



## 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.

BOYD GURLEY,  
Editor.

ROY W. HOWARD,  
President.

FRANK G. MORRISON,  
Business Manager.

PHONE—MAIN 3500.

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."

### A Great Chance

Unquestionably the State Democratic convention which meets here next week has the choice between two great chances.

One is the opportunity to win in November by offering to the independent voter something tangible in the way of a cleanup of evil conditions.

The other is the same old chance, too often taken, to make the usual blunders and mistakes which have kept the Democratic party out of office more often than have the pledges and promises of its opponents.

There can be no question of the general disgust at the outcome of the Republican State convention.

There can be no question that this disgust on the part of the voter who wants Indiana put back on the map of the United States is merited and justified.

The nomination of Leslie gives no confidence of any sincerity on the part of the party as a whole to make even a gesture of throwing off the influences and forces which have so generally discredited the State in the past few years.

The least of the criticisms of Leslie's nomination was that it was forced by a desire of a majority of delegates to beat Landis, because Landis had been outspoken in his denunciation of corruption and had been picturesque in his promises to clean up.

There are other explanations of the Leslie victory that are more shameful but more believable.

Were not that enough, the convention sat silent and permitted George V. Coffin to send Governor Ed Jackson as the delegate from the capital district to the national convention. That incident happens to be so outrageously shocking to the public sense of decency that the friends of Senator Watson are explaining that this move was engineered by former Governor Goodrich as a means of bringing shame and humiliation upon the Watson candidacy and forever ending any possibility of a miracle making Watson the presidential nominee.

The people know and understand these things and the very large majority of the men and women who usually vote the Republican ticket are incensed. The primary vote shows deep resentment. It indicated that the Republican party in this State has within it such forces for honesty that the control by the goblins and the bosses will soon be ended. But the great majority of the voters know that this control still exists and dictated the present head of the ticket.

These voters are looking to the Democratic convention for some show of courage and some signs of honesty of purpose. They are waiting, hopefully, for a ticket and a platform that is built for Indiana.

Usually the same forces which have corrupted the Republican party have been easily able to so disrupt the Democratic conventions. There are indications that these same forces are working now to prevent a clear and decisive action in the Democratic convention which will satisfy the voters who were disappointed in the Republican gathering.

There are indications that these forces, using the same corrupt methods by which the Republican party has been controlled, are seeking to override the wishes and will of the voters of the Democratic party.

The goblins want two horses in the race. The dragons are trying to get two whisks for platforms where the people want one strong voice which shall denounce corruption.

That is the reason that some very queer politics is being played to get a soft spoken platform and to defeat Frank Dailey for the Democratic nomination for Governor.

With Dailey, the courageous and efficient foe of corruption, as a candidate, the Democratic ticket would command respect and admiration. His defeat would be a signal to the independent citizens of both parties that there is little to choose between a Leslie, with his background of a Bossert and imported dragons as press agents and some other who banquets with the nightgowned lads from Evansville.

That State Democratic convention next week has in it more significance and more importance than either of the national conventions, as far as this State is concerned.

Upon its actions will depend whether this State has even a chance to emerge from its shadow of shame.

Will the Democratic convention dare to even suggest that its party has within its ranks any considerable group which objects to prosecutions of grafters, to exposure of crooks?

The easiest way to advertise any such influence in its party would be to pile up a delegate vote against the nomination of Frank Dailey. His nomination by acclamation would mean victory and votes in November.

Governor Paulen of Kansas, says that if a woman can not hold her husband she is entitled to no aid from the sheriff's office to bring him back. Someone is always stepping up to do the ladies a good turn that.

### By Air to Australia

The Southern Cross, Australia-bound from San Francisco with a crew of four, has completed the first leg of its hazardous hop.

From California to Honolulu, where the plane landed yesterday, is 2,400 miles. It has 5,000 more to go, and the most dangerous ones at that.

Haul out your Atlas and look at the Pacific Ocean. It is the earth's biggest and wettest expanse, dotted here and there with pinpoint islands—Christmas Islands of South Sea fame; Pago Pago of the Samoas; the Fijis, where the cannibals live; and so on—some waterless and uninhabited and all frightfully so.

But the Southern Cross expedition is no haphazard affair. It was planned painstakingly and its personnel is of the best. It deserves to succeed.

