



# 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.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 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."

## Open the Boxes

Two years ago the people of Indiana went to the polls lacking information and misled by the vehement denials of Senators Watson and Robinson, Congressman Updike and Chairman Clyde Wallb that there had ever been anything to hide in Indiana.

Today the people have had one peak behind the curtains and know that there was very much to hide.

At that time the Governor of this State was one of the leading campaigners for the two men who again seek the higher braces of power and for the Congressman in this district who once more asks for support of his fellow partisans.

But the Governor is not speaking this year. The Times produced for the public a canceled check for \$2,500 given him by Stephenson. On that check was a notation that it was part of a \$10,000 contribution to the Jackson campaign, although Jackson had denied in weasel words that he had received checks from the former dragon.

The Governor then said that this was the price of The Senator, a riding horse which choked to death on a corn cob.

The Governor has been on trial since then on a charge of offering to Warren T. McCray, when Governor, a bribe of \$10,000. Indicted with him was Boss Coffin, who is still to go to trial. The Governor escaped on a plea of the statute of limitations, entered after the jury had listened to evidence which his attorneys must have believed to have been convincing, or they would not have placed him in his present humiliating and degraded position of retaining the highest office in the State by pleading that he was not caught soon enough.

The public knows these things. It knows others, but it does not know all.

The grand jury which indicted the Governor had before it the black boxes of Stephenson, whose existence was denied by the unholly alliance that now proposes to endorse Watson for President, send Robinson back to the Senate and Ralph Updike back to Congress.

Some of the contents of those boxes are known. One of the documents was, admittedly, a letter of thanks from the Robinson household for a Christmas gift of a pearl necklace. It is now said that the pearls were cheap imitations.

Senator Robinson should demand at once that Prosecutor Remy produce the original of that letter and let the people judge for themselves whether it indicates ten-cent bargains or something different. The letter, under no stretch of the imagination, can be of any use in prosecuting hidden crimes.

It is whispered and more than whispered that within that box is a written contract from Ralph Updike, in which he pledged to Stephenson all the patronage of his office, including the postmastership of Indianapolis, in return for support.

The grand jury has reported that it was there, but that it was beyond the statute of limitations.

If Updike does not demand from Remy that he make public this document, no longer evidence of crime, then the people should.

Those black boxes of Stephenson are supposed to contain his political secrets. Not all documents were evidence of crime. Many of them merely showed the sinister alliances and secret deals with men who again seek power.

It would be very unfortunate if the Republican party or the Democratic party should go to the primaries lacking the knowledge which these boxes may contain.

There should be a concerted demand by all candidates of all parties for a glimpse at those boxes. Those who did not deal with Steve have a right to be free from suspicion. Those who did have contacts, should be known.

## Amanullah's Good Will

Shed a tear, if you will, for the harrassed statesmen of Europe, who must abase themselves now and then to keep small but important rulers on the right side.

Afghanistan is a fifth-rate kingdom, and Amanullah, its king, is surely a fifth-rate king. Yet Afghanistan, by virtue of its strategic location on the border of India is important. Amanullah's good will is needed by the European powers.

So, when Amanullah visited Paris, London and Berlin, they had to be nice to him. Amanullah made it hard for them. He bought many things in the shops and did not pay. French, British and German governments had to foot the bill. They had to cater to his whims, according him high honors, palaver and kowtow to him.

Cheerfully would they have booted him back to his mountain fastnesses. But they dared not. His good-will was needed. Sad, indeed, is the life of the European statesmen.

## Speeding Up Justice

Justice Jennings Bailey of the District of Columbia court did everyone a service when he picked a jury for the Sinclair trial in a little more than three hours.

We are used to seeing weeks spent in the selection of a jury for a "big" case. Justice Bailey couldn't see any use for such delay; so he took things into his own hands, reduced objections and questions to a minimum, questioned the veniremen himself—and filled the box before the lawyers knew quite what was happening.

It was a splendid bit of work. Would that more judges would copy him.

## June Victory and November Defeat

Cutting off the nose to spite the face is an operation not unknown to politics.

And it is entirely possible that such an event may happen within the Republican party some time between June and November.

Rapid growth of Smith strength is the most obvious thing in today's political situation.

The convention results in Oklahoma, a Klan hotbed only a few years ago; events in North Carolina and in other sections previously conceded to be anti-Smith territory—all add credence to what the more ardent Smith advocates have contended all the time, that Al Smith is the only Democrat who has a chance for the nomination.

Regardless of personal desires in the matter, the fact must be admitted—Smith is gaining and his opposition is waning.

Meanwhile, in the Republican camp, those opposing the leading candidate, Hoover, continue to go to the secretary of the interior, Mr. Fall. That seemed all right, anyway it was what the admirals and his friends wanted, so he did it.

After that everything went to pieces. There was scandal, charges of bribery and corruption. It seemed that Mr. Fall had leased the Teapot dome to Mr. Sinclair, and taken money from him for some reason.

The Senate began investigating. Finally there was such a hue and cry, the public got excited and—they said he and the others had done something crooked. Of course he resigned. That was the only thing to do, they said.

That he would make the strongest vote-getting Republican candidate is admitted even by many of his most active enemies.

