

The Indianapolis Times

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

The Pulitzer Prize

Formal announcement last night that The Times had been awarded the Pulitzer prize in journalism for the year brings, quite naturally, a sense of satisfaction and pride to this newspaper.

The prize is awarded by a jury of distinguished journalists to the newspaper which performs the most meritorious and disinterested public service during the year.

It is to a newspaper what the Nobel peace prize is to statesmen, election to the Academy of Science is to scientists, a championship to a Tunney or a Bobby Jones.

The jury in its citation said that The Times had created a better public sentiment in this State because of its exposure of the wicked and the prosecution of the guilty.

There can be no denial that The Times has exposed the vicious and helped to prosecute the guilty.

The test on a better public sentiment will come in November when the people of this State will decide whether they will continue in public office those who have their political origin in the same influences which furnished the black boxes of Stephenson and the sinister evils which followed.

Unfortunately the protest within the Republican ranks was ineffective, largely due, of course, to fraud and the fact that the primary is without any protection from repeaters and miscount.

The disclosures in the grand jury and before the recount in the congressional contest indicate that public sentiment is against the evils, but that it has been thwarted by the frauds and crookedness which has been the basis of the political control of this State.

On the surface the renomination of Ralph Updike for Congress and Arthur Robinson for the Senate gives no indication of a better public sentiment.

Nor is there any hope in the nomination of a Leslie obtained by a coalition of all the forces which once wore nightgowns to hide their hideous hate.

But there is great satisfaction in the fact that the votes in the Republican primary showed that more members of that party voted against the Klan candidates than voted for its proteges.

There is even greater satisfaction in the very substantial indorsement given to Frank Dailey, known as the Nemesis of corruption, the prosecutor of crooks, the pursuer of the malefactor in office.

The Times, in possession of its medal of honor, values much more the verdict of outstanding men which placed the stamp of disinterest upon its efforts.

This newspaper, it may be repeated, has no political friends nor political foes.

It has a deep and abiding and continuing faith in the ability of the people of this nation to rule themselves.

It cares nothing for political parties, but cares much for Indiana and the Nation.

It has no political ambitions to gain, but it has a patriotic desire to serve.

It cares nothing about the labels of parties, but it cares everything about liberty and justice and decency and honesty.

It is not misled by any claim of any political party to a monopoly of virtue nor does it believe that any political party, in its membership, has any monopoly of sin.

There is a better state of public mind than existed when the goblins were making Governors of the Jacksons and Senators of the Robinsons.

There is a better public state of mind than in the days when Stephenson put over his great trick of making a Congressman of an Updike.

There is a better state of public mind than existed when officials went openly and proudly to the offices of a Stephenson to get orders on legislation and when the mayor of this city went to Washington to get his orders on appointments from a Hiram Evans.

The Times, of course, is proud of its contribution to this change. But it looks forward to November for a final vindication of liberty and honesty and decency and a restoration of the government of the State of Indiana to the people of Indiana.

Another Rubber Discovery

Discoveries useful to industry often are made in strange ways.

The process of vulcanizing rubber came because an experimenter happened to drop a bit of rubber on a hot stove.

Now the War Department announces it has found a way to extend the normal life of rubber to approximately thirty-five years. At present rubber deteriorates badly after a few years use. The discovery will be of great importance to industry.

But here's how it happened to be made. The chemical warfare service was trying to find some way of preventing rapid deterioration of the rubber parts of Army gas masks. In its experiments it not only solved its own problem; it gave makers and users of rubber everywhere a great discovery.

Two More Days

A complicated legal snarl now seems certain to result in case the President fails either to sign or veto the Muscle Shoals bill passed by Congress. Precedents are being brought forward to prove that a so-called pocket veto is no veto when it occurs between two sessions of the same Congress. On the contrary, so it is argued, failure to sign would make the bill a law.

Whether this theory is correct or otherwise, confusion and trouble would result from the President merely withholding his signature. A situation would be created that he surely would not like.

We believe that Congress, by its great majority in favor of the bill, expressed the will of the American people. And we believe the President by signing the bill will do the same.

The "Gee!" in Fiji

The trail-blazing hop of the Southern Cross from Hawaii to Fiji is, in many ways, one of the most remarkable flights ever accomplished.

