



The Indianapolis Times

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

The Case of Walb

Before you shed too many tears for Clyde Walb, who is on his way to a Federal prison, spend a moment or so in pity for the State of Indiana.

There is a different picture in this State today than was presented two years ago when Walb was acting as the spokesman, manager and general director for the campaign which sent James Eli Watson and Arthur Robinson to the United States Senate.

This newspaper has had something to do with changing that picture. It also believes that the attitude of the voters of this State has been changed.

It has helped to show how they have been betrayed and misled and deluded by as ruthless a band of political pirates as ever scuttled any ship of state.

This newspaper had something to do with the exposure of Walb and first printed the story of the forged note in the La Grange bank and Walb's connection with it. That story was printed at a time when political pressure was being used to cover up the crime itself and to raise funds for the bankrupt company which Walb headed, from the big beneficiaries of the Republican machine, an effort which continued almost up to the hour of Walb's indictment.

It may be said in all truth that the printing of the story stopped the scheme to thwart justice.

Two years ago Walb was the leader in the campaign of suppression, distortion and coercion which was used to elect Watson and Robinson.

It was he who spoke for both of these candidates and who blandly charged in their behalf that the international bankers were flooding the State with money to accomplish their defeat.

It was Walb who declared that there was nothing on the part of any of the Republican leaders to hide, making the statement only after he was forced to do so by Col. Theodore Roosevelt.

It was Walb who was consulted by Watson and Robinson and who raised the funds and spent them in their behalf.

It was Walb who tried to blacken those who opposed the machine of which he was the engineer, who planned to "frame" innocent men, who used his position in endeavors to send the critics and opponents of the machine to jail.

The jury which heard his case evidently believed the old banker who forged notes in Walb's interest that Walb had finally asked him to accept the entire responsibility for the looting of that bank because he had influence enough in high places to secure a light sentence.

That plea ran true to form. It is the essence of the machine ethics. It is the method by which the machine rules.

What is the history of Walb? The people are interested only in his political activities. And his rise to power was possible only through alliances with two men.

The first of these men, of course, is Senator James E. Watson.

But it was only through D. C. Stephenson and the Klan that he retained his power. He directed the party in 1924 which elected Jackson, who escaped prison by pleading the statute of limitations.

It was Walb, working for and with Watson and Robinson, who was at the helm of the party during its dark and dismal years.

There will be sympathy, of course, for any man who goes to prison. There will be sympathy for his family.

But there should be a little pity, too, for Indiana. She has suffered much from the hands of Walb and the group of which he was spokesman and chief manipulator. She has suffered from the humiliation thrust upon her and perhaps the sending of Walb to a prison cell for looting a bank may serve to remind the voters on May 8 that, if they wish to have decent conditions in the State, if they wish their funds in banks to be safe, if their property and lives are to be protected, it may be well to get rid of the influences which created a Walb.

The new deal has started. This step was taken in a criminal court. It is up to the decent and honest voters of the party which Walb so recently headed to finish the job.

Fishing With Bent Pins

Major Fitzmaurice, doughty trans-Atlantic flier, tells how he and his comrades had planned to live if forced down on an uninhabited Arctic waste. They had an ax to cut wood for fuel, planned to use the plane's generator to furnish sparks to start a fire, and had a small supply of sandwiches.

When their food gave out the major says he believes they could have caught fish. They had no fish-hooks, but he believes they could have made out very well with bent pins.

Maybe so. But we're mighty glad they didn't have to try it. As a lad, we tried valiantly, time and again, to catch fish with a bent pin for a hook, and never came close to succeeding. The fish always slipped off. We have a hunch the aviators would have gone rather hungry if they had depended on that means to stock their larder.

Col. Stewart Entertains

The Senate oil investigation consistently suffered from lack of a comedian.

This weakness never was more apparent than during the testimony of Col. Robert W. Stewart, head of the Standard Oil of Indiana, recounting how he unfortunately stumbled into possession of \$759,500 in Liberty bonds, which he had a strong suspicion came from the malodorous Continental Trading Company.

