The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

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SCRIPPS-HOWARD

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

A Speedy Trial

The killing of a policeman by a bandit should result in something more than a continued battle with bullets between police and bandits.

Policeman Miller died protecting the lives and property of all citizens. He represented the law and orderly living as opposed to anarchy and the jungle rule.

There are causes of crime, just as there are causes of disease and epidemics. If the city were threatened with typhoid the physicians of the city would be drafted not only to cure particular cases, but to destroy the source of the disease.

Why should not lawyers of this community, intrusted by the State to see that the law is followed, trained presumably for the defense of law, also presumably dedicated to justice, be drafted to do something to stamp out the source of banditry?

There can be no argument with the statement that every man who contemplates a crime has this in common with all criminals.

He never expects punishment.

No one takes a gun and goes out to rob with any expectation of seeing prison doors open upon him. If he weighs his chances at all, he must consider the fact that there is in nearly every case a very long delay between arrest and the day of atonement.

It is that delay in justice which makes the law weak. Delay never operates in favor of society. It always operates in favor of the criminal.

Witnesses can die or can be intimidated. If the criminal stands well enough with his gang, evidence can be manufactured. There are lawyers who do not hesitate to use fake alibis to secure the freedom of their clients. Delay helps all these.

If it were known that every arrest would be followed by prompt and vigorous prosecution and trial, it is a safe prophecy that very many youths would hesitate where now they rush eagerly out to the streets and highways to use their guns on citizens.

If word went out to the criminal underworld and to weak youths who are hunting for "thrills" that in this city every person arrested for a major crime is placed on trial within two weeks at the most after his arrest, the criminal judge would not be compelled to swelter all summer and forego his vacation in order to continue the uneven battle.

There are about fifty accused men and women in the county jail awaiting trial. There are a lot of vacant court rooms.

Why not a few special judges and a few special prosecutors, drawn from those who have had experience in the past, and a trial for these fifty next week?

The experiment of speedy trials guaranteed by the Constitution might prove more successful than machine guns.

The last thing a guilty man wants is to be tried. The first thing that an innocent man desires is a vindication.

Something for Research

The heads of great American universities and research foundations, with which we are so well supplied, forever are reiterating their desire to help solve the problems confronting the Nation.

Accepting their offer in all good faith, we have a study to propose in line with this aim.

It is a study of the effect of eight years of national prohibition—the type we've had—on the physical well-being of the country.

We realize the utter hopelessness of reaching agreement on the moral issues involved. Each individual settles them for himself, by processes going on inside of his inscrutable head.

But the question of what the experiment in prohibition has accomplished in physical terms is a possible, even if a very difficult, one.

Right now people trying to reach an honest decision on the physical results of prohibition are in a pitiable predicament. They are buffeted between two opposing waves of propaganda.

The professional dry organizations, to prove that such prosperity as we have is directly traceable to the Eighteenth amendment, use figures with startling abandon.

The organized wets offend no less in their efforts to trace all our woes to prohibition.

An answer to this question will not, of course, settle the prohibition issue, but it will help toward an ultimate solution.

The great research institutions of the country have the resources with which to produce this badly needed light. Have they the courage to tackle it?

About Belonging

Republicans bolting Hoover and Democrats bolting Smith offer nothing to worry about. There is nothing hard and fast about a citizen's affiliation with a political party. The right of any citizen to vote as he pleases can't be questioned; there is nothing shameful in changing allegiance from one party to another; there is nothing to be proud of in being a thick-and-thin partisan.

It is much more wholesome for citizens to belong to themselves than to belong to a party.

So if there is a free and easy swing this year of voters back and forth between the parties, it merely means more political independence. Anyhow, the difference isn't so much between the two old parties as between the two strong individuals who happen to be candidates.

Public opinion is independent enough this year to be fluid. Which way it will flow in full stream depends largely on the appeal made to public sentiment by the candidates.

Another Victim

Not a pleasant story was that printed by The Times two days ago, when it told of the manner in which a widow of this city, with a bevy of small children to support, sent $7.50 to the concern operated by Frank Rozelle, now United States marshal for northern Indiana.

