



## The Indianapolis Times

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

### One More Robinson Blunder

Indiana appears to have among her liabilities a Republican Senator who is a specialist in the art of insinuation. Monday Senator Arthur R. Robinson insinuated against the reputation of a dead man until leading members of his own party sprang to his feet in rebuke, and to defend Franklin K. Lane, dead Democratic Secretary of the Interior.

Then he insinuated against a live man who is able to take care of himself—Governor Al Smith of New York—saying that the Teapot Dome committee should inquire into his belief that Harry F. Sinclair had been a member of the New York racing commission, by appointment of Governor Smith, after contributing to Smith's campaign fund in 1920.

The Senator knows, or should know, that the Teapot Dome Committee has as little to do with this as it has with the spots on the sun. He knows, or should know, that no honorable man would ask a committee of the United States to step outside the limitations of the resolution under which it may be working to besmirch a reputation.

If he does not know, he should know, that he is only sitting in the Senate of the United States today because Senator Reed of Missouri—who rebuked him for traducing a dead man—is an honorable man, who refused to use a committee of the United States Senate for a purpose outside of its power.

When Senator Reed came into Indiana before the 1926 elections to investigate the charge that money and influence were being used improperly in the campaign in which Robinson was running for re-election, much gossip about Robinson was laid before him. It dealt mostly with Robinson's alleged former connections with the man who once ran the Republican organization of Indiana—David C. Stephenson, now in the Indiana State Penitentiary for life.

One of the witnesses who would have testified to these things was actually on the stand before Reed, when the latter discovered what the testimony was supposed to be. The witness was excused without testifying.

Reed held the investigation rigidly within its legal and honorable limitations. Robinson went back to the Senate by a small majority, when, if the charges against him had been broadcast over the State a week before election, he would probably have been snowed under.

That is the man who later attacked Reed in the Senate—by insinuation. That is the man whose insinuations Monday Reed rebuked sufficiently by a passing reference to "Senators who drag extraneous matter out here and impugn the dead whose voiceless lips can not speak in defense of an honorable reputation."

### A Novel in The News Columns

While Rumania teeters on the edge of revolution, across the frontier in Paris the exiled Prince Carol impatiently awaits the courier whose arrival will be the signal for his long-postponed dash for a throne.

In Bucharest, the Rumanian capital, the situation is tense. Intrigue is in the air. Anything can happen as a mob of 60,000 people swarm the streets demanding that the government resign, while the regency—constituted to rule during the next twelve years until the boy king, Michael, son of the exiled Carol, comes of age—grimly holds out at the palace.

What the next chapter will bring forth only the gods can say. For while Rumania fully is living up to best seller fiction, the novel's installments are numbered with the dates on the calendar and there is no turning ahead to see.

The best we can do is to give a synopsis of the story so far, to help you pick up the tale. There was the aged and sickly King Ferdinand and the younger and very beautiful Queen Marie.

Then there was the dashing Crown Prince Carol, who never got along with the prime minister, but whose flair for clandestine amours got him into trouble and led to renunciation of his rights to the crown.

And there was Ion Bratiano, premier-dictator and power behind the throne, who undoubtedly decided that Prince Carol would have to go.

And, finally, there was the little boy prince who fell heir to the kingdom when his disgraced papa renounced it.

King Ferdinand dies. The boy prince becomes king under a regency until his majority. Ion Bratiano, the "man of destiny," also dies, and Vintilla, his brother, steps into his shoes five minutes after Ion passes away.

Meantime, as the novels says, beginning a new chapter, the rumble of discontent which long has been heard in the country grows louder. Ion, the strong man, has been able to suppress it fairly well, but the younger and less able Vintilla was to have his troubles.

The National-Peasant party demanded an end of the Bratiano dictatorship. Refused an election which they wanted in order to prove, they said, that they were in a majority, and denied the right to meet in Bucharest, they entered the city by a subterfuge and called on the regency to fire Vintilla and name Julio Maniu, their leader, in his place.

Again, turned down, they voted to call their members out of the legislature, and so today, according to the dispatches, we find them planning some new coup.

Now to return to Carol. In recent months Carol's hold on his people has been strengthened by events. The arrest of Michael Manolescu, former cabinet member and Carol's friend, as he crossed the border into Rumania for the purpose, it was charged, of putting the prince on the throne, somehow turned against his accusers at the trial and he was freed.

King Ferdinand was pictured as calling for a last

embrace of his exiled son as those about his deathbed stonily refused the request, and sentimental touches like this aided Carol's cause immensely. There is no telling when he may try to come back.

So the plot thickens, a coup seems just around the corner. Certainly there is much discontent. Sensing the peril, Vintilla Bratiano is quoted in the last messages from Bucharest as saying:

"If the opposition fails to keep within the law, we will know how to answer"—a very thinly veiled threat.

