



The Indianapolis Times

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

"As I walk about the Courthouse square I seem to hear the sharp filing of the affidavit and the soft quashing of the indictment."

No, you're wrong. This was written by Bill Nye forty years ago.

The Power of Coffin

Last week Tom Adams made a demand that the State Republican chairman, Fay Kitzelman, remove Boss Coffin from the Republican chairmanship in this county in advance of the primaries. He has the power.

Adams gave good and sufficient reasons for this demand and other candidates for office, who have no reason to expect favors from Coffin, would do well to back up his demand for a fair and honest count of votes.

The power of Coffin rests very largely upon the manner in which the votes are delivered in six wards in this city.

Those same six wards very often determine the outcome in the entire State. This year the manner in which the votes are counted may determine the nomination for the presidency itself.

The power of Coffin rests very largely upon his control of the election machinery. The men he has named in six wards have not been such as to inspire any great public confidence. There have been too many whose names figure in the criminal court records as being on parole and over whom there rests some measure of fear of the bosses.

The mathematics in these wards has been so peculiar that it is a matter of common knowledge that one of the judges elected two years ago formed a battalion of young associates to patrol these wards to prevent election thefts.

In the name of that much vaunted "new deal," it would seem imperative that steps be taken to remove Coffin at once in order that no doubt rests upon the result in this county and that the voters be given an opportunity to register their wishes and be sure that those wishes will be found in the official returns.

Coffin is no longer under indictment. The charge against him was dismissed very suddenly on Saturday.

The reason advanced is that the evidence of the charge against him of conspiring with Ed Jackson to bribe Warren T. McCray in order to obtain a friendly prosecutor to permit election frauds, would be the same as against Jackson and that it would be impossible to prove that Coffin had actually concealed his crime for two years.

The State failed to discover the crime until it was exposed by this newspaper.

The motion of dismissal constitutes a new charge against Coffin, for it implies that he is free only by the statute of limitations.

Otherwise he would be on trial instead of dealing with the candidates who are willing to rise to power through his favor and his friendship.

Will the Republicans of the State dare to go to the primaries with the leadership in the biggest county in the hands of a man who is free from trial under such conditions?

Will the candidates for office of Governor and Senator and President accept such a condition, with all its possibilities and its probabilities?

The power of Coffin is not ended. It began, if the statement of Stephenson is correct, in a convention where the money of Stephenson was plentiful.

But it rests now upon the fact that Coffin is the chief supporter of Senator Arthur Robinson and brings to his own aid the great power of the head of the Anti-Saloon League, known to be ready to sacrifice any other consideration in order to keep his telephone boy in the Senate.

The dismissal of the indictment without a trial, the urgency of the Anti-Saloon League and the usual unfair tactics its head employed in behalf of Robinson, the irksome alliance with Watson, who fears to desert Robinson, the undercover deal for the "surprise" candidate for Governor who will be a shock to Schortemeier, Jewett and Leslie, who have promises of support, the further factor that the fate of Herbert Hoover nationally may rest on those six bad wards of Coffin control, all demand action.

The votes this year must be counted and counted straight.

Just what chance is there of this with Coffin in control in this county?

History of past elections gives the answer. Will Mr. Kitzelman act and act quickly to save not only his party but the reputation of Indiana itself?

Sinclair's Acquittal

The effect on our social structure of the Sinclair acquittal will be widespread and far-flung.

The first reaction will be to stimulate cynicism.

Those who propounded the theory that you

KEEPING UP THE NEWS

BY LUDWELL DENNY

CONSIDER the case of Hilles, New York Republican boss, who has everything with which to stop Hoover's presidential nomination—except a candidate.

The President, having rebuked Hilles again for the "embarrassing" and "compromising" so-called draft-Coolidge movement, Hilles' henchmen announce they will continue to work for unscrupulous delegations committed to Coolidge.

This indicates apparently that Hilles is out to beat Hoover at any cost and will go on using Coolidge's name as a blind for a dark horse.

Also there seems little doubt that this surprise candidate is former Secretary of State Hughes.

On the surface, this appears somewhat stupid, since Hughes also has withdrawn, declining an invitation to be the convention keynote, and declaring he is too old to be a candidate.

HILLES, however, had his reasons, and the same reasons for his last-ditch opposition to Hoover explain his tenacity in clinging to Coolidge and Hughes after they have withdrawn.

First, Hilles is the spokesman for Wall street. The big bankers from which Hilles gets campaign contributions have blackballed Hoover. They blame Hoover for blocking cancellation of foreign debts to our Government, which would enslave the value of large foreign debts held by them. They fear a president who, while generally favorable to capital, would make his own decisions, as Hoover does.

These bankers have three choices for President. First, Coolidge; second, Hughes; third, Davies.