Whatever the postal officials may think about it, there is no doubt about what this woman thinks.

She believes with Robert Hicks, the Nemesis of mail order frauds, that her money was filched by fraud.

If this business is fraudulent, then the people have a right to a different marshal for their Federal court.

It is significant that of the two Senators of this State who indorsed Rozelle, who has been rather prominent in politics and who boasted that he was called upon by Governor Jackson to help him persuade legislators on measures the Governor wanted, only one has taken responsibility.

The attitude of Arthur Robinson differs from that of Senator Watson. Robinson declares that he has faith in Rozelle and throws his influence to the protection of his lieutenant from any inquiry.

In fairness to Senator Watson it should be stated that he has taken no such position. The responsibility is entirely upon the shoulders of Senator Robinson.

There will be, of course, some time and some place, an inquiry that will get results.

It would be too humiliating to concede that political power and prestige and protection control the Federal Government to an extent where charges of fraud on the part of those named to high office can be ignored.

The meanest thefts are those committed by mails. If Rozelle is innocent, he should be vindicated. If guilty, the path is clear and plain.

Good for Montana

From the returns it seems evident that United States Senator Burton K. Wheeler has been overwhelmingly renominated by Montana Democrats.

Good for Montana! And it will be good for the rest of us, too, if the State sends him back to the Senate in the fall.

The country needs Senators like the hawk-nosed young man from the mountain State, who arrived in the Senate and in the public eye almost simultaneously as the lid-lifter on the noisome Department of Justice in the days of Daugherty, Jess Smith and William J. Burns.

The argument was made against Wheeler in the Montana primary that he had neglected his State's interests. We don't know how hard Wheeler has worked for Montana, but we do know how hard he has worked for what he has believed to be the best interests of the United States.

We do know that in most of his fights he has been right, and that he always has been fearless and always independent.

Montana surely needs Wheeler as much as the rest of the country does.

Americans, per capita, are 96 cents poorer this year than they were last, the treasury tells us. If we could find the person who got our 96 cents, we'd gladly send him the other four.

Action is asked by cemetery associations to prevent couples petting there. It seems to be a grave problem.

David Dietz on Science

Globe-Trotter and Hero

No. 106

KING CEPHEUS, after whom the Greeks named the constellation of Cepheus, was a globe-trotter and an adventurer. According to one legend, he was one of the band of forty or fifty heroes who accompanied Jason in the quest for the golden fleece.

This legend tells that two royal children, Phrixus and Helle, were about to be sacrificed to Jupiter, the king of the gods. Their mother rescued them and they were carried away on the back of a golden ram.

Helle, however, fell into the sea, and that part of the sea is still called the Hellespont in her memory. The ram carried Phrixus to Colchis on the Black Sea.

When the ram died, King Aetes of Colchis hung the fleece upon a tree in a pleasant grove and left a dragon to guard it.

Now King Peleas of Iolcus feared his nephew Jason. Accordingly he ordered Jason to bring him the golden fleece, hoping that he would be killed in the attempt.

Jason gathered his companions, including King Cepheus. They built a wooden ship, the Argo. That is why they are sometimes spoken of as the Argonauts.

On their way to Colchis they had many adventures. They visited the land of Lemnos, where they found only women. The women had murdered all the men a short time before. But apparently they were not confirmed man-haters, for their queen fell in love with Jason.

When Jason reached Colchis, King Aetes demanded that he yoke oxen that breathed fire and had hoofs of brass. Next he was to plow a field with them and sow the field with dragons' teeth. These teeth, Aetes knew, would immediately grow into armed soldiers who would kill Jason.

But Aetes' daughter, Medea, who was a sorceress, fell in love with Jason and, with her aid, he accomplished the tasks.

Medea helped him steal the fleece and then started back with him and his companions in the Argo.

Aetes gave pursuit. But Medea, according to her story, killed her brother, cut him into pieces and scattered them upon the waves. Aetes stopped to gather them up and so Jason escaped.

There are other legends about Cepheus. Some authorities have attempted to identify Cepheus with the Egyptian Cheops, builder of the pyramids.

The constellation is a very old one, having been known to the Chaldeans in 2300 B. C.