It seems, according to Stewart's statement to the committee, that on Nov. 26, 1921, a Canadian named Osler told him he was going to "participate in the profits of the Continental deal, realized from a 'squeeze play' in oil.

The play had been put over in a New York hotel in Stewart's presence a few days previously. Indeed, Stewart had signed a financial guarantee necessary to put it over.

Stewart did not think he was entitled to any of the profits which Osler seemed determined to thrust upon him, because he was connected with one of the companies being squeezed, but, always a gentleman, he did not want to make a scene about it.

So without inquiring about the Continental Trading Company—who was in it, and why it was—graciously agreed to accept a share of the profits.

Then, lest there be the slightest suggestion of impropriety, he penciled a secret agreement, terminable at his option, proving that his share of the profits should be held in trust for companies with which he was associated.

Having made a righteous disposition of any profits which might come to him from the Continental deal, Stewart at once joined all the principal parties to the transaction—Sinclair, Blackmer, O'Neil, O'Leary—in a special car for a trip to the Mexico oil field in Texas.

Although he had only the vaguest kind of an idea of what the Continental Trading Company was, or why it insisted on giving him one-fourth of its profits, it never occurred to him to ask anyone of the Continental group, packed into the same car with him on a trip of many days.

Later, he took a long trip with Blackmer, central figure in the Continental deal, to see former Interior Secretary Fall in New Mexico, but on that trip it seems that the Continental Trading Company never got into the conversation.

And from time to time Stewart went to the Belmont and Biltmore hotels in New York and picked up packages of Liberty bonds, finally aggregating \$759,500, which he had a strong suspicion were from the Continental Trading Company, but it never occurred to him to make any inquiries about the concern.

Silently, and with amazing fortitude, Stewart let bonds to which he thought he was not entitled be heaped upon him, and thence into his secret trust fund.

That big business executive, whose very name is a terror to the small fry in the oil business, it seems, was victimized by a group insistent upon showering him with gold.

He said nothing, he asked no questions, he simply endured.

At least that is the story which Stewart conveyed to the Senate committee, and the story about which the committee solemnly questioned him for hours.

The occasion was obviously not one for solemn cross-examination. It was one for uproarious laughter.

Royalty, If Only a Baby

Little Princess Iona of Austria, daughter of the Archduke Frank Joseph, the other day won first prize in a baby contest at Budapest.

We're really rather glad she won. Our story books always told us that princesses were somewhat finer than the rest of us, and could be recognized even if disguised as peasants; and lo! it seems that it is true. Clad only in a royal diaper, this wee princess was easily the best-looking baby in the place.

It always does us good to see the old legends upheld. We don't care much about kings, but a princess, to our way of thinking, is always a princess. Hooray!—or hooh!—for Iona!

David Dietz on Science

Planets Give Up Secrets

No. 35

A GRADUATE of Case School of Applied Science of Cleveland, Dr. W. W. Coblentz, made it possible for modern astronomers to take the temperatures of the planets.

Dr. Coblentz, who is now at the U. S. Bureau of Standards in Washington, developed a form of the thermocouple which could be applied to science. The accompanying illustration shows Dr. Edison Pettit c. the Mt. Wilson Observatory with a Coblentz thermocouple.

The thermocouple consists of a vacuum tube, a glass tube from which the air has been extracted. Within it is a small junction formed by joining a fine platinum wire to a fine wire of an alloy.

The two wires are then connected to a very delicate galvanometer or electrical meter.

When any junction of two different metals is heated, an electric current is developed. This is a fact which has been known to scientists for many years.

Such a junction has been used also in the past for measuring temperature, since the amount of electricity generated is proportional to the amount of heat. The heat, it will be seen, can be calculated from the amount of current produced.

The Coblentz thermocouple is so delicate that if a candle flame was placed a mile out in space, the amount of heat received from the candle flame could be measured with it.

In using the thermocouple in the astronomical observatory, it is placed at the end of the telescope in place of the usual eyepiece.

