

The Indianapolis Times

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BOYD GURLEY, Editor. ROY W. HOWARD, President. FRANK G. MORRISON, Business Manager.

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

A Registration Law

Let it be hoped that the League of Women Voters will be successful in its efforts to obtain a registration law for the state that will protect the ballot.

The women have approached the problem in a manner that must be rather aggravating to the male political boss who has not yet learned that women take their politics seriously.

They have the unbelievable thing of having sought the advice of experts on the subject, rather than asking just what effect the law might have on the fortunes of a particular party or a particular faction.

The last legislature threw the doors wide open to frauds at the polls when it repealed the registration law and provided no means of checking fraud.

That in certain counties of this state such tactics were used is something more than a suspicion. In this particular county, thanks, perhaps, to the fact that exposure of the machine had its lesson and its fears, the frauds were not as extensive as might have been expected. But there are still rotten boroughs.

The law proposed by the women is designed to protect the citizen in his right to vote and at the same time see that honest votes are not nullified by ballots cast by repeaters or in the names of fictitious persons.

In the drafting of their measure, the women went to men who have studied the problem and who have learned the best, easiest and most workable methods of obtaining these results. They did not go to politicians. They went to students of the subject, professors in colleges, men who have delved into the subject from unselfish purposes.

That is something new in this state. Usually when election laws are being revamped the bosses try to discover some means by which they can make it as hard as possible for the independent and honest voter to register his wish. They have tried to make it as easy for a machine which desires loot and hard for a citizenry that wants honesty.

It will be interesting to see what happens to the law when the legislature begins its consideration. It will be interesting to see what the members who still live in the machine era of politics try to do to a law scientifically and carefully drawn.

The women have hit upon the great problem of the state, which, after all, is an honest ballot.

There can be no such thing as self-government if the door is left open to corruption and crookedness.

There can be no real advance if the election machinery is geared up to fraud and not to honesty.

The members of the legislature largely will write their own appraisal of themselves in their attitude toward this proposed registration law.

A Woman in the Cabinet?

Mrs. Alvin T. Hert of Kentucky is urged by some Republican politicians for the post of secretary of the interior in the Hoover cabinet. Three claims are advanced in her behalf. She is a woman, a southerner, and a faithful party worker.

Apart from the obvious fact that Hoover does not need, and probably will resent, attempts of the old guard to pick his official family for him, this Hert campaign raises several important questions.

It sounds reasonable. For it is exactly in line with the habits of thought of those who have disgraced the state while they have controlled it in the past few years.

Two years ago the legislature amended the law so as to prevent the people from taking charge of their own affairs. That was done in a futile effort to keep Duvall in office, an effort that failed when Prosecutor Remy and the grand jury got busy and convicted him.

The politicians like nothing less than to see the power of patronage and plunder taken from political machines.

They know quite as well as do the people that the city manager system has made it rather difficult for the politicians to use the taxes and jobs of cities for partisan purposes.

Let it be hoped that no one in any position of responsibility will endeavor to carry out this threat.

This has adopted the city manager system. It is prepared to put it into operation. But it is quite necessary that the friends of this system be alert and watchful when the legislature gets into action.

Nature Does Well

No. 249

A CERTAIN type of sophisticated person loves to criticize nature. No doubt some things in nature could be improved. But a close student of nature can be awestruck at its marvels.

For example, the typical long bones of the body are hollow. Modern engineering students have found out that the structure which combines the greatest strength with the greatest lightness is a hollow cylinder.

Nature found that out more than a billion years ago. The insides of the bones are filled with marrow. The marrow is really part of another system of the body, for the blood cells are manufactured in the marrow.

The outside of each bone is covered with a membrane known as the periosteum. In the early stages of bone

development the bone cells develop from the periosteum.

The gradual development of the bones in the human body is highly interesting. The bones at first are entirely composed of organic material. They are, to use the technical phrase, cartilaginous.

As time goes on, the bone cells begin to precipitate calcium salts and the bone becomes permeated with mineral matter. This hardening process is known as ossification.

Complete ossification does not take place until between 20 and 25.

Microscopic examination of bone shows a structure like that shown in the accompanying diagram.

The little circular structures which make up the bone are known as Haversian systems.

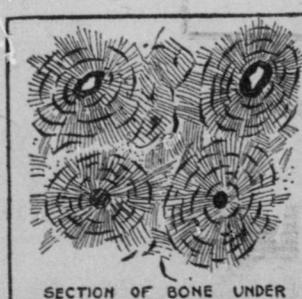
The bone cells are in the little spaces between the concentric rings.

The bones comprising the skeleton are joined together by ligaments which wrap over from one bone to the next.

A thin membrane covers the ends of the bones where they meet. In the joint is a lubricating fluid. The membrane is known as the synovial membrane and the fluid as the synovial fluid.

The bone joints are all very delicate and highly important structures.

Injuries or infections of them are among the most serious conditions which medical science is called upon to deal with.



