

The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

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

Utility Laws

That many of the laws pending before the legislature in respect to utility regulation possess merit is beyond question.

That few of them will pass is more than doubtful. The utilities, knowing what they want, have a group of lobbyists who hobnob with the lone lawmaker in the evening and persuade him that the poor utilities are really just outside the poorhouse and that any law that would relieve the people might send them over the hill.

One of the meritorious measures which the utilities are fighting would take the publicly-owned utilities away from the public service regulation.

If the utility commission really represented the people, as it is supposed to, this law would not be necessary.

Some cities own their electric light plants. Some have water systems. They can control and regulate their own business by electing capable city officials.

When the state interferences in the administration of the utilities it does so in order to prevent the people from getting the most capable administration. They always step in when these plants become most efficient.

The truth is that the Insull monopoly, which is rapidly taking over government, as well as electricity, does not like the constant comparison between efficient municipal plants, giving low cost, and his own system.

His agents shudder when they see the things that are happening in municipal plants such as one in Richmond.

One of the other measures which should pass would put holding companies under the utility commission. The water baron of Indianapolis disguises some of his own operations through his Delaware corporation, which owns the stock of the company.

The public does not get a view of the real management as long as corporations which hold the stock of utilities are not under public control.

But even if these laws are passed the people will get little relief as long as a majority of the commissioners are "utility minded."

Just what that means is interpreted in huge burdens upon the public. No law for the protection of the people will be of any benefit if the commission is named by the utility interests.

Whenever any member of the commission renders a decision which the utilities do not like, his term of office has in the past been of brief duration. The utilities find ways of getting to Governors.

It would be unfortunate for the people for the next four years if the recently named policy man for Insull should come into control of the public utility commission through his boyhood friendship for the Governor.

The fact that he was rapidly promoted by Insull after the election of Governor Leslie should warn the Governor that there is necessity of a special caution in naming utility commissioners. Those who have been kind to the Insulls in the past ought to retire. The men who have shown independence should be retained, unless the state of Indiana is to become a province in the Insull empire.

To pass good laws is highly important. To get men with some regard for the rights of the people to enforce these laws is even more important.

Enforcement Funds

There is no real disagreement between house and senate on the question of increased funds for prohibition enforcement. A majority in both branches insists on honest and effective enforcement, and feels that existing conditions can be improved.

But the house believes that an additional expenditure of \$24,000,000 of the taxpayers' money should not be sanctioned for any purpose in a hasty and haphazard manner. It is to be hoped that the senate will recede from its position and adopt the procedure dictated by prudence and custom.

The senate's plan is obviously unsatisfactory and violative of all business principles. It proposes to turn over \$24,000,000 of public funds to be spent at the discretion of one individual when and if he finds that appropriations already made are insufficient. The house prefers to await a survey of the government's needs, as well as the broader survey of law enforcement proposed by the President-elect.

The alignment of wets and dry in both houses reveals that politics rather than devotion to law enforcement inspires the present insistence on immediate extra appropriations.

We do not believe that the American people, wets and dries, subscribe to such a policy in the expenditure of their money. No individual or firm would tie up so much money without proper information concerning its use.

Cassandra

In ancient days a lady named Cassandra made herself unpopular by running about the city of Troy telling everybody that the city soon was to be visited by very hard luck.

There just had been an election in Troy. A conservative president had been elected, the stock market was booming. The federal reserve board was lending speculators money at low rates of interest and nobody believed Cassandra.

It seems that Cassandra, who was a daughter of Priam, of Priam & Co. Inc., was very good looking, and had attracted the attention of Apollo. As a mark of his favor, Apollo endowed Cassandra with powers of prophecy. She could tell even when the stock market was going to break.

But one day Cassie was pettish and Apollo got peeved, so he did another miracle over her, and decreed that, although Cassandra still should retain her gift of second sight, nobody was to believe any of her predictions.

So what good does it do for H. Parker Willis and other able authorities on banking to tell the bankers that a stock market which is selling on the basis of 2 per cent returns can not be a healthy market, and something dire may happen.

The curse on Cassandra persists.

The former Kaiser, in his new book, "My Ancestors," counsels the people of Germany to be fearless and loyal. Just to prove he wasn't kidding, he might have added the word "discreet."

Einstein comes out now and calls electro-magnetism and gravity identical. It sounds like a powerful trust idea.

The night lasts six months in the Arctic circle. It is said a group of Scotchmen are planning an expedition to one of the night clubs there.

Football officials of the Big Ten went on strike for higher pay recently. Maybe they figure they haven't been getting a run for their money.

