



The Indianapolis Times

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

Those Clean Hands

Senator Watson is back in Indiana, fighting to save his political machine, fighting, too, to serve the political interests with which he has been allied in the past in their effort to "stop Hoover."

He has some very interesting statements to make on his arrival. None is more interesting than his assertion that he comes with "clean hands."

Of course, his declaration that he has made no bargains with candidates for the Senate or the governorship will interest several gentlemen, who thought they have such understandings with him.

That will interest most of all Boss Coffin in this county and Dr. E. S. Shumaker, who are interested in Arthur Robinson to the exclusion of all else and support Watson only on the theory of a reciprocity of favors.

They will undoubtedly very accurately interpret the statement of Watson as indicating that Watson has found that Robinson is too heavy a handicap in this race and has tossed him overboard. Unless, of course, they believe that Watson was not speaking the exact truth when he says he has no alliances.

But the clean hands of Watson furnish the humor of the present campaign.

The people of this State know that at any time he desired or wished, Watson could have saved his party from Stephensonism, Klanism, Coffinism.

The people know that the Watson machine of two years ago which sent him back to the Senate with a most doubtful certificate of victory, was composed very largely of those who went into power with Stephenson, and that Watson at that time was working with these men.

There is ample evidence that Watson sidered Stephenson a most valuable ally to his fortunes and that he held at least one long private conference with him in advance of the appointment of Federal judges for this State.

Two years ago when the State was demanding investigations, Senator Watson, then as now, declared that there had been no political crimes.

It will be recalled that when Jackson and Walb finally were forced by Col. Theodore Roosevelt to deny their guilt, Watson changed between six and nine o'clock in the evening his statement that there has been no sin to one of rampant demands for inquiry.

It will be recalled, too, that in his campaign of two years ago and in the present campaign, Watson depends upon George Coffin to deliver the votes in this county and that he is the political playmate of all the bad boys in the party.

Watson now says, very correctly, that the crimes which have been committed in his State cannot be charged to the Republican party.

That is true as applies to the men and women who vote that ticket from principle.

It is not true as it affects the party leadership, which is the same today as it was when the men who committed these crimes went into office.

And think of the crimes—political all of them.

There is Governor Jackson, escaping prison by the statute of limitations. His offer of a bribe was for political purposes which had as their design the building of the machine which conquered and which is now the bulk of Watson's strength.

There is Coffin, still in charge of the election machinery, who escapes trial on the same statement of facts.

There was Duvall, under sentence for the corruption of elections and driven from office.

There is Walb, his State chairman of two years, ago on trial in a Federal court.

What has Watson done to clean the party leadership which he asserts and maintains is his as the "favorite son?"

What has he done to insure the people of the State that there will be an honest election in Marion County?

What has he offered as a means of purging the party leadership of its corrupt influences and its criminal cogs?

Well, of course he has publicly unloaded Arthur Robinson by disavowing the alliance which has existed for the past two years. That is something to his credit.

The Deaths of 164 Aviators

One hundred sixty-four aviators were killed in flights in the United States last year.

At first glance, that looks as if aviation is a pretty perilous business. Yet close examination of the figures, as tabulated by the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce, puts a different aspect on things.

Of the 164 deaths, 131 occurred in unlicensed airplanes. Only one air mail pilot lost his life—and the air mail flew a total of 1,413,381 miles. More than ninety-seven per cent of the licensed planes flew throughout the year without any fatal accidents.

If the plane is standard and the pilot capable, it would seem, flying is not so dangerous as it has been.

Ohio Says Hoover

All doubt of Herbert Hoover's strength among Republican voters was swept away by Ohio yesterday. The rank and file of the party registered a clear and unmistakable demand that the Kansas City convention nominate him. So definite was the demand that it is difficult to see how political leaders in other States, yet to be heard from, can fail to heed it.

Seldom has so significant a demonstration been offered for party guidance in advance of a national convention.

Ohio became the party's national proving ground through two circumstances. Frank B. Willis, senior Senator from the State, declared himself a candidate for the nomination and warned all other candidates off his reservation.

Hoover challenged his right to do this, and filed his name with the Republicans of the State. Other candidates, by agreement, chose to make the fight in Willis' name, the sole object being to defeat Hoover.

In the midst of the campaign, death overtook the Ohio Senator. The other candidates then came out into the open. Lowden, Curtis, Watson—and Dawes. Dawes last, but most important, since it was tacitly agreed that Lowden, Curtis and Watson, if successful, would merely pave the way for the one real candidate, the present Vice President.

So positive was this understanding that, when it became apparent in the closing days of the contest that the other names held too little magic, the names of Dawes was brought out openly. He was given the character of a favorite son, Ohio being the State of his birth.

