



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.

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

Without Strings

Die-hard enemies of the Kellogg peace pact in the senate are in a bad way. They have reported to every known legislative device to defeat, delay, and nullify the treaty. But the large senate majority, supported by overwhelming public opinion, is too much for them.

Now that the die-hards, led by Moses and Jim Reed, see there is no chance to obtain their reservations in the form of an "interpretive" resolution, they are trying to slip those reservations through the back door in new guise. That is the significance of their innocent-looking scheme for an "explanatory" committee report, which would be communicated by the secretary of state with the treaty text to the other signatories.

For some inexplicable reason, Borah is reported to have accepted such a compromise agreement, at least in part. Why Borah, the committee chairman and nominal leader of the pro-treaty forces, should be moved to accept any compromise is not clear. Borah has the assured vote of the necessary two-thirds of the senate. Why should he traffic with the small minority?

This question apparently must go unanswered, just as the earlier questions as to why Borah permitted three weeks' delay in committee, and why he left it to Norris and King to force the treaty to the floor.

Fortunately, other friends of the treaty than Borah have spiked the latest compromise. Secretary Kellogg also is reported to have refused to agree to any sort of senate rider, even in the form of an explanatory committee report.

All this backing and filling by the opposition has not lessened, but strengthened, the public determination for unqualified ratification.

The treaty is short and clear. It joins this government with fifty-nine others in renouncing war as a national policy. It does not, in letter or in spirit, commit this nation to any act of force. It does not affect the self-defense right of this nation.

All of which has been stated officially by the proper persons, the secretary of state, for the benefit of the few here and abroad who want to read into the treaty something which is not in it.

The treaty will be ratified without strings, if Borah and certain others will keep the fight in the open, where the die-hards finally will finish themselves.

Introducing a New Czar

Americans will recall the late war to make the world save for democracy and to protect the rights of Serbs and other small nations to self-determination. Thanks to the victory of allied and American armies, the new Jugo-Slav nation of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes was established as a democratic constitutional kingdom.

King Alexander by midnight coup has abolished the constitution, parliament, and other democratic institutions. He has established an unlimited despotism. Thus the South Slavs, saved from the milder despotism of the Germanic powers, which seemed so terrible in 1914, now fall under an absolute dictatorship.

Meanwhile, many Americans who helped fight for freedom of Jugo-Slavs under Alexander have reacted so strongly under the shattered illusions of post-war Europe that they smile cynically over Alexander's despotism. "What's the use?" they say, "we are through with Europe anyway."

This bitter attitude, engendered by the peace treaties and European developments of the last decade, giving the lie to America's war aims, is understandable.

But, unfortunately it doesn't get us very far. The United States, with its financial penetration and economic commitments, is deeper in Europe than ever. We have no choice; we can't let go. We will have to worry along with the discouragingly zigzag course of democratic progress in Europe, just as we plod along with lesser discouragements here at home.

Perhaps this Alexander caesarism is not to be taken too seriously. Dictators have a way of destroying themselves; the people can not be suppressed forever. The Croats, even without their murdered leader, Raditch, already have demonstrated their ability to defy domination by Serb politicians. They can do as well against Alexander if necessary.

Curiously, Alexander chose to become an absolute czar of the South Slavs on the day of death in exile of the would-be czar of the North Slavs, Grand Duke Nicholas of Russia. Nicholas was chief of the Russian military clique which helped force the World War, using Serbia as a tool. Nicholas died without a job, and his czarist cousin whom he wanted to follow had even worse luck.

However, the czar business may look from the inside to Alexander, mere outsiders are apt to remember what happened in Russia.

Conceptions of God

The last thing the truly religious theologian should be afraid of is truth; and that is what Dr. Harry Elmer Barnes of Smith college seeks in demanding a new conception of God, one in harmony with what modern science has learned of the universe.

Those who insist on a conception of God that was born in the minds of religious leaders of a semi-barbarous people many centuries before the birth of Christ may see nothing but sacrifice in Dr. Barnes' challenge to the theologians.

But the more intelligent leaders of religious thought, who see no real conflict between science and true religion, doubtless will welcome the challenge. Certainly truth has nothing to fear from a full and frank discussion of the meaning of God.

A Creator who satisfied the limited knowledge of thousands of years ago, when the earth was thought to be the center of the universe, around which the sun and stars revolved, might well give way to a God as grand and glorious as the limitless cosmos of today, with its unnumbered universes tributary to God of suns, beside which our own sun is but a pygmy.

We can see not only profit to religion itself, but a growing reconciliation between the spiritual and material universes in a general discussion of the challenge of Dr. Barnes.

Humanity is not ready to abandon God as a myth. It wants God, but in place of a jealous, vengeful God, modern intelligence wants and needs a God of Love, a God of Truth, a God greater and grander than all the multitude of universes modern science can discover with its biggest telescopes and its most vivid imagination.