M. E. TRACY SAYS:

"There Is No Alibi for the Crime Situation Which Prevails in the United States Except the Inefficiency of Its Law Enforcement Machinery."

I AM not one of those optimistic souls who look on murder as chiefly the product of brainstorms, drunkenness or other irrepressible emotions.

I believe most murderers weigh their chances, whether they take a month or only five minutes. First, they weigh the chance of doing a successful job; second, they weigh the chance of escaping punishment.

If the victim happens to be strong and alert, they are likely to think twice. If they face a character of law enforcement that promises to catch and convict them, they are likely to think three times.

Your average murderer picks a weakling if he can, and his bravery grows as the law fails to function.

# # #

Chances of Slayers

There is just one reason why New York City has about ten times as many murders as London, and that is because New York fails to catch as many murderers.

When a Londoner goes forth with blood in his eye, he hesitates, no matter how easy his victim may look or how mad he may be. He remembers that Scotland Yard seldom fails to get its man, and that this is so well understood that nearly half of the murderers in London commit suicide rather than play the game through.

The New Yorker faces a more encouraging set-up. The record shows him better than an even chance of not being arrested, better than a four-to-one chance of not going to prison, and better than a twenty-to-one chance of not being executed.

The New Yorker takes a risk, to be sure, but not big enough to deter such passion as can contemplate killing. When a man is mad enough to shoot his wife, brain a pal, or blackjack some citizen for a few dollars, it requires something more than an even chance of getting caught, or a four-to-one chance of being jailed to cool off.

# # #

Forgotten Crime Laws

We have been so busy telling each other about the hopeless failure of prohibition, and why peace officers do not and cannot enforce that particular law, as to forget how they have fallen down in other lines, and they have been so busy tagging automobiles, regulating traffic and making life miserable for honest people in general, that they have had little time to think about it themselves.

If our political leaders really want an issue, let them look to the shoddy, inexcusable record this country is making with regard to serious crimes.

We could consult statistical reports, of course, and prove that only one American out of 10,000 is murdered each year, but that does not help the victim any.

What is more to the point, we could go to the same statistics and prove that only one Englishman out of more than 150,000 is killed each year, and only one Frenchman out of 75,000 or 80,000.

There is no alibi for the situation which prevails in the United States of America except the inefficiency of its law enforcement machinery.

We have no worse population to deal with than other countries, no greater degree of poverty, no more of a criminal complex and no unhealthier economic and social conditions.

# # #

Gamble for Luxury

Easy come, easy go. In the days of Cleveland and McKinley, the Tabors were rich. H. A. W. Tabor had not only made a fortune out of his Leadville mine, but had been elected a United States Senator, while Mrs. Tabor had climbed to the top of the social ladder. All that was not enough. Tabor wanted more than $10,000,000, so he invested in other mines, hoping to make other strikes.

His luck failed him and he died comparatively poor.

Mrs. Tabor has spent the last twenty-five years trying to hold and work the old mine. Four times she has saved it from a threatened foreclosure, but the fifth time she lost.

Such is the lure of gold. We may work for necessity, but we gamble for luxury. The great fortunes have not come to those who merely sought bread and butter, and the reat failures have not come to those who were content with it.

To be rich for the sake of strutting and to lose riches through too much strutting has featured the life not only of us Americans, but of every prosperous people.

# # #

Keep Money Moving

Some believe that so long as wealth is kept in motion it does good. Some have gone so far in this belief, indeed, as to oppose "places of deposit." Such a clear thinker as Sam Houston doubted the advisability of banks.

Admitting that money is dynamic, that gold is the toe of the sock only rots the sock, and that it must be kept moving to accomplish results, one can still doubt the wisdom of just "blowing it."

One young man invests his money in a business, while another invests it in movies and week-end trips.

A child could write the rest of the story.

What is true of individuals is apt to be true of communities and nations. Money used for enduring institutions and substantial improvements projects itself into the future. Money used to satisfy temporary desires and appetites disappears right there.

Children cudgel their brains whether to boy toys that will last a week, or satisfy their sweet teeth for five minutes, and that epitomizes the problem we grown-ups constantly face.