The second reason for Hilles' tactics springs from the New York State political situation and its relation to the national election.

Hilles expects Governor Smith of New York to be the Democratic candidate. If Smith carries New York, he has a fair chance of being elected. This would mean not only national defeat for the Republican party, but, of more importance to the New York Republican boss, it would mean defeat in New York State.

Hence the insistence of Coolidge there are no only Republicans who can stop a Smith landslide—unless it be the "unacceptable" Hoover.

EVEN the Democrats agree with Hilles that Coolidge or Hughes might be the most effective opponents of Smith in New York, but they say Hoover would be much stronger than Davies.

Where does this leave Hilles and the so-called draft Coolidge movement? It leaves them in a position of observers do not agree with announcements by Hilles associates that the President's fourth and sharpest withdrawal statement leaves the situation unchanged.

The President's action reduces the Hilles group from a positive to a negative force. Hoover is given a freer run from now to convention time.

If through large popular votes in preferential primaries and a dominating block of delegates at the Kansas City convention Hoover is chosen to be his party's real choice, Hilles will have no opportunity to make unauthorized use of the names of Coolidge or Hughes.

Hoover headquarters claimed today twenty solid State delegations and more than 500 votes on the first ballot, out of 545 necessary to nominate.

BUT if the Lowden-Dawes group drives up enough votes to deadlock the convention, there seems to be no doubt that Hilles then will try to stampede the convention for Coolidge or Hughes, on the theory that no man will decline the nomination after it is given.

Whether the convention ever reaches this critical deadlock point probably will depend on Secretary Mellon with his Pennsylvania and other delegates. If he swings to Hoover, as the commerce secretary's managers expect, then Hilles probably will have to make a quick grab at the rear of the band wagon as it goes by.

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.)

1. What is the quick trick value of K Q?

2. What is the quick trick value of A Q?

3. What is the quick trick value of A Q?

THE ANSWERS

1. One.

2. One.

3. One and one-quarter.

This Date in U. S. History

April 23

1743—Birth of Thomas Jefferson.

1791—Birth of James Buchanan, fifteenth president.

1813—Birth of Stephen A. Douglas.

1861—Robert E. Lee accepted command of Virginia troops.

1879—Thomas A. Edison received a patent on the electric light.

1898—President McKinley called for 125,000 two-year volunteers.

Daily Thought

Charity shall cover the multitude of sins.—1 Peter 4:8.

CHARITY itself consists in acting justly and faithfully in whatever office, business and employment a person is engaged.—Byenborg.

Hey, What Kind of a Game Is This Anyhow?



THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION

Florentines Play in Artistic Luxury

Written for The Times by Will Durant

WE ARE dining at Lorenzo's table, in the palace of the Medici. It is an immense room, ornate from ceiling to floor; you had not expected such wealth and luxury from the harsh fortress-like exterior; but that exterior was made for enemies, while this room was made for friends.

Here wealth is anxious to graduate from means to ends, from money to beauty, from power to grace, and from force to courtesy; on every wall great paintings, in every corner statues and every inch of the ceiling adorned with luxury, forms and rich designs; on the floor colorful mosaics and soft rugs; every chair a work of art, embellishing the room, and every table laden with gold or inlaid with precious stones. Here taste has passed from timid puberty to an audacious adolescence. Infancy is over, but maturity has not come.

We are out of place at this table, because we are not giants. What men these Florentines are—each body here seems powerful and muscular, every head gaunt or enormous, every face alive with energy; every eye is the eye of Italy. And yet these men are not Italians only; obviously there is German stock in them, and the great invasions of the last thousand years have vitalized the desiccated blood of the parched peninsula.

But their clothing is not German; there is nothing of Luther's sternness, or Erasmus' simplicity, about these bright garments; their voluptuous texture and enticing color, their lace and silk and gold reveal the Orient, and tell of the trade that Florence has developed with the East.

"It is a common thing," says a contemporary Englishman envious of these Italians, "to put a thousand goats and a hundred oxen on a coat and to carry a whole manor on one's back."

THE women are not more brightly clothed than the men; the French Revolution has not come yet to put an end to variety and color in dress. But the women are radiant with Italian fire and verve; brilliant of eye and speech, dominating with submission; gracing themselves with literature and philosophy, creating the new art of conversation and practicing only such reserve as makes them perfect in the art of love.

They are free now as never since the days of Imperial Rome; chivalry disappears because women no longer tolerate condescension; "women stand on a perfect footing of equality with men" in these higher strata of Florentine society; in Anne and Margaret of France, in Margaret of Savoy, in Vittoria Colonna and Lucrezia Borgia, in Catherine de Medici and Mary Queen of Scots and Elizabeth Queen of England, women emerge into history and the feminist movement begins; henceforth civilization will be bisexual.