The human mind can not be satisfied with a Creator less glorious than His creation.

Concerning the Indians

The Institute for Government Research has developed plenty of facts to show that conditions among the Indians are far from what they should be.

The senate Indian investigating committee is developing even more sensational testimony to prove that Uncle Sam is a poor guardian.

In response to all the criticism that is being made, Indian Commissioner Burke issues long statements eulogizing his administration and his friends assert that the senate inquiry is only another attempt to get his job.

Secretary of Interior West, shortly after he took office, announced that he would devote himself particularly to the Indian situation. Now he has been summoned before the senate committee to answer charges that Indian funds in New Mexico are being wasted under his administration.

It is too early to pass judgment on either West or Commissioner Burke. But it is time all the facts were brought to light. With all this smoke about the treatment of the Indians, there must be some fire. Which is smoke and which is fire is for congress to determine, if it gives this subject the serious attention it deserves.

More Legislative Momentum

In a recent editorial we spoke of "legislative momentum" as demonstrated by prohibition, legislative momentum being the unforeseen by-product that develops from law, as prohibition, designed to stop drinking, didn't do it, but did a lot of other things, or as the dole system in England, designed to decrease poverty, made paupers.

Another most interesting example is parading itself in the public prints, censorship as it applies to the talkies.

Censorship of motion pictures was established by statute.

But the statute didn't include any spoken version that might go along with the pictured story.

Then came an invention, and with the movie was synchronized the human voice, mechanically reproduced.

Bureaucracy's inevitable tendency is to expand its authority. So it is no more than natural that the censors are fighting to make their supervision include the voice as well as the picture.

Which raises the old constitutional issue of free speech in a new way, mechanically relayed speech in this case—and also shows another striking demonstration of legislative momentum.

To Preserve Niagara

It is encouraging to read that Canada and the United States have reached an agreement for the construction of remedial works to prevent the destruction of Niagara Falls' great natural beauty.

At certain points the falls have been eroding the rocks so fast that the entire contour of the cataract threatened to change. Goat Island, in midstream, was in danger of being left high and dry, with the American falls disappearing altogether.

Now submerged weirs and jetties are to be built above the falls to deflect the flow of water so that the falls can be perpetuated as they are now. It is good news for citizens of both nations.

We haven't seen any reports of anyone seeing the "first robin" as yet, but several motorists say they've heard it under their motor hoods.

Asinine optimism is the most dangerous thing on earth, Benito Mussolini will tell you. Sounds like a man who didn't get out of the bull market soon enough.

Women, as a sex, are disliked, according to Rebecca West. Men, as a sex, are disliked, too.

The Illinois Commerce commission is going to adopt a new style of gates for railroad crossings. The suggestion that they be trimmed with pearl is not without its merits.

The termites, relatives of the cockroach, communicate with one another, a Pittsburgh scientist has discovered. Being relatives, they would.

David Dietz on Science

Human Phone System

No. 255

THE central nervous system of the human body consists of the brain and the spinal cord.

The brain has frequently been called the central telephone exchange of the human body.

The spinal cord might be likened to a great mass of telephone cables leaving the central telephone exchange and eventually branching out into individual lines.

The spinal cord consists of two parts known as white matter and gray matter.

A cross-section of the spinal cord shows that the gray matter constitutes the central portion of the cord and in cross-section presents a sort of butterfly shape. This is surrounded by the white matter.

The gray matter is made up of the nerve cells and the synapses. The synapses, it will be remembered, are the joints or junctions where nerve cells are joined together.

The white matter consists of nerve fibers. The proportion of white to gray increases gradually from the lower to the upper end of the cord.

There are swellings in the spinal cord at the points where the nerves from the limb join it. These swellings consist largely of gray matter, that is, nerve fibers. These nerve fibers govern reflex actions of the limbs.

These are reflex actions which do not pass to the brain.

The stimulus is carried by one nerve to the spinal cord. There it is transferred to a motor nerve which carries the impulse to the muscle and automatically causes the reflex action.

Thirty-one pairs of nerves join the spinal cord.

The spinal cord in addition to including centers which control certain reflex movements also includes centers which control the blood pressure, the heart, certain reactions like blushing, and so on.

Other impulses which enter the spinal cord are carried to the brain.

The accompanying illustration shows the path of a nerve current from the sensory end organ in the skin to the spinal cord and then to the sensory level in the brain. The entire spinal cord is not shown but merely two cross-sections of it at different heights.

The human mind can not be satisfied with a Creator less glorious than His creation.

M. E. TRACY SAYS:

"Nothing Has Done More to Bring the World Together Than Transportation."

SAMUEL ROSOFF, a New York subway contractor, came to this country from Russia thirty-seven years ago. He was only 12 at the time.

