



# 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 their 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 himself 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 Manu, 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 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.

Any way, 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.

It is true that some holy men suspected Thomas of heresy, that syndics 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 in Aquinas.

It is true that 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

say that perhaps these great schoolmen 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 schoolmen 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 "imprimatur" 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 futility the inevitable result. For "the wit and mind of man, if it work upon matter, worketh according to the stuff, and is limited thereby; 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).

What is the origin of the name "Maroua"?

Probably it is a form of the French and Teutonic "Marguard," 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.

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

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

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From what book was the play "The Big Parade" taken?

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

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Was Lavoisier a Nonconformist in religion?

He became 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 hence was unpopular during the French Revolution. As a result, poor Lavoisier lost his head under the guillotine.

# 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.)

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

### The Answers

- No—establish a suit first.
- At least six.
- At least five.

## Questions and Answers

You can get an answer to any answerable question of fact or information by writing to Frederick M. Kirby, Question Editor, The Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1325 Broadway, New York, N. Y., enclosing two cents postage. Legal advice cannot be given, nor can extended research be made. All other correspondence is confidential. Unsigned requests cannot be answered. All letters are confidential. You are cordially invited to use 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 "accepted," "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.

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

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 north pole is 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 did early aviators know whether their airplanes were flying horizontally?

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