For the next installment of this Balkan novel, watch the news columns of the papers.

### Slow to Anger, America Is Aroused

Most puzzling of all the outward phases of the oil scandal has been the public apathy.

For four years now, the revelations have been dribbling forth.

But the righteous indignation that might have been expected did not appear.

What is the reason? Has America in this age of speed and prosperity lost the conscience that once was so outstanding a national characteristic?

Does the increase in luxury and leisure that has accompanied the era of mass production mean moral relaxation? Is history repeating? History that indicates that emphasis on the moral as distinct from the material is an attribute of the pioneer; and that as hardship lessens the moral instinct lets up? Rome is often pointed to in support of that theory.

Anyway, will the American public, fully as capable of moral indignation not so many years ago when the Ballinger expose, mild in comparison with the Teapot Dome, aroused the Nation—will this American public continue apathetic, no matter how much official filth is exposed today? The same American people that demonstrated itself so completely capable of idealistic fervor during the world war?

Our general answer to all those questions is that the American public has not lost its moral sense, despite all the manifestations cited above.

The explanation for the apathy as we see it is the American sense of fair play.

Deep in the make-up of America is the belief in that constitutional provision that a man is presumed innocent until proved guilty. Accordingly, so long as a question of corruption is debatable the public gives the accused the benefit of the doubt.

### Good Taste Best Censor

You remember that a couple of years ago, or less, there was much in the papers about the nudity of New York's musical revues. We had endless discussion of it, and many clamors for some censorship or supervision that would compel the girls to put on more clothes.

No censorship came of it, however, and the producers were allowed to go their own sweet way. And what happened?

Just this: the nudity disappeared. Revues today, for the most part, are featured by elaborate costumes. The public simply got tired of nudity. The producers discovered it was no longer a drawing card. So they bought some dresses.

Which proves, perhaps, that the American public doesn't need any one to protect its morals. Its own good taste is its best protector.

### Saving

A couple of years ago a number of economists were shaking their heads gravely over the growth of installment buying. It was feared that we were learning to live beyond our means, and that the old virtue of thrift was being forgotten.

But apparently there wasn't much cause for alarm. Despite a decline in the average earnings of industrial workers last year, the amount of life insurance written in this country was \$300,000,000 above the 1926 figure. At the same time, savings deposits increased during the year by \$1,368,000,000, while investment securities found more small buyers than ever before.

Thrift is still a national habit. The American has not forgotten how to salt away something for a rainy day.

David Dietz on Science

### In Revolutionary Days

No. 4

MODERN chemistry began with two European scientists who lived during the time of the American Revolution. One was a Frenchman, the other an Englishman who ended his days in this country.

The Englishman was Joseph Priestley, born in 1733. He performed his epoch-making experiment in 1774, just two years before the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Priestley arranged a glass vessel over a variety of substances. He then proceeded to heat these substances with the aid of a large burning glass.

He found that when he heated mercuric oxide in this way—in his day that substance was called "mercurius calcinatus per se"—an "air" was driven out of the substance.

He found further that when a piece of red-hot wood was put into this "air" it immediately burst into flames. We know today as oxygen, by heating mercuric oxide and causing it to decompose.

But though Priestley had discovered oxygen, he did not understand the theory of burning.

He believed, as did others of his day, that substances contained a mysterious something called "phlogiston," and that when substances burned it was because the "phlogiston" was being expelled.

The true nature of burning was proved by the Frenchman Lavoisier. Lavoisier was born in 1743. By a series of brilliant experiments, he proved that if you collected the ashes and gases of a burned substance it weighed more after burning than before.

He proved that burning was a combination of the burning substance with the "air" which Priestley discovered, that is, with oxygen. Today we call that process oxidation.

Priestley was a Nonconformist in religion. He became unpopular and a mob wrecked his home. He fled to America and settled down in Northumberland, Pa. Lavoisier was an aristocrat and once he became unpopular during the French Revolution. As a result, poor Lavoisier lost his head under the guillotine.

### 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. If not reasonably certain of making your contract, should you play your last trump?
2. How many probable tricks should fourth hand have to make an opening bid?
3. How many probable tricks should third hand have to make an opening bid?

#### The Answers

1. No—establish a suit first.
2. At least six.
3. At least five.

### Questions and Answers

You can get an answer to any answerable question of fact or information by writing to Frederick M. Kent, Question Editor, The Indianapolis Times, Washington, D. C., enclosing two cents in stamps for reply. Medical and legal advice cannot be given, but can extended research be made. All other questions will receive a personal reply. Unsolicited requests cannot be answered. All letters must be confidential. You are cordially invited to make use of this free service as often as you please.

EDITOR.