Yesterday Ohio's Republicans voted. Local leaders dropped their slander and vilification of the candidate who had dared assert the right of the plain, common Republicans to decide for themselves, and bent their efforts to the job of getting out the vote.

The day opened with rain pouring down and the little leaders were cheered. Plain, common Republicans, they opined, would not brave bad weather to register their desire. It was weather for machine members, not for volunteer citizens, they thought.

Today the country knows the result. Hoover has a decisive majority of the State's total delegation, including all of the State's delegates-at-large. These are actual votes in the Kansas City convention.

In addition he has an even more decisive majority of the State's preferential vote. The effect of this latter expression by the Republican voters should be felt in many States. It is undoubtedly the sign that politicians elsewhere have been waiting for.

In a year when the Republican nominee, to win, must be the best of the party can present, hesitant political leaders have been given their cue by Ohio.

Who said the Irish and the Dutch don't amount to very much? Go ask the Atlantic Ocean!

Now we know what purpose King Victor Emmanuel serves—he's just the best kind of target practice.

David Dietz on Science

Venus Holds the Stage

No. 33

THE planet Venus seems to occupy first place in the attention of those inventors who dream of visiting the planets by rocket or some other means.

While astronomers do not now see how a rocket could be sent to any planet, they do think that centering attention on Venus shows good judgment. For they feel that if any planet other than our earth is inhabited, the chances are that Venus is the one.

This does not mean that astronomers believe that Venus is inhabited. In fact, most astronomers believe that there are some good reasons for supposing that Venus is not inhabited. It merely means that conditions look a little more favorable in the case of Venus than they do in the case of any other planet.

Venus is the second planet in order from the sun. The first one is Mercury.

Astronomers are quite certain that Mercury is not inhabited. Mercury is small, its diameter being about 3,400 miles. Its atmosphere is very slight and, in addition, Mercury is so close to the sun that the rocks composing its surface are literally red-hot. The thermocouple measurements indicate a surface temperature of 300 degrees for Mercury.

Venus, as we shall see, presents a more favorable picture.

Venus is the brightest-appearing object in the skies with the exception of the sun and moon. It glows with greater brightness than any of the other planets or any of the stars.

Sometimes Venus appears in the sky in the hours before sunrise. It is then known as the morning star. At other times it appears in the hours after sunset. It is then known as the evening star.

Whether Venus appears in the morning or evening depends of course upon its position in its orbit.

The ancients were not aware of this fact. Consequently they thought the morning and evening stars were two different stars. They called the morning star Phosphorus and the evening star Hesperus.

It was thought that the Greek philosopher Pythagoras was the first to discover that the morning and evening stars were both the same object.

The planet was first called Venus by the Romans, who named it in honor of their goddess of love.

Let us see next what modern astronomy has discovered about this planet.

Editor Times:

I was very much surprised to read in The Indianapolis Times of April 23, a list of Legislative candidates bearing the endorsement of the City Manager League. In my judgment, this is very unfair to those who demonstrated in the last Indiana General Assembly, their support, when they voted against the Sims Amendment to the City Manager law.

The House Journal will show that the four negative votes cast on the Sims' Amendment were Frank B. Bosson, William Bosson Jr., Ella Van Sickle Gardner, and William H. Harrison.

Is this gratitude?

In 1409 they paraded through Milan crying "Pace! Pace!" but the reigning duke, Giovanni Maria,

FRANK BORN.

KEEPING UP With THE NEWS

BY LUDWELL DENNY

HOOVER's victories in the Ohio and Massachusetts presidential primaries drove his opponents today into closer alliance against the leading Republican candidate.

From now until the Kansas City convention it is Hoover against the field.

While Hoover managers celebrate the popular preference majorities rolled up in yesterday's primaries by their candidate, political factions emphasize that the nomination depends solely upon delegates votes of which Hoover still lacks a majority.

If the Lowden-Dawes favorite son allies can keep Indiana out of the Hoover column, and the New York-Massachusetts-Pennsylvania unstructured delegations stay on the fence, Hoover can be stopped at the convention, they claim.

The next primary fight is in Indiana. Senator Watson, running as a nominal favorite son, is part of the anti-Hoover combination. Though the commerce secretary is reported fairly strong in the northern industrial sections of the State, Watson's long control of the political machine and influence with country postoffice appointees is expected by the allies to counteract popular resistance.

In the larger national fight, political observers are watching three vital points upon which the convention victory is apt to turn.

1. In the uninstructed New York delegation can the Hoover faction Hilles, State boss and national vice chairman, to drop his "draft Coolidge" tactics, as demanded by the President?

Regardless of what happens elsewhere, Hoover cannot be sure of the nomination if Hilles goes into the convention with the New York delegation in his hand for trading on dark horse purposes.