By great odds it was the longest transoceanic jump yet made by plane. From Newfoundland to Ireland—Lindbergh's course from land to land—is approximately 2,000 miles. From Hawaii to Fiji is 3,200 miles.

Over dangerous waters never before traversed by aircraft, the journey also was probably the most difficult yet done, from the point of view of navigation. Starting from one pin point in the middle of the North Pacific to land on another more than 3,000 miles away, in the middle of the South Pacific, meant death almost surely if the plane failed to hit.

It likewise was the first transoceanic flight whose entire progress was broadcast to a watching world through bulletins regularly wirelessly from the plane itself and relayed from ship to shore.

Even if the Southern Cross never left the ground again, its exploit deserves, and will have, a place of its own in aviation history.

It has proved the value of the multi-motored plane and of radio guidance of ocean-hopping aircraft.

Even the most skeptical now must be convinced that mail and express soon will be winging not only across continents, but over the seven seas as well. And after that, passengers.

The Fiji Islands have been brought within a little more than four days of our Pacific coast. Australia is reachable in less than a week.

And yet some people still think in terms of isolation—as if the Atlantic and the Pacific were not shrinking every day. No longer do these mighty oceans constitute for us barriers of safety, securing us against attack.

Already that statesman is an old fogey whose outlook is so fixed that he can not see that the whole basis of world diplomacy has been revolutionized by dwindling distances.

What is going on in the air simply is breathtaking.

"Gee!" the United Press says Capt. Kingsford-Smith exclaimed as he climbed out of his plane after the flight from Hawaii. He must have been a little dazed by the magnitude of his own and his companions' exploit, yet conscious of some of its significance at the same time.

And "Gee!" a whole lot of people are now echoing, at least mentally, clear around the world. So statesmen, diplomats, admirals, generals and others whose business it is to look ahead, what is happening in the air today spells much.

Make no mistake. After crawling and swimming for millenniums, mortals really are beginning to fly at last. Which can not fail to turn life in this old world of ours upside down.

A laughing hyena escaped from a circus the other day. Doubtless many people will report finding it in picture shows just behind them.

David Dietz on Science

They Search Universe

No. 69

THE cause of the earth's magnetic field may lie 93,000,000 miles away. It may be in the sun. This hypothesis is being investigated by scientists in many parts of the world today.

So far, all attempts to explain the origin of the earth's magnetism have been unsatisfactory. No earthly phenomena seem sufficient to explain the situation.

Consequently, students of the subject have turned their attention to the study of the atmospheric electricity, the electric currents in the earth, the aurora borealis or northern lights, the sun spots and the fluctuations in solar radiation.

These things are studied in the hope that some correspondence can be found between them and the changes which occur in the earth's magnetism.

In this way, it is hoped that light will be thrown eventually upon the origin of the earth's magnetism. Much study has been placed particularly upon magnetic field which throw telegraph and telephone lines out of order and render the compass useless, sometimes for several hours.

There is also a growing belief that there is some direct connection between the phenomena of gravitation and magnetism.

It is thought that any light shed on one problem may help to explain the other mystery.

Einstein, it is true, has given us one way of looking at gravitation. To Einstein, gravitation is a warping of the four-dimensional space-time. It seems to many students, however, that a warping of four-dimensional space would have to be a warping into a fifth dimension and no one has yet told us what that fifth dimension is.

The statement might be made, though some ardent disciples of relativity might regard it as unfair, that relativity, so far, has given us a mathematical way of dealing with the universe rather than a picture of how things really are in the universe.

But our knowledge grows greater each day and that is one of the pleasures of living in the twentieth century.

It is not the question of imperialism, of exploiting the weak and helpless, but of that practical forwardness which goes with the growth of nations, and in which our grandfathers were not supposed to be lacking.

Some day we shall be buying a lot of islands, which other people had sense enough to take after we had found them.

M. E. TRACY

SAYS:

"Merchants and Missionaries Rob the Savage of His Right to Remain Savage, While Radio and Deep-Sea Cable Rob Us of the Fancy That He Has Not Changed."

BECAUSE President Coolidge vetoed the McNary-Haugen bill, we are told that Mr. Hoover's hash is settled. The President can easily be renominated observers say, though he spoiled the farmer's hope of relief, while Mr. Hoover inherits the farmer's resentment, though he had nothing to do with it.

