearts with a melodious plea.

Men are more powerful today than they were then, and they know incomparably more; but in our restless age, shorn of belief and hope, and almost of charity, they have lost a certain simple happiness which uplifted and emboldened the poverty of the Middle Ages.

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(To Be Continued)

With Other Editors

Revolt of members of the Daughters of the American Revolution against the official commitment of their organization to Secretary Wilbur's naval program is of less importance in its immediate phase than in its broader challenge of the assumption on the part of the high officials of the D. A. R. of prerogative to speak for its entire membership.

The D. A. R. situation is by no means exceptional. Rather is it typical. Nor is the complex peculiar to organizations of women.

Not infrequently there appear majestic declarations that the National Order of Spouses or the United States Chamber or Federation of Brotherhood of this or that gives its indorsement to or registers its protest against some proposal or policy, and more or less generally, it is assumed that the official utterance is the concerted voice of the thousands of members represented, although there has not been the semblance of a referendum or even a straw vote to determine the proportionate weight of the individual opinion of the membership on the matter.

Everybody knows, or should know, that quotations of mass opinion of this sort are subject to discount.

The American, man or woman, has a penchant for "joining," and is a good and loyal member of his organization and an adherent to its purposes and principles.

But the oath of membership does not abrogate the individual right to think and act, and particularly in political experience there has been frequent demonstration that the control of these various groupings is apt to be overestimated.

Neither the organized vote nor the organized opinion of such groups is measurable by their membership lists.

Plymouth Daily Pilot

One of the chief duties of the newspaper editor today, and one on which he spends a good deal of time, is to keep out of his paper the ton: of propaganda with which every newspaper office is deluged. The general public knows little of this propaganda and can hardly realize the work it entails upon a newspaper office to get it all into the waste basket. It is often very hard to see what the propagandist is working at and how he expects to receive benefit from his "dope."

Much of this propaganda is so smooth, so well written and illustrated that it is hard to find what it is all about.

Much of this stuff is only to promote a certain commodity without paying the newspaper for its publicity. There are hundreds of offices, all devoted to the free publicity plans. These propagandists range all the way from the cheap effort to promote the sale of an article to favor for the League of Nations and the World Court.

Some of this stuff does little harm if published, their only wrong being that they steal the newspaper's space. Others endeavor by false insinuations and statements to place certain ideas in the public mind, either in favor of or against some plan or general feeling. It is these which the newspapers have to watch with suspicious eagle eyes.

In his speeches in Carroll County, John E. Fredrick made his position clear concerning the public service commission of Indiana. He put himself emphatically on record for the abolishment of the commission if it can not be made to function in the interests of all the people.

Mr. Fredrick quite truly charges that as at present constituted and operated, the utilities board is in reality a taxing body which is used as a tool for selfish interests. This is all wrong, because the real purpose for which the bureau was established was to serve as a protection for the public and to establish equitable relationship with public service corporations.

Another sensible stand which Mr. Fredrick takes is that municipally owned utilities and farmers' co-operative telephone companies should be taken from jurisdiction of the state commission. He points out plainly that such companies are purely local and consequently should be fully under the control of the communities where they operate.

Mr. Fredrick does not mince words in his treatment of bureaucratic government as it has been built up at Indianapolis. Undoubtedly most folks will agree with him that what is most needed is prudent pruning throughout the entire structure of the State administration, by a capable man. That is the best way to reduce expenses and at the same time add to government efficiency.

M. E.
TRACY
SAYS:
"The Swarming Millions of the East Have Been Easy to Handle, Not Because They Like It, but Because They Lacked the Means to Organize and Express Their Aspirations."

It is unwise for the people of this country to ignore international disturbances.

Storm clouds are gathering over England in the east. They may mean nothing or they may mean much.

The average American prefers to be disinterested, just as he did at the beginning of the great war. It is pathetic to recall how generally the great war was misunderstood by average Americans when it broke out, how they visualized it as a quarrel between kings, how they thought of it as furnishing a market for food and munitions, and how they "thanked God" they were not in it a few months before they were.

