



The Indianapolis Times

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

The Ludlow Reception

All citizens are invited to journey to the Claypool Wednesday night and attend a reception for Louis Ludlow, the congressman-elect from Indianapolis.

There has been a nation-wide rejoicing over his victory. Telegrams and letters have come from the great and the near-great of the land, welcoming him to the field of legislation.

Indianapolis steps forward in the role of a new daughter of the Pharaohs, discovering a new Moses in the bullrushes of the political marshes which have given off in the past rather dangerous and malodorous stenches.

The election of Ludlow is important, not only because of his own eminent fitness for the place, but as a warning to the machine politicians that the people of this city have determined to run their own affairs in the future.

Updike was a symbol, rather than a personality. He was no worse, and probably some better, than most of those who came into power under bargains with the goblins. It so happened that he drew the center of attention and lived in a community with an awakened conscience.

The election of Ludlow should teach, if they can be taught, these forces that it is no longer safe to manhandle this city and community.

It should warn, most of all, that it will be dangerous to attempt to destroy the city manager law in the legislature this winter and that it will be much better to help those who wish to strengthen the law and make it even more workable.

It should be the signal to the decent Republicans who have chafed under the unwholesome conditions to step to the front and take command of a party that has too long had a Coffin as its boss and symbol.

By all means attend the Ludlow reception. It may be the occasion of an even greater city revival.

The President and Peace

President Coolidge's plea in his Armistice day address for more cruisers is coupled with an apparent realization of the fact that excessive armaments do not make for peace. This is important.

"No good thing ever came out of war that better could not have been secured by reason and conscience," says the President. . . . "The eternal questions before the nations are how to prevent war and how to defend themselves if it comes.

"There are those who see no answer except military preparation. But this remedy never has proved sufficient. We do not know of any nation which ever has been able to provide arms enough always to be at peace. Fifteen years ago the most thoroughly equipped people of Europe were Germany and France. We saw what happened."

Thus the President repudiates the fallacy that a nation can make itself secure by arming itself so heavily that no other nation will dare to engage it in war.

Mr. Coolidge would appear to contradict himself when he adds, "If the European countries had neglected their defenses, it is probable that war would have come much sooner."

But he says further that experience seems to demonstrate that a country which makes "reasonable preparations for defense" is less likely to be attacked or to have its rights violated. He speaks of the desirability of "adequate national defense."

And while providing "adequate national defense," the President would continue efforts toward limitation of armaments and would support other measures designed to lessen likelihood of war.

He realizes and wants other nations to recognize that military competition will increase rather than diminish probability of war.

Whatever may be said for the rest of the President's address, we believe he correctly voices the feeling of America in this respect. America wants peace and wants to reduce armaments, and the history of recent years abundantly attests this fact.

Louis D. Brandeis

Louis D. Brandeis became 72 years old today. It is a pleasure to report that another year seems to have left him as young as he ever was, and to predict the continued appearance of his admirable judicial opinions—most of them dissenting from the majority—for many more years to come.

There still is the warm human compassion in his clear eyes, still the fleeting twinkle of humor, still the earnest, searching inquiry that he brought to the bench of the United States supreme court twelve years ago.

One doesn't know just how the grave gentlemen of the highest court proceed about the business of giving final determination to our laws. But one can imagine Justice Brandeis first reasoning quietly, forcefully, logically with his fellow members from the ground of simple human justice.

One can see him graciously accepting defeat and then going apart from the others to put his views into written words, words of a minority opinion that is likely to be accepted law twenty or thirty years from now—but not now.

Fighting the battle of the common man as a justice of the supreme court, Brandeis has been a frequent loser. Fighting the same battle as an unrobbed warrior of human rights, Brandeis was a constant victor. As "the people's lawyer" he seldom met defeat. The reason is found in the change of battlefield, not in the warrior.

A Chance to Shudder

Those persons who shudder whenever a proposal is made which savors even faintly of "government in business" will get small comfort out of the annual report of the Governor of the Panama Canal zone, just issued.

The canal has had a total net revenue of nearly a hundred million dollars above all expenses during its fourteen years of operation. Net revenue for the year exceeded twenty millions, and business is growing.

In addition, various auxiliary services the government was obliged to undertake have yielded a profit of some six million dollars.

The light plant, which sells current to the government at 1½ cents and to the public at 4 cents, made \$244,000 last year, and would have made \$455,000 if it had charged the government the rates it charged.

The Panama Canal railroad, run by a corporation, all stock of which is government-owned, made \$1,659,000, and the Panama Railroad Steamship Company made \$101,000 last year, and would have made \$580,000 if it had charged the government the rates it charged.