Because his widowed mother needed help, he lost no time in getting work as a newsboy.

Later he became a "candy butcher" on railroad trains.

After that he went into business for himself as an excavator and house wrecker, dealing in sand and gravel, extending his trade, keeping his eye open for opportunities and finally emerging as the executor of large and difficult projects.

Rosoff's career is not exceptional, but it seems approaching a most poetic climax, having decided that Moscow needs a subway and water works, the Soviet government has sent a delegation to this country, with power to negotiate for the work, and Rosoff is the foremost man in line—Rosoff, a child of the old regime, a poor emigrant who came to this country for the chance it offered, a man who has achieved success under the capitalist system.

Like art, the ability to do things can lift men above political prejudice. If it could not, human progress would be in bad way.

7,000-Mile Highway

POLITICAL prejudice, whether born of tradition, or conceived in theory, leads men into useless conflict. Progress, as illustrated by those achievements which mean good for all, unites them.

Nothing has done more to bring the world together, to establish mutual understanding and a community of interest than transportation.

President-Elect Hoover hits the nail on the head when he conceives the 7,000-mile highway stretching from Canada to Cape Horn as the strongest bond that could be forged among the peoples of the western hemisphere.

Travel, acquaintance and first-hand knowledge of each other's affairs, problems, hopes and ideals can do vastly more than statecraft to make people understand that they are pretty much alike, that the real task is to overcome their own limitations, and that in nine cases out of ten they only waste time in quarreling among themselves.

With a 7,000-mile highway running down the backbone of the American continent, we soon would learn that there are a lot of decent folks south of the Rio Grande, and they would learn that the United States means something besides a shadow of imperialism on the northern horizon.

Paper Milk Bottles

PROGRESS is compounded on little as well as big things. Tuesday saw paper milk bottles make their appearance in New York. Paper milk bottles may not sound very important compared to a Pan-American highway, or a new subway system for Moscow, but they have their place.

A glass milk bottle costs 7 cents, and those who ought to know say that its average life is four trips. A paper milk bottle costs three-quarters of a cent. It has been estimated that American consumers lose \$15,000,000 a year through the breakage of glass milk bottles. The estimate does not include punctured bottles.

The paper milk bottle can be hermetically sealed. This not only insures a greater degree of purity, but increases the power of preservation.

According to one writer, milk has been kept sweet in a paper bottle for five weeks.

Seward's Golden Folly

GOVERNOR PARKS of Alaska just arrived in Washington for his annual conference with the secretary of the interior, paints a vivid picture of the progress of that territory which was described as "Seward's folly" sixty years ago.

Last year, Governor Parks toured Alaska by plane, covering 2,600 miles in seven days. If he had made the journey by dog sled, as used to be necessary, it would have taken one year.

Alaska not only has airmail and passenger service, but twenty-five radio stations. It is now adding water power to its industries. Its reindeer herds have been increased until it ships 1,000,000 pounds of meat to this country each year.

Alaska has paid for itself many times in the gold taken from its mines. It can pay for itself many times more in coal, fish, timber and other known resources.

We bought Alaska, not because we wanted it, but to recompense Russia for letting her battle fleet show its teeth in order to scare other nations from interfering with our affairs too much during the Civil war, but it represented a good bargain just the same.

Advantage of Discovery

ALASKA is a shining example of what cold and neglected territory can be worth. We ought to remember that in connection with our various polar expeditions; ought not to be content with the glory of finding them, while other people come afterward and take possession.

If we had taken advantage of discovery the way other people do, we would not only control vast areas in the Arctic circle, but scores of islands in the Pacific, and that, too, without doing injustice to a single human being.

It is not imperialistic to take unoccupied land and make use of it by right of discovery. It is shiftless and improvident, however, not to do so.

The problem of national defense would be less difficult for us to solve than it is today if we had claimed and retained those lands and islands which our sailors, adventurers and explorers have found, and which we could have claimed and retained without giving offense to any people.

Talking of Talking Marathons

IT SEEMS TO ME
By HEYWOOD BROUN

I ideas and opinions expressed in this column are those of one of America's most interesting writers and are presented without regard to their agreement with the editorial attitude of this paper.

The Editor.

IT was not possible for me to find agreement with a recent contention in this column. I expressed the opinion that American newspapers are more effective in the promotion of good works than are the preachers. Several preachers didn't agree. Also a few others, I still think I'm right, but perhaps it would be fair as convenient to print some paragraphs from the other side.

"Is it permissible," writes one, "to ask a somewhat embarrassing question? I rise to inquire whether you know the first thing about the activism of Eucken, the theism of Balfour, the panpsychism of Ward, the religious pragmatism of James?"

And to this I must answer, "Not a thing." But is it necessary to know all that, before one has the privilege of speculating upon the nature of God?

The Rev. Harry L.