Did Poland fight as an independent government in the World War? At the outset of the World War Poland was divided into three parts, belonging, respectively to Russia, Germany and Austria, and it did not achieve independence until November, 1918. It may be said therefore, that Poland, as an independent country, did not fight in the World War, since it became independent only two days prior to the signing of the armistice.

What is meant by a "certified check?"

A check is certified when the word "certified," "good" or an equivalent is written or stamped on its face with the signature of the cashier or the paying teller of the bank on which it is drawn. The act is held to certify that the signature is genuine, that the drawer has sufficient funds on deposit to pay it and binds the bank to honor the check.

What were the ten best motion pictures of 1927?

The report of the Film Daily's poll of critics on the ten best pictures of 1927 shows "Variety" leading with 129 votes; "Ben-Hur" with 114; "The Big Parade" and "The Black Pirate" with 95; "The Volga Boatman" with 94; "What Price Glory" with 66; "The Sea Beast" with 62 and "La Boheme" with 49.

How did early aviators know whether their airplanes were flying horizontally?

The Wright brothers were the first to employ a means of telling whether their ship was straight. They had a piece of string suitably weighted, about eight inches long, which hung in front of the pilot. By watching the string the pilot could tell whether the ship was side slipping or flying horizontally.

In what direction with relation to the geographic north pole does the magnetic north pole lie?

The magnetic north pole is located in the neighborhood of 70 degrees north latitude and 97 degrees west longitude. Since the only direction on the earth's surface at the geographic north pole is south, it can only be said that the magnetic north pole lies "south" of the geographic north pole.

How are alligator pieces prepared for sale?

Each piece is cut into six pieces, or wedge shaped sections, and if these are too large, each section again is cut into two. Peel and arrange wedges of meat on a bed of lettuce leaves. Either French dressing or mayonnaise may be served, but as the fruit is rich, French dressing is preferred by many people.

What is the verse the last line of which reads, "Buy hyacinths to feed thy soul?"

The line is found in Gullistan (Garden of Roses) by Moshel Eddin Saadi, which reads: "Buy hyacinths to feed thy soul, and from the slender stork two lovers and one to the land of the dead." The hyacinths are the flowers of the soul. It is a familiar Mohammedan proverb.

What is the nationality of the name "Metis?"

It is a Greek name meaning "counsel." In Greek mythology Metis was a daughter of Oceanus (the ocean) and the first wife of Zeus, by whom she was devoured, because he feared she would bear a son mightier than himself; whereupon Athens sprang full-fledged from the head of Zeus.

Why are the edges of nickels smooth instead of being milled like quarters and dimes?

The edges of 5-cent pieces are not milled because they are not made of precious metal. Coins are milled to prevent them from becoming worn or fraudulently reduced.

Did Jetta Gould play in "The Volga Boatman"? What were some of her recent pictures?

Jetta Gould did not play in "The Volga Boatman." Her recent pictures were "The Road to Yesterday," "Fighting Love" and "White Gold."

What is the origin of the name "Maroua?"

Probably it is a form of the French and Teutonic "Marquard," which was an official name originally for the border ward of guard of the border.

What relation is the present King of England to Queen Victoria?

George V is the son of the late Edward VII, who was a son of Queen Victoria. King George is therefore a grandson of Queen Victoria.

When was the last evening gun fired at Ft. McHenry, near Baltimore?

July 19, 1912, the day before it was abandoned as an Army post.

From what book was the photograph of "The Mad Hatter" taken?

It is from an original story written for the screen by Lawrence Stallings.

### Hasn't He Learned His Lesson Yet?



### THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION

## Thomas Is Canonized for Miracle

Written for The Times by Will Durant

POLITICALLY, Thomas is a monarchist; the purpose of social organization, he argues, is unity, and unity can be best effected through a king. But the monarch's power is limited by natural law and right; if he violates these, his subjects need not obey.

Since the moral realm is higher than the political, the spiritual higher than the corporeal, and the ultimate end of man (the Beatific Vision) more important than any early aim, it follows that the church is superior to the state, and has the right at any time to absolve subjects from their allegiance to emperors and kings.

On Thomas' assumptions these were perfectly reasonable conclusions; doubtless a spiritual organization, possessed of eternal truth, and aiming at the moral welfare and everlasting happiness of mankind, was the highest leader that men could have.

It seemed all very natural to the Middle Ages, and men marveled at the order and unity and completeness with which Thomas had expounded their faith to him and the heathen world; only knaves and fools could not refuse to accept the doctrines of the church.

It is true that some holy men suspected Thomas of heresy, that synods at Paris and Oxford condemned him for various minor deviations from traditional beliefs; but the schools accepted his expositions with open arms and hearts; Pope John XXII canonized him on the ground that his syllogisms were miracles; Leo XIII taught that human wisdom had never before reached, and would probably never reach again, so sublime a height as Aquinas.

