



The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

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

The Strange Case of Red Gold

When is \$5,201,000 in gold neither gold nor money, but merely "material" which costs \$700 a day to keep?

The answer is: When the gold belongs to Soviet Russia, and is locked up in a couple of New York banks from which certain quixotic technicalities prevent it from getting into circulation.

About a month ago Russia sent twenty crimson caskets of gold bars to the United States to be used as a basis of credit for purchases in this country. After placing them in the vaults of the Equitable Trust and the Chase National Bank of New York, the Russians felt, no doubt, that they might proceed with their shopping.

But they had reckoned without their host, the host, in this instance, being the red tape entanglements which hair-splitting officials can throw in the way.

Before business could proceed, it was deemed necessary to deposit the gold with the Federal Reserve Bank. But an embargo, dating back to 1920, stands against Russian gold in this country, so, after two weeks' delay—and a loss in interest of about \$10,000, or more than \$700 a day—the Treasury Department ruled against accepting the caskets. Russia's title, it seems, is not quite clear and the millions might be tainted.

Of course, after Germany, we may get more Russian trade from any other nation in the world. And in one way or another—in bills of exchange, for instance, bought with Russian gold in London, or Paris, or Berlin—we are accepting Russian money every day of the year. But these caskets of actual ingots, well, they seem to be different.

Meanwhile the plot thickens and the \$700 daily losses multiply. The Bank of France just has brought suit in the Federal courts of New York to recover the gold bars, on the theory that they are the identical gold sent from Paris to Petrograd in 1917 at the instance of the czar but to be returned to the owner on demand.

Which raises further technicalities. In the first place, this gold is not gold, since there is an embargo against Russian gold and legally no Russian gold can exist in this country.

So far as Uncle Sam is concerned, the caskets contain only "material." In the second place, the United States has never recognized Soviet Russia, so Russia does not exist. And, being non-existent, Russia can not sue or be sued in this country, albeit she occupies one-sixth the land surface of the globe.

So there you are. And yet foreigners call us "the most practical people in the world." It may be a good thing for Soviet Russia, just now, that she does not exist, legally, in this country; otherwise the French might grab the twenty caskets of gold.

But regardless of who owns the yellow treasure, its enforced idleness is now netting somebody an economic loss of about \$30 an hour, \$700 a day, \$22,000 a month or approximately \$275,000 a year.

That much money would pay for a lot of goods. Making these goods would keep a lot of people busy. And they do say we have amongst us considerable unemployment.

For Mellon's Job—C. C. Pyle

Next fall, when the presidential election is over, one of the first duties of the winning candidate will be to select his cabinet. We suggest that when he comes to pick a secretary of the treasury, he give earnest consideration to the name of Mr. C. C. Pyle, sports impresario.

Mr. Pyle, now staging a transcontinental foot race, is a man of parts. He is offering a total of \$48,500 in prizes; he is providing accommodation and food for any number of athletes en route; he is realizing a personal profit of \$100,000 or more on the venture; and the cities and towns through which the racers pass are making money also. The whole thing seems too good to be true.

Republicans and Democrats could take a useful leaf from the book of the Socialist party. They could finance their own party organization, a dollar a member, or something like that, and thereby regain ownership and control.

A Daniel Comes to Judgment

It is so usual to read in the British press "knocks" about the movies because of American predominance in the business, that it comes as a relief to hear what J. A. R. Cairns has to say.

Mr. Cairns happens to be the magistrate who presides over the police court in the meanest part of London. Before him comes all the sordid and sorry tragedies of London's great east end. Not long ago, in an address in the wealthy and fur-trimmed west end, he said:

"The church has lost its hold upon the people of Drab St. It has failed in preaching sermons. It is the human story told in the human way, of virtue and goodness triumphing over vice and filth, that will make for good. I am certain the cinema is the greatest civilizing factor among us. Childhood is introduced into a world of harmonies and beauty, and adolescence and middle age have consolations and vistas of a bigger world than that of work and toll."