One distinguished writer is grateful that we hold no mandates, as though that were a guarantee of immunity from trouble.

We held no mandates when Europe blew up. We had no notion that we would be involved. We could not see how events were shaping themselves, how destiny was weaving a net around us from which there was no escape.

By the same token we can see no possibility that upheavals in the Orient may have a vital effect on us.

World as an Ideal

We talk much about the world, but generally in an idealistic philosophical sort of way.

One gathers the idea that the rest of the world appeals to the average American as something to be made over by speeches and platitudes, as presenting problems which require no more than a debate, or a formal agreement to solve.

It is because the idealist does not know it, has not come in contact with its stern, unyielding reality; cannot picture every fourth man as a Chinaman if the human race were stoned in line and every second as an Asiatic; cannot imagine Islam as a well-organized financial faith.

Racial Enmities Stir

The demand of Egypt that British troops be withdrawn does not originate in such an impersonal love for liberty and independence as we understand, but includes racial and religious antipathies that sound the depths of human feeling.

The same thing is true of the desert tribes who are mobilizing under the leadership of Ibn Saud; of the hordes of India that are forming for revolt; of the Persians' refusal to grant autocracy.

The swarming millions of the East have been easy to handle, not because they liked it, but because they lacked the means to organize and express their aspirations.

They are taking our machinery and methods as fast as their low earning capacity permits, but they are not taking our faith, our idealism, or our viewpoint.

While Christian missionaries have converted eight or ten million Chinamen, Mohammedan missionaries have converted half a million and it has cost us dollars where it has cost them cents.

The Time Is Coming!

Meanwhile we are trading with the Orient, building it up as a market for our own products, drawing on it for raw materials, encouraging our industries to establish branch houses in it and growing more and more dependent on it.

The time is soon coming, if it is not already here, when disorders in the Orient will have a direct bearing on our prosperity, when they will go straight to our pocket-book and touch us in the same way that the German sub campaign did.

Questions and Answers

You can get an answer to any answerable question by writing to Fredrick M. Kerby, Question Editor, The Indianapolis Times, Washington, D. C., enclosing two cents in stamps for reply. Medical and legal advice cannot be given, nor can extended research be undertaken. Questions will receive a personal reply. Unusual 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.

How are purses of vegetables made?

Stew the vegetables with as little water as possible. Season well and while hot put them through a fine sieve, to make a soft, smooth mass. If too thick they can be thinned with hot water, stock or milk. If too thin, they can be cooked down over hot water.

Who played the part of the minister in the motion picture, "Sensation Seekers"?

Raymond Bloomer.

How many automobiles were manufactured in the United States in the first six months of 1927?

1,779,334 passenger cars, 248,506 trucks.

What is the best timber for fence posts?

Red cedar, yellow locust, black walnut, white oak and chestnut.

What is the home address of John McGraw?

15 W. Forty-Fourth St. New York.

At the Dempsey-Willard fight at Toledo, Ohio, in July, 1919, what were the colors of the trunks and belts worn by the fighters?

Willard wore blue trunks with a belt of red, white and blue. Dempsey wore white trunks, also with a belt of red, white and blue.

How is French drip coffee made?

By pouring boiling water very slowly over freshly and finely ground coffee and allowing it to drip through two strainers into the bottom of the pot.

Hoover and the Hoosiers

"I consider Herbert Hoover a man with a marvelous mind. My contact with him causes me to believe he knows more about more things than probably any other man in the country. He is a human encyclopedia of information."

"Indeed, he knows about most everything under the sun, save one, that of politics." His lack of understanding about politics makes it difficult for his friends to convert sentiment into delegates."

So spoke Senator James E. Watson of Indiana a few months ago.

In spite of the Senator's solemn pronouncement of Hoover's unfitness, several thousand Indiana Republicans—many thousands more than legally necessary—have proclaimed their right to vote for Hoover in the State's presidential primary.