Being the first flight ever attempted from the United States to Australia, it should add considerable to the new science of transoceanic aviation—to use our language's latest word.

So, good luck and bon voyage.

### Six Days More

This Nation never will be satisfied with private control of its power industry until a public ownership project, operated on a scale large enough to provide a real test, has been given a thorough trial. On such a trial, the final conclusion in a long-continued controversy will rest.

A measure that fills the requirements has been passed by Congress and is in the hands of the President.

Under the law, six days remain for consideration and action.

June 7 is the last day for action.

That the truth may be learned in an issue that is vital to every citizen of the United States, we urge the President to approve the Muscle Shoals measure.

### To Help Forests

Approval by President Coolidge of the recently passed McNary-Woodruff bill, which appropriates \$8,000,000 for the purchase of national forest lands, is excellent news.

The money will be spent in the next three years to buy forest lands in the east, south and lake region. The American Forestry Association and other conservation organizations supported the bill, and the extension of our forest domain is now assured.

The Federal Government's forest acquisition policy of late has been hampered by meager appropriations. Now that abundant funds are available, it is obvious that the work can go forward much better. Money spent on forest lands is money very well invested. Congress did well in passing this bill.

### Seven More Days On Shoals

Under the law, the President has until June 7 for consideration of the Muscle Shoals bill, passed by Congress shortly before adjournment.

Should he not sign it by that time, the measure dies by what is known as the pocket veto.

Operation of Muscle Shoals under the terms of the bill will insure the first adequate test in the long controversy of public versus private ownership of greater power sites.

This newspaper believes that the Nation wants such a test—that it will not be content until it has one.

It believes further that advocates of both public and private ownership, who possess the courage of their convictions, should welcome it, that a conclusion may be reached by a process of practical demonstration on an issue that affects every citizen, not only of this generation, but of future generations.

In the interest of arriving at the truth in this debatable and tremendously important public question, we urge the President to sign the bill.

### David Dietz on Science

**Even Compass Changes**

No. 66

**T**HE Carnegie, non-magnetic ship of the Carnegie Institution, is now upon the ocean, beginning its three-year study of the behavior of the compass at sea.

It was a discovery made in 1634 that makes such trips as that of the Carnegie necessary and important to navigation and science.

Columbus by his trip across the ocean in 1492 made the discovery that the compass varied from the true north by different amounts in different localities. This variation is known technically as the magnetic declination.

The next discovery was that this variation does not remain constant at any place but changes slowly with the passage of time.

This variation of the variation, as one might call it, has been named technically the secular change of the magnetic declination.

Considerable confusion exists because the term variation has been used so loosely. It is sometimes used to mean the magnetic declination and at other times to mean the secular change in the declination.

Consequently, most authorities today prefer not to use the word variation but the longer and more exact terms.

Henry Gellibrand, a professor of mathematics at Gresham College, England, was the discoverer of the secular change.

He made a very careful determination of the magnetic declination at Diepfeld, about three miles from London Bridge, on June 12, 1634.

The declination of this same location had been determined in 1622 and in 1580.

Gellibrand found it to be four degrees and six minutes to the east of north. In 1622 it had been a little less than six degrees and the 1580 measurements exceeded eleven degrees.

Gellibrand announced his discovery in a book titled "A Discourse Mathematical on the Variation of the Magnetic Needle, Together With Its Admirable Diminution Lately Discovered."

It is also known that in addition to this slow change from year to year, the compass need goes through a very slight fluctuation in the course of every day. Delicate instruments will show this.

There is also another cycle through which the needle goes in the course of a year.

These changes are still largely a mystery although they are being studied intensely by the scientists of the world.

## M. E. TRACY SAYS:

"If Hoover Fails to Win the Republican Nomination, the American People Will Be Warranted in Assuming It Is Because Professional Politicians Are in Control of the Party for What They Can Get Out of It."

"TOM TOM" HEFLIN is an apostle of truth. He says so himself, and that under oath. His only purpose in attacking Governor Smith and the Catholic Church, he tells a Senate committee, is to "speak the truth to the American people and defend American institutions."

"The people find they can not get the truth from the newspapers," he explains, "so they want to hear me in person."

"Tom Tom" has charged that Governor Smith is the beneficiary of an enormous campaign fund, but thus far has offered nothing but the products of his own diseased imagination to prove it.