Dispossessed

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Infantile Paralysis Is Horror to Mothers

* This is the second of three articles on infections of the nervous system. Next: Encephalitis.

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

Editor Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygeia, the Health Magazine.

OF the three great epidemic diseases that attack the central nervous system, infantile paralysis is perhaps most dreaded by the mothers of growing children.

One of the first pandemics of this disease that swept the world was that which appeared in Norway and Sweden about 1906, spread over the nations of the world rapidly, and then appeared in epidemic form in the United States.

It attacked first on the eastern coast of this country and then in Minnesota and in adjoining States which are the western homeland of the Scandinavian immigrants.

In his Kober lecture, Dr. Simon Flexner points out that this epidemic has not yet run its course, and that considerable outbreaks of infantile paralysis have occurred in 1927 in California, Massachusetts and New York State, in Germany and Rumania.

In the epidemic that swept New York in 1916, 20,000 cases were reported and many more may have occurred.

Thus the pandemic has lasted twenty years, and it is not possible to predict when it will wear itself out.

By "wearing itself out" one means that the disease will have attacked those it can reach and who have no resistance against it.

It is known today that there are some cases of infantile paralysis which pass through phases of fever and the other symptoms, but without paralysis, so that it is not possible to say definitely exactly how many cases really occur and are diagnosed and just how much the disease spreads.

The cause of this disease has not been determined. Many investigations have been made which indicate that there is an infectious substance, either a germ or a virus, the latter being infectious material so small that it cannot be seen even with the most high powered microscope.

It has been proved definitely that it is possible to pass the disease to monkeys by transmitting the infectious material.

Dr. Flexner is convinced that the disease is passed from one person to another by the way of secretions of the nose and throat; from the nose, it is carried to the spine, and there it affects the anterior side of the spine so that another name for the disease is 'acute anterior poliomyelitis," an inflammation of the material in the front of the spine.

From the front of the spine pass the nerves that control motion.

Therefore, severe inflammation and crippling of these nerves result in the condition of paralysis, that is the chief mark of the disease.

It has been found that persons who are recovering from the disease develop in their blood material which fights the disease.

Hence it is becoming customary to treat the condition by obtaining the blood of persons who have recently recovered and injecting this into persons who are suffering with infantile paralysis.

The suggestion is also made that such blood may have the power of preventing the disease, and in the presence of an epidemic, attempts are already being made to control the disease by injecting the blood serum that has been mentioned.

Bridge Play Made Easy

BY W. W. WENTWORTH

(Abbreviations: A—ace; K—king; Q—queen; J—jack; X—any card lower than 10.)

THE aim of the declarer whose bid won the contract is to make game. The aim of his opponents is to prevent him from doing so. These are the first objectives of playing.

To make less game is usually a waste of time and effort, for it is only in about one case out of thirty that a partial score is of any assistance toward game.

Assume that you are the declarer and a card has been led. The dummy is exposed.

Do not touch any of its cards until you have prepared a mental picture of the possible outcome.

Plan your campaign before you finger a card in the dummy. Now is the moment to hesitate.

Do not permit your opponents to rush you into playing. If you plan at the beginning you will not have to vacillate during the course of the game.

As you continue, it may be necessary to alter slightly the campaign which you prepared at the inception, but this maneuver will be in line with your strategy.

Every plan is subject to some tactical changes as the playing proceeds for you may encounter an unexpected distribution of cards.

Where the novice fails to make game, the expert holding the same cards very often succeeds. This is at times erroneously attributed to luck.

As a matter of fact, it is a well-laid campaign combined with sound judgment which produces winning results for the expert.

Luck is a very small factor in the playing of the hand; logic usually wins.

The capable player has an attentive ear and a watchful eye.

The bidding of his opponents and their discards furnish him with valuable information as to the location of the remaining cards.

Let logic govern you in the playing of your hand and you soon will find so-called luck trailing in your path.

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Eagle or Ostrich—Which?

BY HEYWOOD BROUN

(In the New York Telegram)

If you or I, in talking to some friend, began to say that the present state of prohibition was unsatisfactory and that it had been marked by bootleggers and grafters the one addressed would yawn.