After Twenty Years

The giant power trust refuses to be investigated. It has thrown up a bulwark of lawyers and their briefs, and from behind it thumbs its nose at congress and the public.

Seven or eight years from now, surviving newspaper readers may read that the United States Supreme court has handed down a decision in the case brought by the Federal Trade commission to compel the Electric Bond and Share Company of New York to answer questions as to how its hand gets in and out of the public's pocket.

But what is going to happen in those seven intervening years? And what good does it do to know what method was used after the money is gone?

We wonder if the public—or any small section of it—remembers that great victory over trusts won during the first Roosevelt term by Attorney General Philander Knox? It was known as the Northern Securities case.

It involved a combination of the two principal northwest railroads, wiping out competition between them. The attorney general fought the combination and obtained a court mandate forbidding the Northern Securities Company taking the ownership of the two railroad corporations by means of a holding corporation.

It is true that a bond issue still merged the basic ownership of the railroads, and effectively checked any vigorous competition between the two carriers. But the decision was for the government—and the people. And there were loud cheers for the victory.

Questioned as to what value the decision would have in preventing future trust building, Attorney General Knox replied:

"It will have great value. It settles finally the question whether combinations can be brought about by holding companies. It decides that they can not. That will help to keep down combinations in restraint of trade."

That was twenty years ago. Today the electric power business is controlled by holding company after holding company, one piled upon another, until it is a great spider web of holding companies.

And nobody seems to have ever heard of the law as interpreted by the United States Supreme court, or of its exposition by Philander Knox.

Hoover's English Habit

Says the Washington correspondent of the London Times:

"Hoover is completely and unmistakably American. For him the American way, whether it be political, social, or religious, is better than any other way and in its essence different and superior. . . . To call him an 'internationalist,' as some of his stupid opponents have called him, is to misunderstand him completely, unless that word is distorted to mean a belief that the universe could with advantage be re-made after the American model."

There must be something in that election year about Hoover having acquired English characteristics after all.

At a recent exposition in Mexico a dress so flimsy that it can be drawn through a finger ring was exhibited. Judging from the way the flappers are gowing themselves lately, it won't be news until a dress is exhibited that can be pulled through the eye of a needle.

"If actors must think about what they are going to say, they can't give full attention to their performance," says Clara Bow. Thanks, Clara, that confirms our suspicions.

Mayors of Bournemouth and Christchurch, England, recently argued over the question of whether it was cruel to cut flowers. Maybe some of these days they'll give us some light on the value of painting the lily.

David Dietz on Science

Germ of Tuberculosis

No. 206

TODAY the whole world knows that tuberculosis is a germ disease, caused by a microbe or bacillus. It was Robert Koch, the country doctor, whose microscope hunting carried him from an obscure village to an important post in Berlin.

The record of Koch's discovery of the bacillus is one of the world's great stories of heroism.

No soldier going over the top in a hall of machine bullets faced death in any greater degree than did Koch.

Working with a cage full of rattlesnakes would have been safe and easy, compared to the dangers which Koch ran, when near the end of his magnificent research, he worked with test-tubes filled with millions of the deadly germ of tuberculosis.

Koch began his research by making microscopic examinations of the lungs of men and women who had died of tuberculosis.

He dissected the diseased tissues from these lungs. After days of this dangerous work, he finally found a bacillus, a far smaller bacillus than any one had previously discovered. They were tiny little rod-like things, bent and curved, and far less than a 15,000th of an inch in length.

Even the average citizen of this country is not unaware of what has been going on. He understands perfectly well what his country tried to achieve as a participant in the World war.

The United States is and always has been ready to meet other nations half way in all honest endeavors to eliminate conflict. Not only that, but she has gone farther than any nation on earth to prove it.

One need only glance at the map as it was remade by the treaty of Versailles to appreciate the difference between American policy and that of the allies. A large part of Africa changed hands, as well as a great many islands in the Pacific, but this country received and asked no share in the spoils.

That gave Koch an idea. He went to the slaughterhouse and obtained the blood of animals. From this he made a sort of gelatine—his experience with the potato had taught him that solid material had to be used to get a pure strain of a microbe.

After many trying experiments—each one of which meant risking his life—Koch obtained pure strains of the microbe.

On March 24, 1882, Koch read a paper at the meeting of the Physiological Society in Berlin.

Soon the whole world rang with the name of Koch. For in that paper he told his learned colleagues of his discovery of the tubercle bacillus, the microbe which causes tuberculosis.



CULTURE CONTAINING TUBERCLE BACILLI, MAGNIFIED 1000 TIMES.

M. E.

TRACY

SAYS:

"Hoover Is Doing Something Wise in Deciding to Visit Latin America."