Apparently, in the minds of these Indiana Republicans, Hoover's lack of knowledge concerning politics is not a fatal weakness. It might even be suspected that they regard it as part of his strength.

Indiana has a lot of Republican leaders who know about all there is to know about politics. One of them, a powerful leader, is now in prison. Another, an unfortunate Governor, is just out of prison. Still another, an unfortunate Governor in another sense, has just been acquitted by pleading the statute of limitations. These are three in a long list.

And Jim Watson, he knows all about politics. He knows, for example, that the hardest thing to be in a national convention is a favorite son. So he announced himself as the favorite son of Indiana. That meant that other candidates—those who know all about politics—were supposed to leave his State alone until the time came, at the convention, when he would be ready to do business with the highest bidder.

Jim may have no idea—or should have none—of being nominated for the presidency. Jim—in contrast to one of his Ohio neighbors—has a sense of humor. He has an idea that he will control the Indiana delegates and make the best possible personal bargain at Kansas City before he turns them over to anybody else.

But the rank and file of Republicans in Indiana know something about politics. Not everything, like Jim, but something. They know all about favorite sons and they know a lot about Jim. They have decided that, this time, they will not deliver themselves into Jim's keeping for the period of the Kansas City convention, if they can avoid it.

They asked Hoover to allow his name to be entered in the Indiana primaries. Indiana Republicanism has been fighting two years, they said, to clean out the boys who know so much about politics. Come over and help us, they said.

They said it in such numbers as to make clear they were voicing the State's earnest desire. Hoover said, "Enter my name."

So the fight is on in Indiana. It should be a grand fight.

Gaining on Disease

The leaders of the medical profession still have a number of problems to solve; but over many of their old enemies they are asserting an ever-increasing mastery.

Figures issued by the United States Public Health Service show that 1927 saw the typhoid fever rate sink to a lower figure than ever before. In that year there were recorded only twenty-six cases of typhoid per 100,000 inhabitants—less than half the number reported in 1917.

There are many diseases against which medical science at present can do little. But it is becoming apparent that the dreaded typhoid fever is one of those maladies that eventually can be made practically unknown.

Saving Petroleum

Hubert Work, secretary of the interior, has asked the governors of the oil producing States to co-operate with the Federal Government in getting uniform State and National laws to help conserve our petroleum resources.

We can only hope that his efforts lead to success. Ordinarily we fail to realize just how much our civilization is built on oil; just stop and think for a minute what would happen if we should wake up tomorrow and find our oil all gone. Our entire social fabric would be disorganized.

Oil conservation is one of the most important problems facing us today. It is to be hoped that Secretary Work and the governors can find an effective program.

The Canal Almost Outgrown

A New York engineer, addressing the New York Chamber of Commerce, predicts that the Panama Canal either must be enlarged in a few years or duplicated by a second inter-ocean waterway.

"The Panama Canal now," he says, "has almost reached the point where it can not handle the trade passing through it."

This is interesting. It was only a few years ago that calamity howlers were calling the big canal a useless burden, asserting that it was not being used enough to justify its existence. One hopes that they heard this engineer's speech.

A gun seventy feet long, weighing 735,000 pounds, is to be set in the defenses of the Panama Canal. Lindy's good will flight was a grand thing, and all that, and its effect really ought to be lasting, etc.

Let's Repay Lindy

Col. Charles A. Lindbergh has done a lot for us.

Flying alone across the Atlantic, he gave us a magnificent thrill. By his lonely dash through the air he heartened and encouraged us; he gave us a new hero, let us have a glimpse of the fineness and nobility to which American youth can attain.

And as if that were not enough, he made friends for us abroad. He put France and America back on a cordial basis such as they had not known since 1918. He showed Mexico that not all gringos are scheming land-grabbers. He made Central America think a lot more of us.

All in all, the young man served us very, very well.

It is about time we repaid him. What is the best thing we can do for him? We might buy him a mansion, but he probably wouldn't stay in it. We could raise a big purse for him, but he doesn't care for money. He has so many medals now that any more would only bore him.