About Free Speech

BY BRUCE CATTON

Now one knows right now who the nominees of the two leading political parties will be this year. Whether Senator Thomas J. Walsh has a chance is something for a political expert to say.

But we do like the closing sentence of the statement with which he announced his candidacy. We commend it to some of the favorite sons who have been straining their lungs about their own merits. The senator said:

"If my services to the party have been such as to entitle me to consideration in connection with the presidency, I dare say the rank and file are not ignorant of the fact."

That's rather refreshing. Would that some of our noisier candidates could copy it.

"Blood Will Tell"

One by one, science compels us to scrap our time-honored proverbs. The latest to fall is the old adage, "Blood will tell."

Investigators from the University of Chicago have just made an extended study of 800 children, half of whom were orphans adopted by foster parents. It found that a child's intelligence depends far more on its home environment than on its ancestry.

It found that twenty-six orphans children whose parents had been feeble-minded were brought to normal intelligence by their foster parents. Furthermore, the general behavior of orphans whose parents had been morally defective was fully up to the standard of other children.

"Blood will tell," seems somewhat at fault. Perhaps a future generation will say, "Environment will tell."

John Mays, White House valet, says all chins look alike to him and he'll shave the next president. That lets Hughes out.

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. In leading against a suit bid, when should you take in your quick tricks?

2. Is Q 10 X a stop?

3. When should partner lead his own suit in preference to opening his partner's suit?

The Answers

1. As soon as possible.

2. Probabilities favor it.

3. Only when certain of greater control in his own suit.

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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: In a recent issue of The Times I noticed that Dr. William Kilpatrick, speaking before the midwest conference at Chicago on "Character Development," stated that parents never should say "don't" to their children.

He also advocated the idea of allowing boys to fight other boys on the street and said, "Let him scrap; let him get licked, and he will exercise more caution in choosing his next adversary," all of which I think is "tommyrot" and "poppycock," and, as Billy Sunday says, "Bla!"

We have had enough Hickmans and Hunts already and there are hundreds of others in the making because they don't hear "don't" enough and also have that "don't" followed by chastisement if the mere word is ineffectual.

Poor Mrs. Hickman admired the mischievous nature of her boy. No doubt he seemed too cute to be humbled now and then by a don't. He certainly "exercised caution" in choosing his last adversary—little helpless Marion Parker—one he could "bully" without fear of getting beaten. But soon the hangman's knot will take the place of "don't" in Hickman's case.

I suppose the parents of the 8-year-old James King would agree with Dr. Kilpatrick, instead of James' teacher and Judge Clifton R. Cameron, of the Municipal Court, concerning the spanking James received, but I say, "Three cheers for Miss Brant and the Judge in that case."

I am glad someone tries to curb such unruly youngsters when their parents fail to do so.

Most children these days have no respect for discipline, nor the rights of others.

Our "Times Reader" also seemed to think the worst children were from homes where their mothers worked outside the home.

I myself, believe every mother with children should stay in her home and really watch over her "brood," but I must say that some of the worst children that it has been my misfortune to know are from homes where the mothers do not work in office or factory, but it seems their children are allowed to run the streets seeking what meanness they may!

So let us have more sound judgment like Judge Cameron's and none of Dr. Kilpatrick's!

Solomon's wisdom was given him by God and Solomon said, "Spare the rod and spoil the child." No one's wisdom can compare to God's and He has given us many "Thou Shalt Not's."

A FORMER TEACHER.

Editor Times:

Recently there appeared in your paper an article under the heading "Times Readers' Views," written by Mr. H. F. Creon, 124 N. New Jersey St. In this article Mr. Creon complains of the fact that the Salvation Army did not take up a case when he came to our office, because the case in question was registered with another attorney of the city.

We are quite glad that Mr. Creon says frankly that we were unable to deal with that case because it previously had been registered with another organization and Mr. Creon gave the exact reason.