MORE jury tampering, if Robert Caldwell may be believed. It look as though we were unable to get through an oil case without such scullduggery.

One wonders whether it is oil, or custom; whether we are being entertained by a unique experience, or whether some one is more alert than usual.

Just how much jury tampering is there anyway? When millionaires go to court, is it the general practice to try the case on its merits, or to take such precautions as a plentiful supply of money makes possible?

Average people are not unmindful of the advantage which rich clients enjoy because of their ability to hire the ablest lawyers. Have they a still greater advantage in the ability to fix juries, and if so, who helps them do it?

Hoover's Move Is Wise

Herbert Hoover is better than his word. He made no promises as to what he would do if elected. A week, however, is sufficient to find him doing something worth while. More than that, it finds him doing something original.

During the recent campaign, no one suggested the wisdom or desirability of the President-elect making a trip through Latin America, yet what could be more effective in helping to solve one of our greatest problems?

For reasons which it is unnecessary to discuss at this time, Latin America represents a very sore spot to lack of understanding, rather than to any specific event. The most obvious remedy is to develop a greater degree of cordiality, to establish a more intimate relationship, to take some positive measure to dispel suspicion and distrust.

When the President-elect comes to them personally and makes use of the earliest possible occasion to pay them a visit, passing up the rest of the world to do so, the Latin-Americans will not find it difficult to believe that his attitude toward them is one of sincere friendship.

Plans to Visit Canal

Mr. Hoover will visit not only the countries of Latin America on his trip, but the Panama canal.

The Panama canal is the greatest single enterprise ever undertaken by the United States. Being an engineer, Mr. Hoover will find it interesting from a professional standpoint. Being President-elect, he will find the problem of its operation, upkeep and defense worthy of attention.

The Panama canal cost \$390,000,000. For bookkeeping purposes, \$15,000,000 of this have been set aside as a military investment, while the remaining \$275,000,000 have been set aside as a commercial investment.

With the commercial investment rated at \$275,000,000, the canal has paid somewhat less than 3 per cent during the fourteen years it has been in operation. That is one reason advanced by General Merle Walker for opposing any reduction in tolls.

Another reason is that reduction in tolls would benefit foreign as well as domestic ships. Still another reason is that it would constitute unfair discrimination against trans-continental railroads.

Adventures in political ecstasy are always perilous.

Back in 1908 Mr. William H. Taft was elected President and we looked for great things, for Mr. Taft had enjoyed the experience which was pressured to make him chauffeur de luxe of the national machine, yet he did nothing but sit in the rear for four long years.

All signs fail in politics as in dry weather, so do not strain your eyes, looking for the millenium.

The winner's proclamation that he is relying entirely on divine guidance is just about what we expect from our newly elected chief magistrates, and Mr. Smith would have told us practically the same thing.

Candidates usually rely on the Lord after they are elected, but they rely on the precinct committeemen until the fight is won.

The lip music in favor of peace and disarmament has screened a regrettable amount of chicanery. In more than one instance, the very moves which pretended to serve the cause of international good will were but disguised attempts to obtain an advantage. Statesmanship still needs to learn the wisdom of sincerity.

President Coolidge is for adequate defense. He is for it, not only as reasonable under ordinary circumstances, but as a proposition to which the United States has been driven by other countries. It is only common sense to realize that this government cannot permit itself to be maneuvered into an unnecessary weak position by those who would presume on its idealism and who would yield to its desires only far enough to create a false impression.

U. S. Eyes Are Open

President Coolidge's plain statement puts this country in the right light. We Americans may be idealists, but we are not fools. To Europeans, it may seem as though some of our objectives are impractical.

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At a public sale in Missouri, a cow dog sold for \$76, which was more than any of the cows brought, but the dogs may reflect that their humiliation does not approach that of American school teachers, two hundred of whom make less with their brains in a whole year than Jack Dempsey makes with his fists in one hour.

Two more big Chicago banks plan a merger; everybody in everything is merging, and nobody is splitting up, except the married people.

Editor Times—Mr. Williams in his letter printed in your issue of Nov. 9, is all wet. The trouble was not with the selection of the Democratic leaders, but with the members of the party. If he will study carefully the popular vote and the result of the gubernatorial and senatorial contests in several of the states he will find that the Democrats and not the Republicans defeated Alfred E. Smith.

He received more Republican votes than any other Democratic candidate, even the late Woodrow Wilson in 1916. Where in these United States could the Democratic leaders have found a leader with the public service record of Al Smith?

The collection he proposes should be taken up not to educate the leaders, but the illiterate Democrats in whose brain the poisonous fangs of the bigots found such a fertile field.

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