The image of the planet to be studied is allowed to fall directly upon the junction in the thermocouple. As a result, the junction is heated. An electric current is generated. This current is very feeble, but the galvanometer used is delicate enough to measure it.

The amount of radiation, that is light and heat, received from the planet is then calculated from the reading of the galvanometer.

The temperature of the planet is then calculated from this.

Two astronomers at Mt. Wilson, Dr. Seth B. Nicholson and Dr. Edison Pettit, have been using the thermocouple to study the planet Venus.

Let us see next what their study has disclosed.



Dr. Pettit and His Thermocouple.

KEEPING UP With THE NEWS

BY LUDWELL DENNY

Did Robert W. Stewart, chairman of the Standard Oil of Indiana, lie to the Senate Teapot Dome committee about his notorious Continental Trading deal, and can he be jailed five years for perjury? On order of the Senate, the district attorney in Washington is trying to answer this question.

"It seems to me, from the testimony given by Stewart himself, and other facts which are undisputed and admitted, that he is guilty of perjury," said Senator Norris (Rep.), Nebraska. "He is either a fool or a crook and everyone knows he is not a fool."

"He practically admitted, while yet denying, that he lied to the Senate committee and that he did it for a purpose—of frustrating justice, because testimony that he might have given in response to the questions asked might result in the conviction of his partner in crime, Harry Sinclair."

"Many irreconcilable differences between Stewart's testimony on the first and second occasions" were pointed out by Senator Walsh (Dem.), Montana, committee inquisitor.

These Senate perjury charges arise from testimony given by Stewart to the committee last February. The committee had traced about three-fourths of the \$3,000,000 Continental profits to Harry Sinclair and to the oil officials who escaped to Europe, Blackmer and O'Neil. As one of the four main participants in the deal, it was suspected that Stewart got the missing quarter of the Liberty bond profits.

Several times the committee asked Stewart on the stand, "What, if anything, do you know about any of the bonds purchased by the Continental Trading Company?" Stewart made the following replies:

"I do not know anything about these bonds. I never had anything to do with the distribution of any bonds."

"I did not personally receive any of these bonds or make a dollar out of them; I personally did not make a dollar out of this transaction."

When Stewart was recalled by the Senate committee this week he admitted what the committee had since found out—that he did receive \$759,500 of the Continental bonds. Tax reduction, fixed by the House bill at \$200,000,000, has been brought down by the Senate Finance Committee to \$203,000,000.

Corporation tax was reduced by the Senate Committee from 13½ per cent to 12½ per cent, compared with the 11½ per cent in the House bill.

Democrats demand a total reduction of \$325,000,000.

Alleged attempts of so-called militarists to "frame" pacifists are said to be involved in the case put before the Postoffice Department today regarding charges that the National Council for Prevention of War illegally used the congressional free-mailing privilege.

Officials of the council deny the charges and demand an investigation.

They are supported by Representative McClintock, Democrat, Oklahoma, whose franked envelope was alleged to have contained council literature. One efficient to this effect was made by Harold M. Weeks of Wellesley Hills, Mass., according to Representative Andrew, Republican, Massachusetts.

In the House debate, McClintock called Andrew "a rattlesnake" for spreading false charges.

This Date in U. S. History

April 27

1791—Birth of Samuel F. B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph.

1822—Birth of U. S. Grant.

1870—Galleries in Capitol at Washington collapsed; sixty killed.

1882—Ralph Waldo Emerson died.

1909—Wilbur Wright concluded his airplane experiments in Italy.

LOCK

DOOR

1. The idea of letter golf is to change one word to another and do it in par, or a given number of strokes. Thus, to change COW to HEN in three strokes, COW, HOW, HEN.

2. You can change only one letter at a time.

3. You must have a complete word of common usage for each jump. Slang words and abbreviations don't count.

4. The order of letters can not be changed.

VICE

VINE

FINE

FIND

FOND

FOOD

GOOD

Subject to Change Without Notice

THIS IS MY BUSY DAY!