It is hard to make sense out of such a situation, yet, as the New York World points out, it is easily explained. President Coolidge has been heralded as a superman to such an extent, especially in the Mid-West, that it would be inconsistent, if not hopeless to accuse him of making a blunder at this late day.

If a blunder has been made, it follows that those Republican leaders who have preached the gospel of his perfection must find someone else to hold responsible.

Mr. Hoover's selection as the victim was tragically natural. In the first place he was handy. In the second, he is not wanted by some Republican leaders and the opportunity of turning farm resentment against him was too good to be overlooked.

Place Blame on Hoover

Mr. Hoover made it easy for politicians opposing him to capitalize the farmer's discontent with his claimed heirship to the Coolidge policies. He not only gave ordinary folks ground for suspecting that he had helped shape what he was so willing to inherit, but gave his opponents a chance to convert that suspicion into belief.

Hundreds of thousands of perfectly sane voters are convinced that Mr. Hoover was responsible for the veto of the McNary-Haugen bill in spite of President Coolidge's signature, and they find a ready excuse for being convinced in his unqualified approval of the Coolidge Administration.

What more could opposing political leaders ask? Who else was so available as a lamb to be led to the slaughter? Who else would they rather destroy? Who else would certain big bankers rather see out of the picture?

Their hope is to block Mr. Hoover without seeming to do so, to have the farm politicians do the dirty work while they reap the reward.

Pulpit Monkey Glands

As in the case with most everything these days, monkey glands have found their way into the pulpit.

Dean Inge, who has never been known for his optimism, thinks that grafting them on the human body is nothing less than a sacrilege. Dr. George Voronoff, who has made a reputation, as well as some money, in that very way, replies that no less than sixty-three priests are remembering him in their prayers for having postponed the ravages of age, and points out that it is a real service to prolong men's usefulness.

Now, let's hear from Dayton, Tenn.

Fijis Welcome Fliers

Captain Kingsford-Smith and his three companions made Suva, capital of the Fiji Islands, after the longest overseas flight on record by a single gallon or so of gasoline. If the contrary winds they bucked had been just a little more contrary, their feat would have turned out a tragedy instead of a triumph. Such is the narrow margin that often separates success from failure.

As it is, they are enjoying one of those old-fashioned Methodist welcomes for which the Fiji Islanders have become famous since they sloughed off their cannibalistic habits for more modern ways.

Truly, this world is becoming a drier, drier, drier variety of peculiarities which used to thrill us are disappearing before the exactions of trade and religion. Merchants and missionaries rob the savage of his right to remain savage, while radio and deep-sea cable rob us of the fancy that he has not changed.

It just does not square with what we were taught in the little red schoolhouse forty years ago.

Absent-Minded America

The Fiji Islands not only mark the sweep and urge of human progress, but the absent-minded policy which has characterized the United States.

These islands should be long to us. The first thorough survey of them was by Americans in 1840, and it was not until thirty-five years afterward that the English accepted control of them at the request of a Government which we had virtually forced into bankruptcy by pressing claims for injuries to our nationals.

As a matter of fact, our wind-jamming skippers of the "roaring forties" did more to chart the Pacific than those of any other land, but we got nothing out of it, except to show other people where the prizes were.

Now that we not only want our place in the sun, but need it. Now that we feel the need of naval bases, aviation fields and cable stations, we find them all garbled up, though our grandfathers discovered them and we might have had them for the mere asking.

It is not the question of imperialism, of exploiting the weak and helpless, but of that practical forwardness which goes with the growth of nations, and in which our grandfathers were not supposed to be lacking.

Some day we shall be buying a lot of islands, which other people had sense enough to take after we had found them.

Hasn't Fully Recovered From That Last Poison Ivy!



THE STORY OF CIVILIZATION

Strange El Greco Goes to Spain

Written for The Times by Will Durant

AFTER every defeat the Don begins to talk of the coming victory, like Americans after an election. He is full of hallucinations, seeing knights and armies everywhere, like a young columnist visioning a revolution in Main Street. He cannot believe it when Sancho assures him it is only a flock of sheep, like the people of Main Street. He is all passion without knowledge, as Hamlet is all knowledge without passion.

Yet our hearts go out to Quixote. There is something beautiful even in this warm uniformed desire, as the halcyon of the romantic stream which he never quite stopped, revealing the essential comedy and tragedy of human life.