But who are these others at the table—scolders, poets, artists? Are they, too, right? and if not, what brings them to this palatial scene? In truth they are the brightest ornaments of the feast; Lorenzo could not bear to be without them; he is ashamed of having wealth without art and has gathered about him the men who are reviving ancient letters and creating modern sculpture and painting.

Here, morose and silent, like some young Ignatius brooding on human wrongs and sufferings, is Michelangelo Buonarroti, who is carving for Lorenzo a laughing faun; and here is a lad more worthy of angelic name, as beautiful as a woman, as modest and tender as a girl; Lorenzo has just recommended him—Leonardo da Vinci—to the Duke of Milan, not so much as an artist, but as a charming player of the lute.

But more numerous than the artists here are the scholars. For these merchants have traveled East and learned to envy its classic lore; they have brought back with them manuscripts and teachers of Greek literature; and all Florence is agog with them.

The first to come were Chrysoloras and Chalcondyles; others followed when the triumphant Turks made Constantinople uncomfortable for them; they brought the restless spirit of Athenian thought to fertilize the lazy ovum prepared by medieval Europe; they officiated at that marriage of two eras and two cultures which was to produce the mind of modern Europe.

AND now a group of avid scholars has grown up to carry on their work and the Medici have supported them lavishly. Here is Pomponius Laetus, whose classroom is filled to overflowing, every day at dawn, with eager students who have stood in line since midnight to secure a place. Here is Francesco Piccolino, who is making Greek literature the rage of Florence: "My audience numbers every day four hundred persons, mostly men of the dignity of senators—my name is on every lip; not only the leaders of the city, but women also, of the noblest birth—pay me so much respect that I am ashamed of their worship."

Here is Angelo Poliziano, "who has one head and three tongues," who rendered the Iliad into Latin when he was sixteen, and is now, at thirty, professor of Greek and Latin at the University of Florence. Here is Marsilio Ficino, whose life Lorenzo has dedicated to the study and translation of Plato; day and night

Ficino, having forgotten other altars, burns a candle before the image of the philosopher who dared to write wisdom beautifully.

Here is his rival, Pico della Mirandola, who loves the new-discovered Plato the other side idolatry, and who announces to the world the end of the reign of Aristotle. And here is Pulci, the bluff satirist whom Byron will some day paraphrase with imple joy.

And at the head of them all is Lorenzo. He is the grandson of Cosmo, who was great before him; Cosmo the wily banker, who gradually bound the leading men of Florence in debt to him, and so rose quietly to be his "despot," ruling by the law of virtu—intelligence and force. Cosmo who had eighty banks in Florence and branches all over the world; Cosmo who gave orders to his fiscal agents everywhere to spare no expense in gathering manuscripts and works of art; Cosmo who hired large numbers of copyists, built great libraries, gave many scholars free draft on his banks and abolishing every rank but that of genius—opened his house to all and played godfather to the Renaissance. How could a man be little, being the grandson of such a man? (Copyright, 1928, by Will Durant)

(To Be Continued)

Questions and Answers

You can get an answer to any answerable question of fact or information by writing to Frederick M. Kott, Question Editor, The Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1222 New York Ave., Washington, D. C., enclosing two cents in stamps for reply. Medical and legal advice cannot be given, nor can editorial reach be guaranteed. All questions will receive a personal reply. Unsigned requests cannot be answered. All correspondence should be addressed to this free service as often as you please. EDITOR.

Who was Lady Godiva? Wife of Leofric, first Earl of Mercia. Tennyson makes her the heroine of a poem, "Godiva, a Tale of Coventry," which is founded on a legend first printed by Roger of Wendover in his Flores (1237) and later (1613) versified by Drayton. In Tennyson's version Godiva begs her husband to remit any oppressive tax under which Coventry has grown destitute. He agreed, making a condition that he thought was impossible, that she should ride naked through the town at midday. She took him at his word, first giving notice that all doors and windows in town should be closed and that no one should stir abroad at noon, and rode naked protected only by her long hair.

When the sheriff of a county assaults a citizen on the street and the injured party fails in getting the prosecutor of the same county to prosecute, how should he proceed to get around the prosecutor? In case a special grand jury is called to investigate the case, can all members be picked from an organization to which the sheriff belongs?

The citizen should appeal to the judge of circuit court, or criminal court, if the county has a criminal court. The judge may appoint a special prosecutor to take action if he sees fit. The venire for grand jury service is drawn by jury commissioners from names selected from the tax list. It is very unlikely the jurors all would belong to any particular organization, if the selection is made according to law.

Can old vinegar barrels be made fit for the storage of any other liquid?