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THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION

Priest Rules City With Emotions

Written for The Times by Will Durant

It is difficult to rise to power, or to hold it, without poison or the knife; Caesar Borgia kills his brother, and then his Peroso, the favorite of his father, Pope Alexander VI, while Peroso is in Alexander's arms; the blood of the dead man spurts up into the Pope's face, but he dares not protest, lest Caesar kill him next. It is in the midst of this violence and license that the finest period of the Renaissance developed.

Under such conditions natural selection works unimpeded; men become great, or they accept slavery, or they die. Literal slavery reappears, even in the papal court; Clement V legitimizes the enslavement of Venetian prisoners; Innocent VIII receives a hundred Moorish slaves as a gift from Ferdinand of Spain; in 1501 Capuan women are sold as slaves for a low price in Rome.

"It is a time," says Burekhardt, "when man is forced to be either hammer or anvil, and when personal morality is a greater power than the most indisputable right."

No other period in history presents so many passionate and commanding figures, so many men and women who stand out audaciously from the rank and file, making their own manners and their own morals. They "are themselves" with a vengeance; they walk erect and proud, and neither humility nor modesty is known to them; they believe, if a murder is performed skillfully, with a nicety of plot and a minimum of trace, the murderer is admired rather than condemned; he too is an artist.

"Nothing is cheaper here in Naples," says a contemporary, "than human life; assassination is a commodity which even a modest purse can buy. The commandments are in abeyance, and all prejudice in favor of morality has been put aside; men scorn to be 'good'; they are now resolved to be great. Such is the atmosphere of the Renaissance."

IMAGINE, then, the loneliness of a saint in the midst of this violence, this corruption, this indecency and this impiety. Imagine Dante and Luther, the one a Protestant before the Reformation, a Puritan before Cromwell; a man of pure stature, drawn dark face, intense emotions, and gigantic will; a plain speaker, with burning eyes that held his audience spellbound, despite the imperfections of his oratory; a Jeremiah predicting the fall and ruin of his city, and bravely denouncing it for its sins.

Savonarola had come to Florence from Ferrara, where he had seen the light of day in 1452; he had rebelled against being made to study medicine, having resolved to become a saint; he had shunned all play and pleasure, and at an early age had taken the vows of a Dominican monk. Now in 1491, he was prior of a convent of San Marco, which the Medici had built; and from his pulpit there he poured, upon the city he loved, the laws of his denunciations.

His soul was almost shriveled by the sights he saw in the streets and in the homes of Florence, and by the secrets that were revealed to him in the confessional. He had visions of the doom every time he spoke; and the news spread throughout the city that here, in this flood of condemnation, the Florentines might find a new delight.

They came to scoff, and remained to pray; his passion and his fervor pierced their indifference and hostility; at last his own religious zeal flowed over into them, and at his command they brought their luxuries from their homes, even precious paintings and musical instruments, and flung them into the fire before the church, in a great "Burning of the Vanities." Merchants offered 50,000 florins for objects of art or costly garments, but they were refused; for a moment Florence was

hypothesized and Savonarola was its master. Lorenzo was troubled and tried to quiet the Brother with persuasion; he failed and thereafter left him alone. When Lorenzo died he was succeeded by Piero de' Medici, a weakling and a wastrel. Savonarola saw his opportunity and listened to the lure of power; he began to preach now not only against sin, but against tyranny; he let the whips of his eloquence fall upon the rich leaders of the upper class, the

money-lenders, at last upon the Medici; he taunted the Florentines with the death of liberty and wanted to know when they would be men enough to restore the republic.

Almost at that moment Charles VIII of France moved down with his disciplined armies to conquer Italy. When he stood at the gate of Florence, Savonarola welcomed him and bade the Florentines fight not the invader, but the Medici.

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(To Be Continued)

happened and I was certain that in retaliation and in protest the citizens of Indianapolis would rally to the support of the new owners and show them that there are a few in this town who really appreciate what they are trying to do.