When "Don Quixote" appeared, it struck the temper of the age, and ran into several editions; it was obviously the book of its generation, and was soon to be recognized as the great book of Spain. King Philip III, standing one day on the balcony of his palace in Madrid, observed a student seated on the opposite bank of the Manzanares River.

The student was reading, but every now and then he interrupted his reading, and gave himself violent blows on the head, accompanied by outbursts of ecstasy and mirth. "That student," said the King, "is either out of his wits, or he is reading 'Don Quixote.'"

NEVERTHELESS the publishers arranged that very little profit should come to Cervantes from his genius should be content with just and not ask for bread. And as the author was setting to work on a second part, hoping that this would bring him comfort, another author, Avellaneda, brazenly brought out a continuation.

Cervantes raged, but kept his courage, working all the harder to surpass the thief who had purloined his name. He died in 1616, and was buried in 1615 at Seville, where he had no second part to his "Don Quixote," except this one. But the effort had exhausted the author. He describes himself whimsically, at the age of 66.

A man of aquiline visage, with chestnut hair, smooth and unfringed brow, with sparkling eyes and a nose arched though well proportioned, a silver beard, though twenty years ago it was golden, large moustache, small mouth, teeth not important, for he had six of them, and those in ill condition, and worse placed because they do not correspond one with the other; the body between the two extremes, neither large nor small, the complexion bright, rather white than brown, somewhat heavy shouldered, and not very nimble on his feet.

Two years later he was taken severely ill from dropsy. His physician advised him to give up liquor; "I replied, that many had told me the same story; but that as for giving over drinking, they might as well desire a man to give up the sole purpose of his being." He died in April, 1616, within a week of the death of Shakespeare.

And now we shall pass without hiatus from Cervantes to El Greco, when there is hardly any relationship between them except that they were both Spaniards—and one of them was not? For the great initiator of the Spanish Renaissance in painting, as his name tells us, was a Greek, El Greco; originally, Domenico Teatocopuli.

He had been born in Crete (no one knows when), had studied under Titian, and then had come to Toledo to fuse the dark pieties of Spain with his own mystic spirit in paintings that are now rated among the highest treasures of the art.

Our first record of this strange figure is a letter of the Venetian painter Ciovia to Cardinal Nepote Farnese:

"There is in Rome a young man from Candia, a disciple of Titian, who, in my opinion, is a painter of rare talent. Among other things he has painted a portrait of himself, which causes wonderment to all the painters of Rome. I should like him to be under the patronage of your illustrious and Reverend Lordship, without any other contribution toward his livelihood than a room in a room in the Farnese Palace for some little time, until he can find other accommodation."

FROM that brief letter we can picture the typical life of an artist, hunted from place to place by poverty, glad to have any roof over his head, and losing himself in the passionate pursuit of his art.

Then nothing more of him till seven years later (1577), when we find that date and his name on a picture in Toledo. A writer of the next generation describes the proud maturity of the artist:

At that time there came from Italy a painter called Domenico Greco. . . . He settled in the famous and ancient city of Toledo, introducing such an extravagant style that to this day nothing has been seen to equal it; attempting to discuss it would cause confusion in the soundest minds.

He came to this city with a high reputation, so much so that he gave to be understood that there was nothing superior to his works. . . . His nature was extravagant like his paintings. It has not been known with certainty what he did with his works, as he used to say that no price was high enough for them, and so he gave them in a pledge to their owners, who willingly advanced him what he asked for them.

He earned many ducats, but spent them in too great pomp and display in his house, to the extent of keeping paid musicians to entertain him at meal times. . . . He had few disciples, as none cared to follow his capricious and extravagant style, which was only suitable to himself.

That first of his great pictures, "The Assumption of the Virgin," made for the Church of San Domingo el Antiguo at Toledo, is now in the Art Institute of Chicago, occupying the place of honor in the entire collection; there at our leisure we can study it and see if the charges of extravagance are deserved.

There is extravagance in El Greco, but not in this master-piece; every figure is magnificent, and those at the lower right are among the finest ever made. Each one of these old men might be a portrait in himself, and give his maker immortality; but again, the women, even the Virgin, have character as well as beauty; and the unity of the composition merges with the rapture of every face to make us marvel that here at the very outset of his Renaissance, Spain should have found perfection.

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(To Be Continued)

KEEPING UP

With

THE NEWS

MENTAL gymnastics, crossword puzzles and the like have been edged out of the national capital in favor of the latest game, when is law?