The Prince's Tour

Haroun Al Raschid learned many things in his midnight prowls about Bagdad, things which a ruler never can learn on his throne. Incognito opens many doors.

The Prince of Wales does well to have a personal look at starvation in the British mining fields. No accounts of starvation are as convincing as a personal look. There are times when one wishes owners of mining properties, even in the United States of America, would take a personal look.

We remember once when there was a strike among the textile workers in Lawrence, Mass., and the police were trying to prevent starving parents from sending away the children. A United States senator went up and took a personal look at conditions. The effect was such as no mere description would have produced. It was a healthful effect.

The prince cannot, by waving a wand, relieve starvation among the mine workers. If he gave all his own and his father's personal fortune it would not restore prosperity to the mine industry. But the prince can do a real service to humanity by forcing the spotlight which follows him to disclose these pictures of misery.

By taking thought, a nation may begin to alter the worst of economic conditions. If the Baldwin's will not take thought, the MacDonalds and the Snowdens may. If the Tories can find no way out, perhaps the liberals and the laborites can.

Sh-h—Sh-h—h!

They have killed the resolution to Americanize the senate by eliminating secret sessions. But, like the black cat, the issue will come back to haunt the senate until these hush-hush proceedings are abolished.

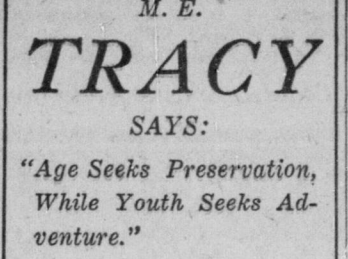
Of course the Jones reform resolution was not killed outright yesterday. That would not have been possible. Most of the senators are too sensitive to public opinion to vote openly against the reform. It simply was sidetracked by legislative maneuvering in such a way that it has little if any chance of coming up again at this session, much less of being acted on favorably.

Senator Curtis, who soon is to be inaugurated as Vice-President, is the man who blocked action yesterday. His original plan was to commit the reform to the rules committee, of which he is chairman. But when that move was shown up by the reform group, Curtis was satisfied to push the resolution out of its privileged calendar position, which was just as effective in this crowded short session as to inter it in committee.

Curiously, Vice-President Dawes, who is a conservative on practically every issue but change of senate rules, had brought the Jones reform resolution close to victory by ruling that only a majority vote was necessary for passage. Hence Curtis intervened just in time.

All that the Jones resolution does is to require a two-thirds vote to put the senate into secret session. What is so revolutionary about that? An adequate answer can not be found in the debate on the resolution.

About the only defense of the present secrecy system was that of Senator Bingham, who intimated that executive officials would punish senators if they knew



TRACY

SAYS:

"Age Seeks Preservation, While Youth Seeks Adventure."

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 1.—Don't let any one fool you, the west still is a cattle country. Many a cowboy may have gone to Hollywood and many a ranch may have been broken up into small farms, but old Mooley and Prickly Porky are still with us.

The livestock show brought 945 carloads of prize specimens to Denver, and Denver is not the only, or even the largest, cattle center of the country.

During the week of the show the Denver Union Stockyards handled 30,000 head of cattle, 20,000 hogs, 40,000 sheep and 2,000 mules and horses.

We still are a nation of meat eaters, as William Childs is willing to concede.

William Childs, it will be remembered, got the idea not only that a vegetarian diet was good, but that he could popularize it through the chain of 125 restaurants which he founded.

He made the attempt and a faction of stockholders, dissatisfied with the reduced dividends which followed, threw him out of control. Now he is back in "the saddle" again, ousting his enemies, making one of his brothers president of the \$37,000,000 corporation, another brother treasurer and his wife secretary.

Business Republics

NOTHING illustrates the democratization of industry like the way big boys turn to politics when they want to get, or retain control of some corporation.

Childs is out after proxies to clinch his victory at the stockholders' meeting which will take place March 7.

In the same way Rockefeller is out after proxies with which to oust Colonel Stewart when the stockholders of the Standard Oil Co. of Indiana meet on the same day, and Colonel Stewart is out after proxies with which to save his job.

Most of our major corporations are getting too big for any one man, or even a small group of men to control through stock ownership, which means that they have evolved from dollar despots of economic republics.

Why They Live Long

RETURNING to Childs and his attempt to popularize a vegetarian diet, he is just one more of that vast multitude of human beings who believe that king life, or good health depends on some particular diet, habit or attitude of mind.