Tariff Again

The reaction was bound to come. Too many Democrats distrust a high protective tariff to swallow that hoary Republican principle whole without digestive pangs. Perhaps if candidate Smith and Manager Raskob had been more successful in the late campaign with their acceptance of Republican tariff, the Democratic discomfort would not have been felt so soon.

Anyway, a leader of southern democracy, who was considered a potential presidential candidate last time and may be mentioned again, is reviving the traditional Democratic cry for lower tariff.

Representative Cordell Hull of Tennessee denies that high tariffs are the source of present American prosperity, which he attributes to unlimited raw materials and foodstuffs, superior labor power, machinery, and efficiency. High tariffs cripple foreign trade, just at the time when our agricultural and industrial problems turn upon export of surpluses, he argues.

Hull's leadership is a service to his party and to the country, for, whatever the respective merits of the high and low tariff principles, it is clear that an in-

M. E. TRACY

SAYS:

"Cleaning Up Crime Is a Good Deal Like Cleaning Up a House—You Have to Keep Everlastingly at It."

WOMEN were elected to the legislature in thirty-eight states last November. One hundred forty-five of them now hold seats—fifteen senators and 130 representatives. Sixty-eight were elected for a second term and twelve for a fourth term. In the aggregate, this represents a gain of nineteen over two years ago.

Connecticut ranks first in women legislators, with a total of twenty.

Ten states have no women in their legislatures, though some of them have had at one time or another. The change of attitude is more significant than such statistics.

Whatever else may be said, women have done enough to dissipate resentment at their presence in public service. Men no longer rave because they have to sit with women, no longer sneer at the prospect as ridiculous. Thirty years ago much of the conversation with regard to women in politics revolved about their supposed "sphere." You seldom hear the word these days. If women ever had a sphere it has gone the way of the bustle and leg-of-mutton sleeves.

Ford's Optimism

HENRY FORD views the new year with optimism. That means something. With a pay roll of \$720,000 a day, he cannot afford to gamble too much. When he increases it by \$180,000, as he has announced he will, you can be pretty sure that he believes business is on the upgrade. His call for 30,000 men can be taken as a genuine prophecy. When a man bets to that extent he means it.

Besides, Mr. Ford is old enough to know the danger of hunches. He would not be increasing production by 20 per cent, unless he had something to go on better than guess work. If he wants 6,500 more cars a week than he has been making, it is because he knows they can be sold.

If the market has increased for Ford cars, it has increased for other things.

The Threat

Whispers (and these happen to be significant), bring the news that an effort will be made in the legislature to repeal the law under which cities of the state may adopt the city manager form of government.

The explanation is that Indianapolis showed too great an independence in the last election when it cast a heavy vote for Frank C. Dailey for Governor and Hoover for President, and that the politicians will try revenge by taking away from this city the government for which its citizens voted by so heavy a majority.

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David Dietz on Science

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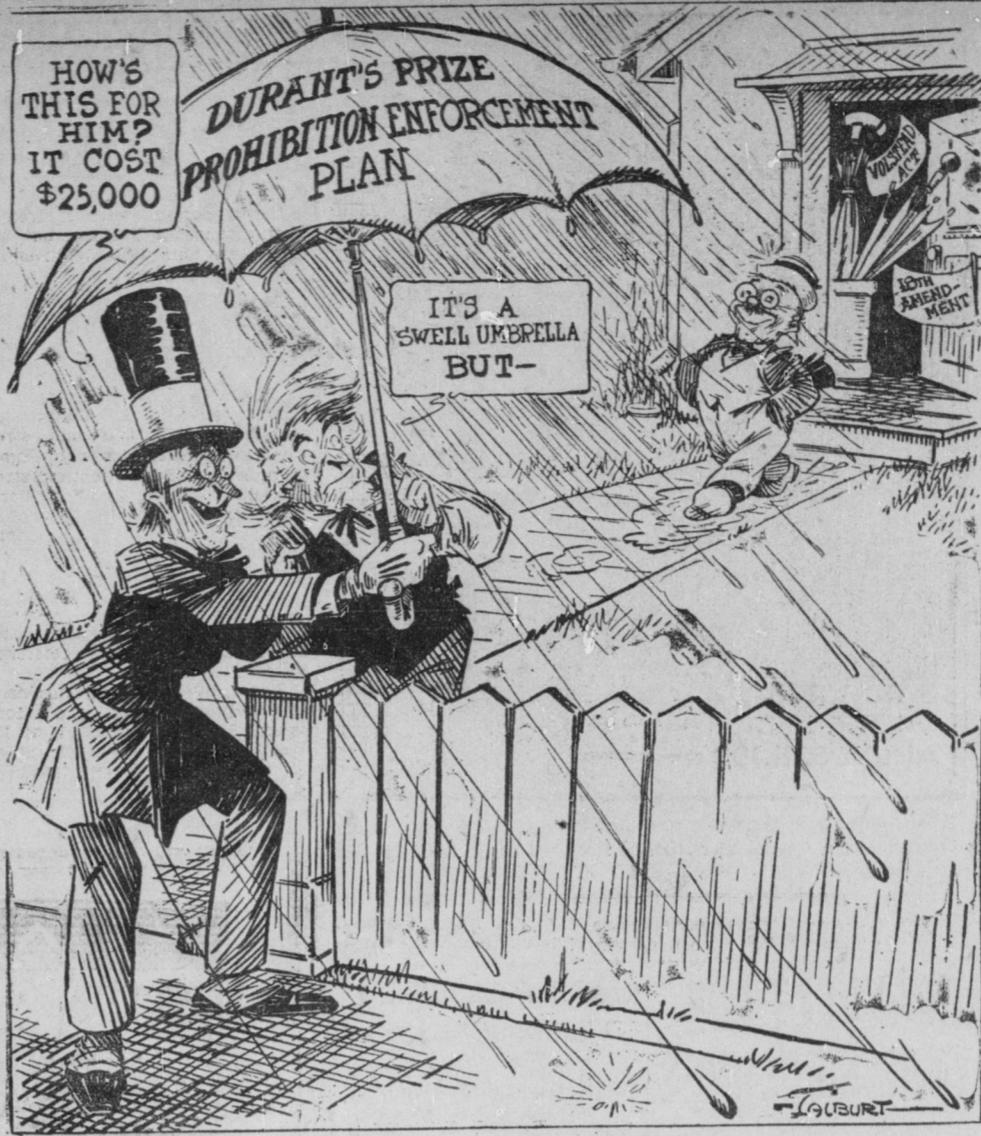
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The Question Is, Does He Want One?