You start with this problem.

After a century and half in which to perfect its rules of government, the "most efficient country on earth" discovers there is no rule on whether a bill dies or becomes a law in a congressional recess if the President fails to sign within ten days of receipt.

By Thursday some one must find a definite answer, or there is apt to be a serious governmental dispute which only the United States Supreme Court can settle.

The Muscle Shoals bill is the one in question. Many consider it one of the most important passed by the last session of Congress or by any Congress.

It is the charter and pride of the Government ownership advocates. But, if you believe the power "trust" lobby, it is the gateway to Bolshevism.

SEVEN years' fight against the "trust" was required to put it through the Senate and the House.

It provides for Government operation of the Muscle Shoals Alabama hydro-electric project, and manufacture of cheap power, fixed nitrogen and experimental fertilizer. It also saves for the Government the important Cove Creek dam site.

Revelations in the Federal Trade commission investigation—of public utility propaganda throughout the Nation in schools, colleges, clubs, newspapers, legislatures and Congress—helped force this bill through Congress at the close of the session.

The bill went to President Coolidge, who in the past has been a bitter opponent. Under ordinary circumstances he would have vetoed it, and Congress would have tried to pass it over the President's head.

But this is a campaign year. The President already has used his veto right so freely that some accuse him of misusing this power. Moreover, his veto of the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill has become the major party issue before the Republican national convention next week.

CONSIDERING the farm bill veto, and the public awakening to power "trust" attempts to control the mind and laws of the Nation, it was hardly expedient for the President to veto the Muscle Shoals bill before Congress recessed.

At any rate, he did not. His intention apparently was to kill it with what is known as a pocket veto. Under the pocket veto the President simply holds the bill for a period of ten days after he has received it. The bill then being without signature automatically dies.

This practice is a common one, and there is no question of its constitutionality when applied after final adjournment of Congress. But the situation now is that Congress is only in interim adjournment, or recess, between the two regular sessions of this Congress.

What happens if the President fails to sign the Muscle Shoals bill by June 7, the end of the ten-day period?

It is dead, say White House and Justice Department officials.

It is a law, say Senator Norris, author of the bill.

THE same dispute arose during the sixty-ninth Congress on an unimportant measure, but the issue between the executive and legislative branches was not forced to a showdown. This precedent is described by Representative Cannon, former chairman of the House of Representatives.

"We passed the bill through both houses and sent it to the President. He failed to sign it within ten days. The House judiciary committee at the next session reported that the bill was law. This decision was concurred in by the speaker of the House, and being questioned by no member of either House, thereby became the unanimous opinion of Congress.

"The President nevertheless did not send the bill to the secretary of State for promulgation. The Constitution required promulgation of a new law."

The author of that bill, or law, got his desired appropriation through another general bill, and his State then was not sufficiently interested to settle the constitutional question involved by carrying it to the Supreme Court.

NORRIS disputes the commonly accepted notion, that a pocket veto is effective in killing a bill between sessions, by arguing this would nullify constitutional provisions giving Congress not only the right, but the duty to pass upon presidential disapproval of a bill.

Norris also cites a Supreme Court decision affirming the President's right to sign a bill during a Christmas recess of more than ten days, which he thinks proves that such a bill cannot be dead.

If the President fails to sign the Muscle Shoals bill by Thursday, as anticipated, both the constitutional and power issues are considered so grave that a resort to the Supreme Court is apparently the only way out. And that would involve long delay.

This Date in U. S. History

- June 6
- 1758—Birth of Nathan Hale, patriot.
- 1765—Massachusetts called for a colonial congress.
- 1799—Patrick Henry, revolutionary orator, died.
- 1872—Republicans nominated U. S. Grant.
- 1888—Democrats nominated Grover Cleveland and A. G. Thurman.
- 1900—Civil government established in Alaska.

Daily Thought

Blessed is the man that endures temptation, for when he is tried he shall receive the crown of life.—James 1:12.

THERE are times when it would seem as if God flung with a line, and the devil with a net.—Mme. Swetchine.

Do prunes contain vitamins A, B and C? They contain vitamins A and B, but their content of vitamin C is inappreciable.

What is a "court of over and terminer"? The term in English law refers to an assize court for criminal justice. In some parts of the United States the term is used for a higher criminal courts. Over is from the Latin "audire" to hear.