2. Will the present Lowden-Dawes alliance survive? The last minute swing to Dawes of the Ohio machine delegates—running under the name of the deceased Willis with Lowden as second choice—was resented by Lowden managers.

When Dawes failed to stop this Ohio swing it seemed that the agreement by which Dawes was to stay out of the convention until Lowden was beaten definitely, was strained. Hoover's Ohio victory and collapse of the attempted Dawes rally there, for the moment has driven Lowden and Dawes closer together again. But more embarrassments may arise.

3. Pennsylvania yesterday at the primary ratified Secretary Mellon's control of an uninstructed delegation. There is a saying in Washington, "as Mellon goes, so goes the nomination." Apparently, Mellon is inclined to favor Hoover, but has not yet made up his mind definitely.

The Ohio result may help him to decide. If and when Mellon goes over to Hoover, the Hilles "draft Coolidge" movement will tend to disintegrate.

These three major factors in the pre-convention campaign indicate Hoover is not yet certain of the nomination, despite enthusiastic prophecies of his managers following the Ohio victory.

For the present we must forget modernity and America, and put ourselves back into a time when Spain had not yet opened up the New World, and the cities of the Mediterranean controlled the trade and wealth of Europe. It is still a picture of cities and not of states; a picture of towns liberated from feudal dominance, and growing turbulent in freedom.

The liberation came first in Italy because, as we have seen, her cities were natural ports of exit and entry for European trade with the East, before the conquest of the Atlantic; and because she was most directly bound, by language and geography, with Roman civilization and culture, were not a thousand monuments of ancient architecture spread over her soil?—and could not a hundred of her towns boast of a history that went back before Pompey and Caesar?

The night which descended upon her was the night of an Arctic summer; the dawn began almost before the twilight ended.

AND so the first factor in the Renaissance is the rich merchant class of the Italian cities of Genoa and Venice, of Milan and Ferrara, of Pisa and Florence, of Naples and Rome; it is Genoa that will train Columbus, Venice that will defend Europe against the Turks, Florence that will finance everything, Rome that will become the art center of the world.

We must not ask for much order in the midst of this new liberty; the two never did go well together. We shall find the Dukes or Doges of Venice ruling with poison and daggers, and the Strozzi ruling Milan like glorified buccaneers, and the Medicis ruling Florence with hardly a "by your leave" to the people. Within a century (1282-1382) Florence has had three revolutions, displacing the nobility with the richer bourgeoisie, and then these with lesser merchants, and then these with organized labor; in this instability of government crime has flourished with life, with property, with women, with run riot and kept the streets wet with blood.

The proletarian ("Compi") as their party is called held power over Florence for five years (1383-88); they fall because unable to reorganize and operate industries by the flight of capital.

When we are writing of 1387, not of 1319. When the "despots" finally captured the reins they maintained themselves on top by waging war upon other cities; they do not wait for Machiavelli to teach them that internal unity requires an external foe.

Most of these wars are fought by "condottieri" and mercenaries hired for a pittance to play the military game; usually they managed to have battles without more than half a dozen casualties on either side; but time and again people suffered from sieges and flood and violence, until even the Italians began to pray for peace.

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The End of That



THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION

Duke Crushes Peace With Iron Heel

Written for The Times by Will Durant

Let loose his mercenaries upon them, and two hundred unarmed citizens were killed. The duke forbids the people to go so much as utter the words "pace" or "guerra" (war and peace), and ordered the priests, in pitifully ancient phrase, "Dona nobis pacem"—"Grant us peace." For how many centuries that prayer has gone up to the skies!

Macchiavelli laments, Guicciardini welcomes, this individualism of groups within the cities and of cities within the state; it is true that this internal strife weakens Italy, and lays it open to invasion from the north—both the French and the Germans will sack these cities before the Renaissance is over; but when governments are weak, individuals are strong, and powerful personalities flourish.

These cities are the fine scene of the most individualistic epoch in the history of culture and morals; their merchants have brought back a thousand new ideas from their travels; minds as well as bodies are freed; dogmas melt away; theology becomes a polite convention, not a hindrance, and a stimulus to imagination, painting and poetry. Once again civilization rises in the city, and an urban culture comes of a developed people.

Farther south Rome recovers rapidly from the decay which settled down upon it during the long residence, or "Babylonian Captivity" of the popes at Avignon (1305-77); through religion or diplomacy, much of the gold of Italy, indeed, of all Europe, pours into the Vatican; new buildings begin to rise, and the simple old church of St. Peter is torn down by the energetic Julius II in 1506 to make way for a gigantic edifice that shall exhaust the art of Angelo and the patience of Luther.

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