An Indian, who claimed to have attained the age of 137 not so long ago, said that he attributed his long life to the fact that he had never sat in a chair, or slept in a bed.

Now comes Congressman Charles M. Stedman of North Carolina claiming that he is able to celebrate his eighty-eighth birthday in good condition because he has bathed two or three times a day and washed his face ten times for most of his life, though not denying that "the providence of God" may have helped.

Romantic Youth

AGE seeks preservation, while youth seeks adventure. If you would know whether life is worth living, don't look for an answer in argument, but find out how many old people of your acquaintance want to give it up.

By the same token, when you doubt whether youth is as serious-minded or courageous as it is used to be, don't read articles about the flapper and jelly bean. Look at the news to see what our boys and girls really are doing.

Some of them are acting quite silly, to be sure, while some are being tempted by the lure of vice, but when was that not the case.

The vast majority are trying to make something worth while of themselves and a few are stepping far out in front.

Youth still is youth, thrilling to the call of romance, casting its eyes about for thrills, striving to scale heights never scaled before and showing that spirit of independence which is its rightful heritage, but which some of us older folks mistake for unreasoning revolt.

Life Is Bigger

A GIRL of 17 sets a new endurance record for women fliers, a girl of 15 aspires to the role of evangelist, a girl of 18 edits an atheist publication, a boy of 15—quite a number in fact—is sent to prison for life, a youth in his early twenties startles the world by flying the Atlantic alone.

We profess to be shocked, but it was ever thus. Thomas Chatterton had written much good poetry at 18, Louis XIV quelled the parliament of Paris and cowed the great French nobles at 22, Alexander was on the march at the same age and most of those famous crooks who gave England the creeps during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries mounted the gallows before reaching 30.

Life is no different than it ever was. It is just a little bigger.

Age still cries for a few more years and seeks the cure, cult or peculiar notion that seems to promise them.

Youth looks beyond the horizon for romance and adventure, just as it always did, but has to look farther because the horizon has receded.

What our older folks need most is to stand aside now and then in order to get a new perspective, and not commit the blunder of trying to measure twentieth century activities by a nineteenth century pattern.



MR. HOOVER—
I'D LIKE TO HAVE
YOU MEET MR. SMITH.

WELL, WELL, MR. SMITH—I BELIEVE I'VE HEARD YOU ON THE RADIO!

JUST CALL ME AL! IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN I'VE SEEN YOUR PICTURE IN THE PAPER!



AL—ON THE SQUARE—I WISH YOU COULD'VE SEEN DOC WORK'S FACE THE NIGHT YOU LIT INTO HIM



WELL, OLD KID—IF I MUST SAY IT MYSELF—I SURE PACKED 'EM IN AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN



YEH—BUT YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN 'EM IN OKLAHOMA—I HAD 'EM HOLDIN' ON TO THEIR CHAIRS



WELL—SO LONG AL—GODDAMNED IN—DON'T TAKE IN ANY WOODEN NICKELS!

SO LONG HERE—SEE YOU IN 1932!

Foreign Bodies Found in Head, Lungs

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBIEIN,
Editor Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.

CHILDREN not infrequently swallow all sorts of unusual substances. Workers in factories occasionally are penetrated by flying portions of machinery; soldiers are hit by missiles of one type or another, and these may remain over long periods of time in the human body without causing any disturbance.

Eventually reactions may begin which result in death. Sometimes bullets or nails get into the body and may be carried along by the blood stream to the lungs or to the heart, and there be lodged temporarily without immediate effect, later settling up disturbances which may cause death.

Two French investigators examined by the use of the X-ray the heads of fifty soldiers who were suffering with mental disturbances, and found foreign bodies in the heads of thirty, in only one of whom there was any suspicion that a portion of a bullet might be within the skull.

In nineteen cases the missiles were in the soft part of the bone near the eye, and in eight within the skull itself.

One soldier was troubled by a Q. What causes itching of the skin?

A. There are numerous causes of itching of the skin, varying from infestation or infection to causes within the body. Extreme itching is a problem for careful medical diagnosis.

bullet found in his buttock, the bullet having entered through one shoulder while he was lying on the ground.

Another soldier had a certificate stating that a piece of shrapnel was in his right lung, and the fragment was found in his hip.

In three cases pieces of shell were found by the X-ray to be within the heart, where they moved about constantly with the motion of the blood.

Examination of one of the soldiers with a piece of shell in the heart one year later indicated that the piece of metal had become anchored.

None of the three men with pieces of shell in the heart had any idea of the presence the foreign substance, nor did it seem to discommode them in any way.