Now, with the nomination of Smith, what is likely to happen if those Republicans who are against Hoover at all cost are successful at Kansas City?

Could the dark horse that the Hoover opposition wants to bring forth win against Al Smith?

Would the Republican party, already round-shouldered with the handicap of the oil scandal, be able to outrun the fleet-footed New York Governor?

In the opinion of this newspaper, it would not.

We believe that Hoover is the only hope for a Republican victory, and that any other nominee the Republicans might present would make 1928 a Democratic year.

For whatever such an opinion may be worth, it is offered to Hilles of New York and Carmi Thompson of Ohio and all the others who are so ardently engaged in trying to win in June that they are forgetting the race doesn't end until November.

## The Boulder Dam Bill

One of the most important measures before Congress this year is the Swing-Johnson bill for construction of Boulder Canyon dam, upon which debate starts in a day or two in the Senate.

This is not only a flood control measure, though flood control is the basic reason for its existence.

It is not alone a matter of protecting water rights of Western States or of storing waters for irrigation, though these are major parts of the project.

The question of international division of the waters of the Colorado, vital though it is, is not the most pressing one concerned.

This project involves the question of whether the Government of the United States may protect its citizens from flood, may secure them in their water rights, may save them from destruction by drought, when doing these things will interfere even in a remote degree with the business of private power companies.

Private power interests have fought Boulder dam for years, not because the Government is "going into business," because it is not, but because they fear the precedent established by Government participation in only one angle of their business, generation of power, will demonstrate to the country that rates now being charged the public are excessively high.

To prevent this, power companies have organized the strongest lobby ever seen in Washington.

David Dietz on Science

## Gravity Is on the Job

No. 28

THE behavior of the force of gravity is the first concern in a discussion of the possibility of shooting a rocket to the moon or any of the planets.

The force of gravity is accumulative. Its effect upon a falling object is to accelerate its rate of fall continuously.

This phenomenon is called the acceleration of gravity.

Suppose a ball is dropped from the top of a high building. At the instant it is dropped, it has zero velocity. At the end of the first second its velocity will be 16 feet per second.

Who wrote it? Fall's son-in-law, Clarence C. Chase, told the Senate committee he knew of none but himself and Fall who could have written it and he did not know either.

"Then it was done by Fall?" he was asked. "I don't know. I would like to say so," Chase replied.

The Sinclair-Fall defense is based on the claim that the money Sinclair gave Fall was not a bribe, but part payment for the ranch. Fall will write the mystery memorandum? If so, what is left of the defense? The Government wants to know.

Each second thereafter, gravity will accelerate its velocity by 32 feet per second.

Therefore in the first second it will fall 16 feet. In the next second it will fall 48 feet. In the third second it will fall 96 feet. And so on.

If a building is 144 feet high, it will take an object three second to fall from the roof to the ground.

But suppose instead of dropping an object, a gun is fired. Suppose further that the gun is in a horizontal position. How long will it take the bullet to fall to the ground?

It will take exactly three seconds.

Surprising as that answer may seem, it is a fact. Gravity exercises its full effect upon the bullet quite irrespective of the fact that the bullet is in horizontal position.

That is the reason why gun sights are adjusted for various ranges. To hit a target, you must always aim above it. That is done to allow for the drag which gravity will cause in the flight of the projectile.

Large cannon are always aimed into the air at a high elevation. If that were not done the shell would be pulled to the ground by gravity long before it ever reached its mark.

The flight of the projectile in that case would be like that shown as Path A in the accompanying diagram.

However, if a shell could be fired with sufficient velocity, it would go right around the earth. Its path would then be that shown as C in the diagram.

A still higher velocity would cause the shell to go right into open space as shown at C.

But no one is sufficiently optimistic at the present time to think that such velocity are possible.

To date, the best any big gun does is to hurl a projectile about 32 miles.

It was a splendid bit of work. Would that more judges would copy him.

## KEEPING UP With THE NEWS

BY LUDWELL DENNY

THIS is the story of a man who started at the bottom, who became a high Government official, who made a mistake and was driven from public life. The story of a man who returned willing to take all the blame to save an associate from prison, and they drove him out.

They would not listen. So he failed again, and he dragged himself back to his obscurity, a little dazed and wondering in his mind—just as he never had been sure what it was all about.

Perhaps you remember Denby. A big fellow, hearty, always laughing. People liked him, he was so willing. They elected him to Congress.

When the war came, he went right in and as a private, though everyone said he could have obtained a commission if he had tried. After the war, he saw more of less his friend Mr. Harding. When Harding went to Washington as President, he went, too, as secretary of the Navy.

Pretty soon, something came up about transferring naval oil reserves to the secretary of the interior, Mr. Fall. That seemed all right, anyway it was what the admirals and his friends wanted, so he did it.

After that everything went to pieces. There was scandal, charges of bribery and corruption. It seemed that Mr. Fall had leased the Teapot dome to Mr. Sinclair, and taken money from him for some reason.

The Senate began investigating. Finally there was such a hue and cry, the public got excited and—they said he and the others had done something crooked. Of course he resigned. That was the only thing to do, they said.

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