But that loyalty and response has been lacking so far, in spite of the fact that Indianapolis has a much improved team.

There are those who will point to the weather and say that has been a deterrent. The weather was just as unfavorable in Toledo on opening day, but Toledo bested us in attendance by several thousand and Toledo's population is almost 100,000 less than ours.

It is really surprising to me that we have representation in the American Association at all, as so many obstacles were placed in the path of those who really have invested in the local franchise as a sporting proposition and considered the money-making possibilities secondary.

Many cities are longing and hoping for just the condition that we should be enjoying and appreciating, and that is local ownership and willingness to provide winning talent.

That condition has been manifested and displayed beyond any reasonable doubt and it is up to those of us who have an ounce of civic pride to show that confidence justly has been placed in us, and prevent removal of the local franchise to some other city that would welcome it with open arms, and show the support that is not given here.

Should it be necessary to transfer the local franchise to Gary (who wants it mightily bad), just imagine what a laughing stock we would be!

I find a condition existing here that can and should be remedied and that is the readiness to "ride a ball" player for any little "bottle" or to "razz" a pitcher if he gets hit hard.

Ball players are only human; they're not infallible and should be shown the ordinary amount of consideration that we expect ourselves from our employers and superiors.

This may irk some, but it is an undeniable fact that a lot of ball players dislike to play ball here for the reason that the Indianapolis fan is so cynical and exacting and so ready to "knock."

So the thing to do is let's all show "Jimmie" that we are behind him; let's show the members of the ball club that we are for them, not against them, and we'll soon have a new ball park and a winning ball club and we will cease to be ridiculed for the things we have been ridiculed for in the past.

RAY JEROME.

Times Readers Voice Views

The name and address of the author must accompany every contribution, but on request will not be published. Letters not exceeding 200 words will receive preference.

Editor Times:

There are a few questions I should like to present to the members of the Board of School Commissioners through The Times, since, in its issue of April 10, a very complete list of the older teachers, whom the board is so desirous to retire, was made public.

First, I should like to know why riding to work in a taxi is an indication of great unfitness and disability, any more than going to work in one's own car. Is riding in a taxi an unfailing indication that one has to be helped into one's building and room?

Second, are a lot of our teachers walking with canes? If so, why do we not see them? The writer knows of one such, and she is a young woman who had her foot badly injured in a storm at sea, being thrown from her berth. Another very excellent teacher is a lame woman and uses a crutch. I fail to see it as any indication that the teaching ability of either is inferior.

We have in times past had some very excellent lame people teaching and doing it in an A-1 way. I had two such myself and they were two of my best teachers.

Another thing I should like to know is whether members of the board ever have thought, when riding in their own cars to their meetings, that it was an indication of their unfitness for the job?

Also, I should like to know if a teacher shows greater fitness for her work by trying to get to her school by riding on street cars, which do not take her within more than three blocks of her building and taking her chances of being made ill by pouring rains and chilling blasts, forcing it to her school from the street car line.

Did it ever occur to the wonderful minds of our commissioners that there are people who do not care to own cars and have the expense and burden of taking care of them added to the already many cares and expenses? There are such.

What about high school kids who must have a car to "haul" them to and from school? Are they feeble-minded?

And last, but not least, why should the age, length of service, etc., of teachers, who should not be retired until five years from now, be published along with those who now are lawfully subjects for retirement?

This whole matter has been done in the most brutal, ignorant manner and the writer has heard many expressions of disgust with it, not only from those affected, but from others.

I trust you will give this the same publicity you gave the report of the board's action.

A TAXPAYER FOR MANY YEARS.

Editor Times:

The writer is really disappointed in the attendance at the local A. A. ball park so far this season. Local fandom had been so disappointed and disgusted with the former ownership that I was positive that there would be an appreciative response to the energy and money exerted and spent by the management.

It is also inconceivable that there could be any one so small and bigoted in a community that would exert himself to the extent that he could use his influence to prevent building of a beautiful, modern ball park.

However, that very thing actually

happened and I was certain that