Or he would look up in some surprise and wonder why anybody took the trouble to waste his breath on facts so obvious.

And yet Governor Smith, by saying just this, has achieved every front page in the country. His message to the Houston convention is a major political sensation.

All of which goes to prove now far politics has drifted away from reality and candor.

Al Smith displayed no extraordinary acumen in pointing out the need of change in our enforcement laws. There is no striking phrase or singing eloquence in what he wrote, and still I think he has given out a great State paper.

In a dark room a match may seem a headlight, and in a land grown murky with hypocrisy a simple statement of the truth can be as dazzling as the sun.

# # #

Eagle or Ostrich?

THE issue raised by Governor Smith will be described as a contest between the wets and drys. Some may tell us that there are problems of greater moment, such as our relations with the other nations of the world.

To me there is only one issue, and it underlies every question brought up in the platform of either party. The contest in its final essence is much more than the fight between the wets and drys.

In November we will vote to determine whether Uncle Sam is a reasonably truthful man or just a bland old liar. We must choose between the eagle and the ostrich.

# # #

Close to Damnation

PROHIBITION has brought us close to the damnation deserved by those who feel that phrases are wings with which to soar up to salvation. Our policy in Nicaragua is wholly consistent with the official attitude toward alcohol.

In both cases the assumption is made that as long as we say the right thing we are at liberty to do just the opposite.

If our spokesman says that America has no desire to interfere in the internal affairs of any other nation he may with a clear conscience send marines to catch Sandino. And Herbert Hoover, in calling prohibition a noble experiment, restores the sight of every victim of governmental poisons.

There are nations across the seas that feel in their time of agony America has been indifferent. That is not so, for Coolidge has made for them a dozen pretty speeches.

Our cosmopolitan philanthropy has been proclaimed in the Republican platform. No needy land which comes to us to ask for bread ever will go away with anything less than an autographed stone neatly inscribed, "We wish you well."

So great is our tenderness that we would never think of shooting anybody in the Caribbean countries without first setting forth the fact that the fellow was a bandit.

As for the farmer, when has he ever lacked kind words from Washington? He is a fool not to plant some of these promises, for they surely should yield a bumper crop of turnips from which he could draw blood and sustenance.

# # #

New and Dry Morality

CONSIDER a specific instance of morality which has been popularized by prohibition. The Rev. James G. Cannon, Jr., of Richmond, Va., and a bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, went to Houston at a time when the nomination of Smith was assured and insisted that there must be a dry plank in the platform.

The good bishop got his wish and announced that he was satisfied. Now that Smith has repeated his belief in modification, Bishop Cannon is in revolt and threatens to bolt the party. All of which simmers down to the astounding fact that, according to prohibition principles, lip service is more admirable than truth.

Bishop Cannon would have supported Smith the liar, but he turns away from him in horror when the Governor stands forth in honesty and candor.

Consider, too, what ravages Volsteadism has brought about in Christianity. The churches have been and are the very backbone of the Klan. When men were flogged in Alabama there were ministers who stood by and lent approval.

Take any piece of hate or venom or intolerance, and follow its trail back to the den from which it came. There are, of course, exceptions, but very many times you'll find the creature lives within the shadow of a steeple.

What shall it avail a Nation to gain a prohibition amendment and lose its own soul?

# # #

A Case for Dr. Al

AMERICA is sick. I know that we have more radios than any other people and countless automobiles and money in the savings banks. These are not the things by which men live. There was a big bull market in Babylon the very afternoon before it fell.

In the year 1928 we are not a truthful, forthright or honest people. We would do well to trade in the new and shining car in exchange for a little common candor.

To your tents, O Israel, and when you get there turn back the flaps and let in air and sunlight. Doesn't it seem to you that this place in which we live is just a little stuffy?

KEEPING UP With THE NEWS

BY LUDWELL DENNY

WASHINGTON, July 19.—The loose coalition of the labor and Obregonista-revolutionary parties which has dominated Mexico and preserved comparative peace for eight years is beginning to break, following assassination of President-Elect Obregon, according to reliable reports received here from Mexico.