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Abdominal Pains Need Diagnosis

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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

ONE of the most difficult problems confronting physicians is the attempt to diagnose certainly the causes of severe abdominal pains, particularly in infants and children.

Most children are unable to give a satisfactory history of their diets, of the onset of their disturbances, of the things that they feel, indeed

nosis may mean all the difference between life and death.

Recently Dr. A. H. Southam has listed some of the causes of acute abdominal pain in children, the list being an indication of the importance of early scientific medical attention in such cases.

Acute appendicitis is the most common emergency in which there is sudden, severe pain in the abdomen. Usually the condition begins with severe pain localized over the appendix region, with nausea, vomiting and high fever.

In occasional instances the appendix may be in an unusual position, the pressure may not be sufficient to produce the fever, the child may not react with nausea and vomiting, and then diagnosis becomes difficult.

In many cases parents are much too ready to give large doses of castor oil, with the result that irritation of the bowel produces a rupture of the appendix and makes the condition far more serious.

In some cases severe infection of the lung may produce nerve stimu-

lations which are reflected downward over the abdomen, so that pneumonia may give the symptoms of appendicitis.

Other conditions which occur and which are particularly difficult are acute obstructions of the bowels due sometimes to worms or irritations, but in the vast majority of cases in infants due to pushing in of one part of the bowel into another, exactly as one turns a sock inside out.

In this case the symptoms are sudden, with periodic attacks and screaming.

The child may lie quietly between attacks, but the attacks themselves are so severe as to produce a terrific reaction. Here also a scientific diagnosis is of the utmost importance for the saving of life.

The parent who wants to be safe will take no chances when the child complains of severe abdominal pain.

A scientific diagnosis made early will give mental relief to the child if the condition is merely too much dessert, and save the child's life if it is something more serious.

ANOTHER TEA PARTY

A BLOW AT BOSTON RUSSIA AND DURANT

THE inmates of our penitentiaries will confine their dictum to capacity for leadership. His generalization was based upon the belief that ministers are, on the whole, our most public-spirited citizens.

And that I would also deny. The average minister does not begin to take his job as seriously as does the average newspaper man. Moreover, the ethics of journalism happens to be upon a much higher plane.

I will gladly contribute \$5 to any pastor who can prove to my satisfaction that he has worked as hard or done as much good for this country as H. L. Mencken. There is no accident in the fact that so many sermons are preached about the Sage of Baltimore during the course of any year. All these discourses are derogatory.

Men are the cloth realize that Henry is working the same side of the street and doing a better job.

The average minister is probably at base just as good human material as the garden run of reporters. If he falls lower in the moral scale the fault is not his own, but that of the conditions under which he labors.

The Roving Reporter

THERE is far more possibility of movement in journalism. Undoubtedly there are papers fully

subservient to their advertisers as are the churches to the richer deacons, but the reporter can leap about from one job to another with an ease denied to the preacher.

The press of America is largely conservative, but the conservatism is red radicalism compared to the standpant atmosphere of American churches. Consider, for instance, the late Frank Crane. Dr. Crane at an important moment in his life had to decide whether he would conform to dogma which he did not believe or quit the ministry. With great courage he threw up his job. In course of time he became one of the most influential and successful of columnists. His power as a syndicated feature writer was vastly greater than that which he