He is opposed not only to enormous campaign funds, but to the use of money in politics; yet he seldom delivers his gospel without pay.

Though truth is the most deserving and previous of virtues in his mind, he holds it at from \$150 to \$250 a shot, with expenses included.

According to his own admissions, he makes about as much bringing "truth" to the public as he receives for playing at being a Senator of the United States.

In order to meet the demand for his services as the vehicle of "truth" he supplements his voice with the franking privilege.

Up to date he has sent out more than half a million copies of his various speeches at public expense.

Such a worker in the interest of "truth."

What would poor "truth" do without this noble Senator?

"

Character Assassination

While "Tom Tom" Heflin tries to besmirch Governor Smith for the sake of "truth," other people, through less noisy about it, are doing the same to Secretary Hoover.

Hoover is utterly opposed to Mr. Hoover because they know he could not be beaten, several distinguished Republican leaders, who do not and cannot agree on anything else, have set aside their differences for the moment and joined in such a campaign of character assassination as this country has seldom seen.

They are whispering scandals they do not believe themselves and lying about conditions with a compunction which is startling.

Mr. Hoover is a forester in spirit, they insinuate, and there might be some question as to the constitutionality of his serving as President if elected.

A pretty good routine man, they admit, but utterly lacking in the knowledge of practical politics. His record as food administrator and as head of post war relief work they dismiss with the observation that most any one could make a showing with so much money.

But their prime argument is Governor Smith. Governor Smith, they declare, is sure to be elected if Hoover gets the nomination; has the East all sewed up, with New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and New Jersey ready and raring to jump the fence.

Just why Hoover should be so weak in this section of the country, while every other Republican possibility is so strong, they fail to explain, preferring, like "Tom Tom" Heflin, to let the "truth" rest on mere assertion.

But their prime argument is Governor Smith.

If Hoover fails to win the Republican nomination at Kansas City, the American people will be warranted in assuming that it is because professional politicians are in control of the party—professional politicians who play the game for no other reason than for what they can get out of it, and who are ready to adopt any policy, nominate any candidate and promise any favor that seems likely to help them.

What they want, above all else, is an administration that can be duped or delivered, which is the real reason they do not want Herbert Hoover. Though continually yelling that he lacks knowledge of practical politics, they are actually afraid of what he knows about it.

"

Hoover Is Blamed

Those Republican leaders who follow politics as a profession have not combined against Hoover for nothing. They are fully aware of what they want, and of what an obstacle they would be in their path. What they want most is another trustful Harding to deceive and cruddy.

In the West they talk of sympathy for the farmers, and blame Hoover for the failure of the McNary-Haugen bill. In the East they refer to the farmers as a bunch of boozers, and point out what Hoover might do to the power combines. In liberal sections they picture Hoover as opposed to public regulation, but in reactionary sections they describe him as a near-Socialist.

The anti-Hoover campaign is not against ideas, but against a man. By the same token it is not for a constructive policy but for plunder—the kind of plunder that was revealed by the oil scandal.

It is a campaign compounded on cliques and groups who want something out of the Government, and who can be influenced by the prospect of special favor.