Whether this incipient party strife will prevent in the end a peaceful transition of power is not yet known, it is said.

Meanwhile, both groups nominally are rallying President Calles, appealing to the government for prompt investigation and punishment of all connected with the murder and appealing to the populace to remain calm.

To stop rumors that certain government officials or labor party leaders or religious organizations were connected indirectly with the assassination, Calles immediately appointed close personal friends of Obregon as Mexico City chief of police and to other key positions to pursue the investigation.

# # #

ENEMIES of Calles charge he intends to take advantage of the present crisis to continue his present term two years longer, under the recent constitutional amendment extending the presidential term from four to six years.

His friends reply that the fact that he did not contest this year's election against his ally, Obregon, and that he originally did not interpret the constitutional amendment as prolonging his own term, is sufficient proof of Calles' unselfishness.

It is admitted generally, however, that Calles to maintain order in the republic may have to carry on temporarily, pending choice of a successor. He is believed to be holding conferences with labor and Obregonista party chiefs regarding the most acceptable time and manner for holding another national election.

If Calles desires he can permit congressional choice of another as provisional president, and himself run for the full term, which would not violate the constitutional prohibition against consecutive terms. Or he may consent to continue as provisional president at the expiration of his regular term in December, until the earliest date at which a permanent successor can be popularly elected.

# # #

ASIDE from Calles, six men are under discussion for the presidency, with the talk tending to narrow down to Aaron Saenz of the Obregonista party and Celestino Gasca of the labor party.

Two of these six men are nonpartisans: former Finance Minister Pani, who is now ambassador to Paris, and Manuel Tellez, ambassador in Washington. But it is considered highly probable that a politician, rather than a diplomat, will be picked.

Of the politicians the two Obregonista party leaders are Saenz, former foreign minister, recent campaign adviser of Obregon and Governor of Nuevo Leon State; and Col. Ricardo Topete, Obregon's campaign manager.

The two labor party leaders are Luis Moronez, Minister of Industry and commerce and head of the Crom or Mexican Federation of Labor, and Gasca. Gasca, was secretary of the supply department in the Obregon cabinet, and is now governor of the federal district under Calles.

In the original coalition of the two parties, Obregon of the revolutionary party was given the presidency, followed by Calles of the labor party. In the continued coalition this year, under which Obregon was to have a second term, the Morones left wing of the Labor party was becoming very dissatisfied over Obregon's alleged conservatism.

If the coalition is to be maintained in this emergency, permitting a peaceful transition of power, either Gasca of the labor party or Saenz of the Obregonistas is considered a possible compromise candidate. But if it comes to an open fight between the two parties, Morones is expected to lead the Laborites and Topete the Obregonistas.

But Calles is the big question mark. Having the support of a majority of the army, of the industrial workers and the Agraians, and being in office, Calles is considered more important than all the other politicians and generals put together in determining Mexico's course at this crossroads.

Mr. Fixit

Helps Residents Get Street Paved.

Let Mr. Fixit, The Times' representative at city hall, present your troubles to city officials. Write Mr. Fixit at The Times. Names and addresses which must be given will not be published.

Need for paving of Wilkins St. along Rhodius Park was cited today in a letter to Mr. Fixit.

Dear Mr. Fixit:

I would like for you to see what you can do toward getting Wilkins St. paved along Rhodius Park. West Indianapolis has a very fine park, but the streets are so rough that it is not easily available. Lee, Kappes and McLain Sts. should be scraped.

L. W.

Secretary Ernest F. Frick advised Mr. Fixit that the board of works will consider a petition for paving of Wilkins St. if you will obtain a petition with the names of property owners on the street. You can secure a petition at the board office, city hall.

The street commissioner promised to scrape the other south side streets.

Action on these street complaints has been promised Fixit by Street Commissioner Charles A. Grossart:

Alley between Pershing Ave. and N. Sheffield at Ohio St.; Elder Ave., south of Washington St.; Concord from Michigan to Tenth Sts.; alley in rear of 4000 E. Washington; 3534 E. Ohio St.; alley east of Highland Ave., and Michigan St. jog.