Old vinegar barrels become impregnated to such an extent with acetic substances that it is next to impossible to render them fit for the storage of any other liquid. Filling them with milk of lime and letting them remain for several months then rinsing them thoroughly with warm water and steaming them inside for half an hour may make them sweet.

Who were the best men Dempsey defeated?

Jess Willard, Billy Miske, Bill Brennan, Luis Firpo, Tommy Gibbons and George Carpentier in the opinion of one fight expert.

Please tell me the exact location of Hollywood, Cal. I can not find it on any map.

Hollywood is located about twelve miles south of Los Angeles and is shown on few maps.

When did Emma Eames, the opera singer, die?

In 1925.

Is Ricardo Cortez the real name of the actor?

His real name is Jacob Cranston. He was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France, Sept. 19, 1899.

In what hotel or hotels do members of the Mutual Bureaucratic Circle stop when in Indianapolis?

Most of the company stop at the Lincoln or Severin.

What is an anemometer?

An instrument which indicates pressure of the wind.

Who played opposite Colleen Moore in "Naughty But Nice"?

Donald Reed.

TRACY

SAYS: "Albert Fall Was Not Only Fortunate in the Friends Fate Threw in His Way, but in the Fact That They Were Well Heeled With Cash in His Hour of Need."

SINCLAIR is acquitted, Wilkins flies over the Arctic and Rome celebrates her two thousand six hundred eighty-first birth.

Which of these events will make the most history?

You can answer the question by recalling that Rome had quite a few Sinclair cases, but never a Wilkins. Indeed, Rome never guessed there was such an ocean as the Arctic, much less that man would ever fly over it.

Where U. S. Court Falls

Some things have changed considerably since Romulus and Remus put that townsite on the market, but others have not.

They knew nothing about oil, but the chances are they would have made no worse mess of an oil scandal.

If the rest of us are fortunate in living in the days of airplane and flivver, Sinclair is fortunate that he did not have to appear before a court of the early Roman republic.

Pity for Sinclair

According to the jury, Sinclair is more to be pitied than condemned. "A victim of circumstances," one of the twelve explained, which would be all right if it did not leave folks a little puzzled as to what the circumstances were.

Was it the misfortune of having to take three-quarters of a million by way of profit from the Continental Trading Company that got Sinclair into trouble, or did an oversupply of Liberty Bonds make it impossible for him to resist the temptation of buying a third interest in former Secretary Fall's ranch?

Fates of Friendship

Doheny having been let off on the ground that he was just a good hearted old prospector who could not pass up a former buddy in distress, it was probably consistent to free Sinclair on the ground that he could not withstand the desire to promote a country club 300 miles beyond the last frontier of golf.

Albert Bacon Fall was not only fortunate in the friends whom fate threw in his way, but in the fact that they were well heeled with cash in his hour of need.

If Sinclair was a "victim of circumstance," Fall was certainly a beneficiary.

Few Convictions of Money

It would be interesting to learn just how many times the question of whether millionaires can be convicted in this country has been asked during the last twenty-four hours.

Not that any one has or could answer it, but that people's curiosity is aroused and the record is such as to leave plenty of room for debate.

Whether millionaires can be convicted in this country, comparatively very few of them have been.

Safe for Millionaires

The secret of why this country has become so safe for millionaires is not hard to penetrate.

Justice has become a matter of hired advocates. You cannot get a hearing, much less results, without one or more of them to catch her ear.

It follows, as a matter of course, that the best advocate commands the highest price and that the man who has the price commands his services.

How much have Government counsel received for all their hard work in connection with the Doheny-Fall-Sinclair case?

On the other hand, how much have counsel for the defense received?

The attorney general of the United States does not make as much in a year as many lawyers get for a single opinion.

Power of the Vote

Having failed in court, we can still emulate Chicago and go to the ballot box.

We would not be able to reach the millionaires in that way, to be sure, but we could reach the sodden crowd of politicians who have played and connived with them against the public interest.

It was not through a court of justice, or by the verdict of a jury that Chicago freed herself from the Small-Crowe-Thompson machine, but by that good old weapon, the vote.

That weapon still remains in the hands of the people, and by using it intelligently, they can end not only this oil scandal, but the crowd that made it possible.

Throw G. O. P. Out

Decent, straight-thinking Republicans have an opportunity to clean up their party. If they fail, the American people have no choice, but to clean it out.

Unless the action of the Republican party which is sympathetic toward, if not responsible for the graft, debauchery and ring rule which have played such a conspicuous part in American politics for the last four years is overborne at Kansas City, and a candidate nominated who will have nothing to do with it, the American people have no alternative, but to throw the Republican party out of power.

Who played opposite Colleen Moore in "Naughty But Nice"?

Donald Reed.