To this day his texts are the ultimate authority in every Catholic college and university; and if influence is the criterion of greatness, Thomas, whatever our prejudices may be, deserves to be ranked among the greatest thinkers of mankind. There is always a slight possibility that we are wrong; and the church, which has seen many heretics come and go, and has the quiet wisdom of many centuries in it, may be nearer to right and wrong than we.

NEVERTHELESS let us speak our prejudice candidly, and say that perhaps these great scholars were not philosophers at all. A philosopher is a man who follows reason, frail as it is, wherever it may lead him; he is engaged in the greatest and most dangerous adventure of all, the attempt to understand the universe through thought and knowledge alone; he must take nothing for granted, not even the power of reason itself; there is nothing which he may refuse to doubt.

But with the scholastic philosophy was "ancilla theologiae," the hand-maid of theology; reason was not to be trusted, for its corruption was part of the Fall of Man and the punishment inflicted upon hundreds of generations because a man and a woman had eaten an apple; the dogmas of the church, based not on reason but on revelation, were to be accepted as the starting-point and the necessary conclusions of thought; no book might be published unless the ecclesiastical "primatur" certified to the orthodoxy of the doctrine; and the hangman or the stake stood in the offing as the last certification of the truth.

On such a basis deduction was the inevitable method, and a circular fulfylling the inevitable result. For "the wit and mind of man, if it work upon matter, worketh accordingly; but if it work upon itself, as the spider worketh his web, then it is endless, and brings forth indeed cobwebs of learning, admirable for the fineness of thread and work, but of no substance or profit" (Francis Bacon).

WE can bear with scholasticism only through historical perspective. We see it as the training

of the barbarian intellect in the art of thought; in subtlety of logic medieval philosophy has never been surpassed.

Much of the form of our thinking, most of the terms which science and philosophy still use, go back to these great minds, who in their helpless power remind us of lions pacing their cages restlessly, with eyes forever seeking some escape.

And though Albert and Thomas did not escape, their successors did, or showed the way: Duns Scotus weakened the whole structure of scholasticism by admitting the irrationality of dogma, and the subordination of intellect to will; William of Occam went back to nominalism, reduced theism and immortality to beliefs intellectually questionable, but morally desirable, and invented, as first aid for endangered thinkers, the clever doctrine of the "two truths"—that a doctrine might be true in theology and wrong in philosophy.

Unwillingly and unwittingly, St. Thomas was the prelude to Bruno and Descartes, and even a premonition of Voltaire; these difficulties which he so honestly expressed, and so trustfully answered, would rise again and would not be satisfied so easily. As one stands on the peak of scholasticism, one sees the dawn of the Renaissance, and, far off, the peaks of the Enlightenment.

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(To Be Continued)

### With Other Editors

The Michigan City Penitentiary is virtually filled, the Penitentiary Reformatory is trying to accommodate several hundred more prisoners than its supposed capacity, and the Woman's Prison can not even take in one more prisoner for the time being.

If this situation were peculiar to Indiana it might be considered a local condition due to some peculiar circumstance or set of them, but it is general.

Crime has increased all out of proportion in recent years, especially among the young. It has shown a tremendous increase in your home town.

One would suppose that here is a problem whose attempted solution would occupy the public mind almost to the exclusion of everything else, but it is not so.

Of course there are hundreds of scattered agencies, and here and there a scientific inquirer, trying to find out what it all means and to get down to the grass roots of it, but there is no coordinated, expert, nation-wide, effort along that line.

We can attribute the crime increase to the war, or prohibition, or lax parental control, or to too many laws and just let it go at that. The unanswered question always is, "What are we going to do about it?"

Gary Post-Tribune

Will Hays won't be such an apostle of purity from now on. Will got something of a jolt when Forbes told him he sat in on the Harding poker parties—not that poker playing is a crime but that Will always played a different game with the public.

And now Will is finding it impossible to explain his peculiar handling of the Sinclair bonds. It is known that some of the bonds he handled were the profits of the secret Canadian company about which Colonel Stewart refused to testify. The bonds represented a large sum and Will did not want it known his party was accepting such a contribution from Sinclair.

So Will sent the bonds out to party members asking them to contribute the money as coming from themselves. Such a request should have looked peculiar to anyone. It was not fair and it was not honest. Yet some Republicans felt for it.

However, it is to the credit of Secretary Mellon and Chairman Butler that they turned Will down immediately. The bonds were sent

back because the two men did not care to take credit for something they did not do.

Either Mellon or Butler could have gone further. Indeed, in view of their position in the party they probably should have gone further. Will did not own the party and they should have protected it from his dishonesty. The party would stand better today had they done so.

But Will is about cooked. And it all goes to show what most everyone knows that the slippery customer usually slips. Yet there have been slippery customers and there will be others.

We wonder what the movies will do with their uplifter, now that the muck covers him up to his eyebrows?

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## M. E. TRACY