There is only one thing he wants—and it happens to be something we can give him; a long, quiet rest.

Lindy is worn out by crowds and reporters and photographers and handshakers. His nerves are frazzled. He wants to be alone—and who can blame him? He is dead tired of being photographed, interviewed, greeted, cheered. Ever since he streaked across the Atlantic a year ago, it has been a continual round of honors. He'd like to take a rest all by himself. The best thing we could do for him would be to forget all about him.

All right; let's do it. Already he has become immortal. He has passed into the gallery of great Americans, to remain there forever. We can afford to let him alone for a while.

Let Lindbergh retire for a while. Let him drop out of the news. Let him have a rest from banquets, receptions and cheering crowds. He's tired. He's only a kid, for all his greatness, and he needs a rest more than we can imagine. Let's give it to him. It would be the kindest thing we could do; it would be the very finest gift we could make, and he would appreciate it deeply.

What Kings Cost

Ever since Germany has been a republic the disgruntled monarchists have been yipping all over the place that taxpayers should take notice that a so-called republic costs more than a real monarchy.

The assertion has been made so often that many Germans believed it. It remained for Professor Grebe to delve into the figures of the present and the past and show that this claim of the Junkers, like so many others, was just simple, hundred per cent lie.

He finds that the cost of the various republican ministries, the Reichstag and other governmental machinery, is not to exceed 20,000,000 marks per year. On the other hand, the Hohenzollerns cost Prussia 22,000,000 marks; Bavaria paid its Wittelsbergs over four millions; Wurtemberg paid its royal house over 2,500,000; Baden paid out 1,812,000; Hesse disbursed 1,265,000.

In other words, kings, princes and grand dukes, with all their parasites and hangers-on, cost the German people just double what the officials of the republic do.

In Chicago a grand jury indicted a garage man for fraud in making his income tax return. Justice, though blind, occasionally gets a glimpse of what it's all about.

Cuttlefish Tactics

BY BRUCE CATTON

The obscure cuttlefish never has been given his just reward by the people of this great republic.

The cuttlefish, you know, is a deep-sea creature whose armament includes a bag of ink. When the cuttlefish gets in a jam he lets fly with a cloud of ink, thereby befogging the issue and dodging the teeth, beak or what not of his adversary.

For many years this creature has served as a model for many of our best citizens. Cuttlefish tactics have been refined and perfected in public life until it would seem only simple justice to build a memorial to this deep-sea denizen.

Here is a case in point.

During the last couple of weeks, a committee of United States Senators has been investigating conditions in the Pennsylvania soft coal fields. The Senators have uncovered some rather startling facts. They have found out that women and children are being thrown out of homes, destitute, in the middle of winter.

They have discovered that a judge has issued an injunction which even forbids strikers from singing hymns on church property. They have heard tales of armed guards who have no compunctions about using guns on defenseless citizens. All in all, they have helped bring to light rather a sorry mess.

And now the cuttlefish tactics have begun. We are being told that these Senators are "radicals."

It is undoubtedly true that the mine owners are not the black villains that some union leaders would have us think. It is undoubtedly true that the entire industry is sick, and that the troubles incident to the present strike are only surface indications of ills that lie deep down, calling for something more far-reaching than any mere temporary adjustment of rival wage demands.

But the cry of "radicals" is an ill omen. The word "radical" is a bad word. It is a cuttlefish's cloud of ink. It can be depended on to befog almost any issue. Yell it often enough and loudly enough and you will soon have the public discounting everything your adversary says.

The Pennsylvania situation demands the attention of the best minds of the country. Something must be done to remedy matters, for the sake of mine owners' dividends if for no other reasons.

Shouting "radicals" at the Senators who are investigating things is a mighty poor way of helping. Such tactics will only defer the settlement that must be had sooner or later.

And remember—the first Senator to demand the investigation that is now being made was Senator David A. Reed of Pennsylvania, friend and political associate of Comrade Andrew Mellon.