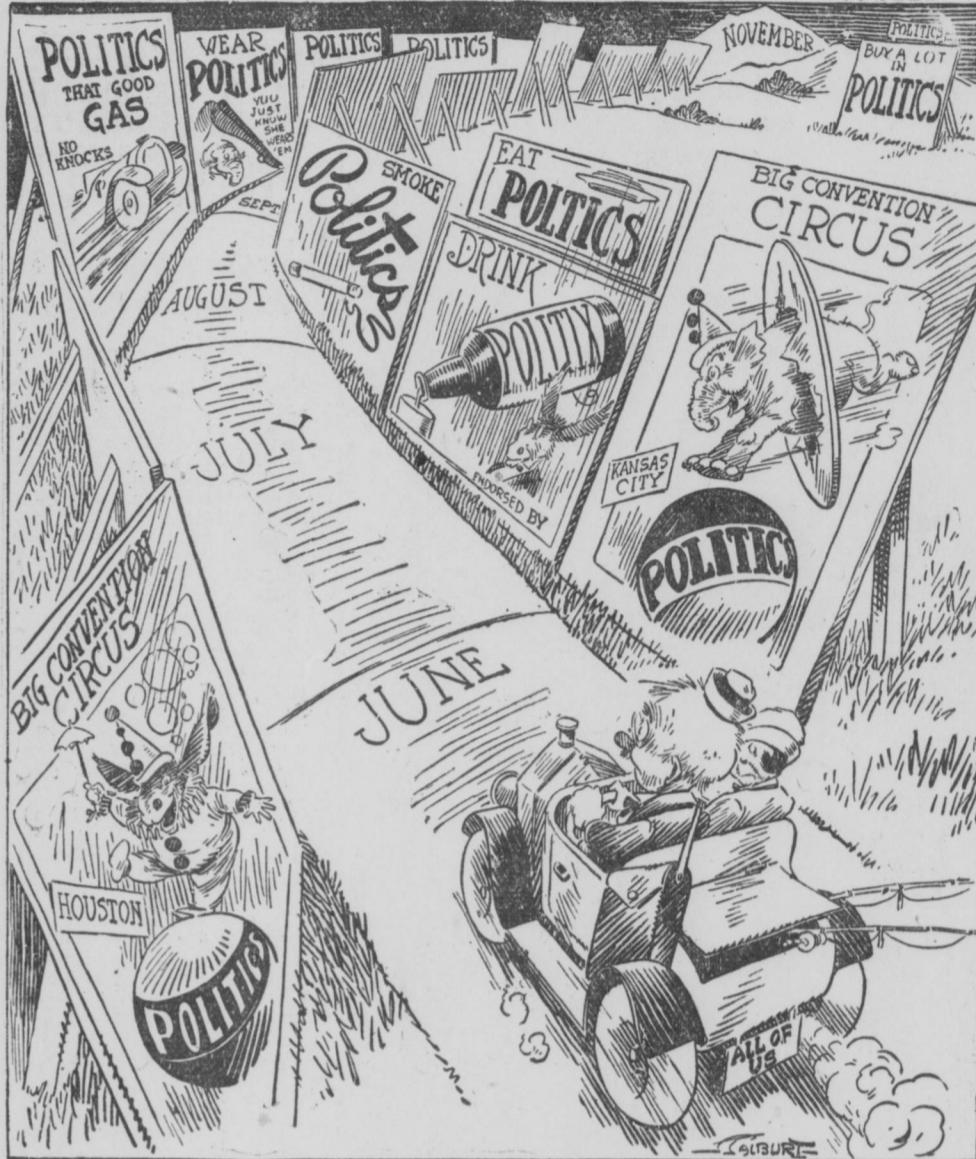
"

Victims of Prejudice

The most curious phase of the present political situation consists in the fact that the two leaders—Hoover and Smith—have so many things in common.

First, neither has sought the presidential nomination. Second, both have made enviable records as public servants. Third, each is the victim of the narrowest kind of prejudices and the dirtiest kind of slander.

## A Beautiful Prospect



### THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION

## Church and State Crush Anabaptists

Written for The Times by Will Durant

LUTHER saw that political and economic chaos would endanger his religious revolution, and perhaps he felt a boundless debt to the Princes who had preserved his life against Emperor and Pope. He flew to the rescue of his lords, bearded the "prophets" in Wittenberg itself, called upon them then, if they were real disciples of Christ, to put aside all use of force, and assured them, as St. Paul had assured another generation, that the inequalities of this world were inevitable and natural, and were of no consequence in the light of eternity.

The communists used ultra-modern methods of defense, sending out propagandists to stir up revolution among and behind the besiegers; the forces of order retaliated by establishing committees for the ferreting out of all communists, made belief in communist a capital crime, executed many young men and women, and spread stories of communist atrocities and the nationalization of women.

THE Anabaptists fought till four men survived in their little army. The leaders were captured; one of them was carried about Germany in a cage as a public exhibition "pour encourager les autres"; all of them were tortured, had their tongues pulled out, and were finally put to death. The man who had opened the gates came for his money, but was refused.

To indiscriminate massacre wholesale executions succeeded. Every street and every public building was filled with the bodies of the slain."

The Anabaptists fought till four men survived in their little army. The leaders were captured; one of them was carried about Germany in a cage as a public exhibition "pour encourager les autres"; all of them were tortured, had their tongues pulled out, and were finally put to death. The man who had opened the gates came for his money, but was refused.