The Salvation Army conducts its work in a square way towards all other organizations in the city, working in similar fields, and feels that it owes a duty to the citizenship at large, of cooperating in a proper way for the preventing of duplication of effort.

For the benefit of those who may not be aware of the system in vogue in Indianapolis, we wish to point out that there has been established in the city a system of registration for those helped by the various agencies of a charitable character.

When anyone in need of assistance has been registered with one agency, other agencies do not take up the case except in proper cooperation with such agency as may have it registered.

The Salvation Army has agreed to work according to the system in vogue here, and feels that it is doing the thing a Christian organization should do when it lives up to its agreements.

The world is full of sorrow and difficulty, and we would like to be able to alleviate every bit of suffering, as we feel that others also are trying to do.

Perhaps, however, we will be able to eliminate it all, but we believe that we can come nearer accomplishing the ideal by following up a good system of cooperation when once it is agreed upon.

For example, William Abbott, formerly of Sullivan County, now of El Paso, Tex., has presented a claim for \$60,000 for Liberty bonds that he had given to Mr. Lang for safe keeping. The bank, however, has found no record of these bonds, the only evidence of their having been intrusted to Mr. Lang's care being Mr. Abbott's memorandum of the transaction, and just how binding this memorandum would be in law the bank officials and the state banking authorities are not willing to guess.

There are plenty of men in the world whose word is as good as their bond, but their word becomes valueless if something happens to them to make them no longer responsible for their word.

Business transactions, therefore, in order to be safe and beyond risk, must be cold-blooded propositions, even among friends.

If you give a friend money to hold for you or to invest for you you can not help but take a chance to guess.

And here is another important body of citizens who do not want such an occurrence. Nearly half the adult inhabitants of the United States do not belong to any church. Most of them are Christians. Why they do not belong to any of the churches is their own affair in the United States.

It might be well for Pittston's mayor to borrow this well. It was known in Boston, for instance, when a British general used muskets on a group of colonists who wanted to speak their minds about oppression. The Boston massacre, which resulted, was one of the things that led to the Declaration of Independence.

"Blood will tell," seems somewhat at fault. Perhaps a future generation will say, "Environment will tell."

BRIGADIER W. B. SOWERS.

Is *Rin-tin-tin*, the screen dog star, still appearing in the movies?

He has just finished a picture called "Jaws of Steel."

What is the address of the Mayo brothers, the famous surgeons?

Rochester, Minn.

How old is Jack Dempsey?

He was 32 years old June 24, 1927.

What is the correct pronunciation of the first "a" in the word "aviation"?

The "a" is long as in "pray."

Are the Great Lakes "high seas"?

The United States Supreme court has held that the term "high seas" is applicable to the open unenclosed waters of the Great Lakes.

Not These Kinds of 'Levies'



THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION

Abelard Begins Romantic Career

Written for The Times by Will Durant

WHEN the twelfth century—

Dame—was still very young, a student named William of Champeaux secured permission of the Bishop of Paris to lecture on logic, engaged a modest class-room, and slowly gathered students about him.

They were attracted by the scent of heresy; for William had just come from England, where he had studied under the famous "nominist" Roscellin; and the students had corrupted the youth of Athens with the religion of intelligence.

Henceforth it was to be the century not only of the great cathedrals, but also of Abelard.

The universities grew as if Europe had long awaited them. By 1300 there were eighty on the continent. By 1300 Bologna had 20,000 students, and the University of Paris (founded about 1185) 30,000 students.

Paris was then a small provincial town, and Oxford was a trading center at a formidable place on the Thames (Oxford); one might have hoped again the fire of European thought; and in the rival and the classes which they drew about them lay the beginning of the University of Paris.

When these great combatants were dead, the schools which they founded by the professors were not allowed to join, and when they protested that they were the university, the students brought them to terms by deserting first to Arezzo and then to Padua.

So great was the power of the students at Bologna that they chose their own teachers, regulated the time and mode of lecturing and paid the professor's salaries.

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