Such investigations are an indication of the great resistance of the human body to disturbances of various sorts.

Were it not for this fact, the amount of illness and death would be far greater than it is.



Reason

By Frederick LANDIS

WE were looking for Marshal Poch to have this relapse, for they fed him as if he were a harvest hand.

This inability of the sick room to tell the kitchen to keep off the grass has cost many an illustrious as well as obscure patient his life.

We remember how our family doctor foretold McKinley's finish when they stuffed him with food, a d red result was exactly as that doctor predicted.

When you're sick, hang a small pot sign on your face—anything to keep the food pushers at a distance.

Common Bridge Errors AND HOW TO CORRECT THEM

BY W. W. WENTWORTH

32. REFUSING TO DUCK TO PREVENT BLOCKING

North (Dummy)—
♠ 5 4 2
♥ 8 3
♦ A 7 6 4 2
♣ 8 6 4

West—
Leads ♠ Q

East—

South (Declarer)—
♠ A K 3
♥ A 9 4 2
♦ Q J 8
♣ A K

The Bidding—South bids no-trump and all pass.

Deciding the Play—West leads queen of spades and Declarer overtakes with ace of spades. Declarer now plays queen of diamonds and West covers with king of diamonds. How should Declarer play to make game?

The Error—Declarer takes with ace of spades. Then Declarer plays queen of diamonds and when West covers with the king of diamonds, the ace of diamonds is played from Dummy.

The Correct Method—To make game Declarer must make four tricks in diamonds. Declarer should refuse to take the second trick and in all probability he will establish

the remaining diamonds. In this manner game is assured. The sacrifice of one trick guarantees two additional tricks!

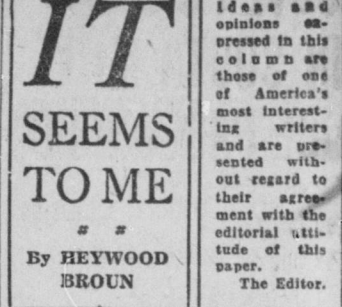
The Principle—Ducking is often necessary to guarantee game.

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Daily Thought

And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.—I Timothy 6:7.

NONE is poor but the mean in mind, the timorous, the weak and unbelieving; none is wealthy but the affluent in soul, who is satisfied and growth over.—Tupper.



IT SEEMS TO ME

By HEYWOOD BROWN

PALM BEACH, Fla., Feb. 1.—At last I've found a Florida whose spirit was sufficiently stanch to ride the gale as if it were a bucking bronco.

"I suppose," I said to the Negro pushing the wheel-chair, "that your house was destroyed in the big storm." By now I've learned not to call it the hurricane.

"No, sir," he said, "not mine. Built it with my own hands and my own tools. I've rided out four of 'em. Never even lost the roof. Of course this last time my windows went, but that was just an account of the other houses blowing into mine."

And there was another man whose ego seemed to have profited by the catastrophe of last summer. This was the white skipper of a fishing boat and he said that the hurricane was the finest thing which had ever happened to him.

Yes, of course he was frightened. Never in his life had he seen anything so terrific in diabolical fury.

"But," he said, "after it was all over I was still there, and I thought to myself, nothing could possibly be worse than this, and even it couldn't kill me. How can I possibly ever get scared of anything again?"

Most historians agree that even if there had never been a Civil war, the south would have abolished slavery in another generation. Wise men in the southern states were beginning to realize that from sheer self-interest the institution could not be preserved.

They were less moved by the thought that it was bad for the Negro than by the realization that it was increasingly harmful to the white.

The southerner of today ought to go a step further than this and realize that the present status of the Negro is handicapping the entire south, both white and black.

It is extremely difficult to develop civilization under democratic forms in any community which harbors a belated class. I'm aware that the Greeks did it, but there seems at the moment to be no prospect that Athens, Ga., is likely to duplicate the glories of the more ancient city.

The average southerner is kindly and pleasant enough to the Negro as long as he knows his place. It is the uppity Negro who arouses the ire of the ruling classes.

As I understand it, the southern white man sets up his barriers against the Negro because he is afraid that anything approaching social equality would mean the admixture of the races.

The Nordics of the south are committed to the purity of the white strain. According to the familiar saying, the mulatto inherits the worst features of both white and black.

I will not stop to ask for any proof of this oft-repeated assertion. Indeed, I must confess my own belief that the white man is a divergent, live side by side mixture between them is almost inevitable. This may be bad. This may be good. I'm merely saying that it seems to happen.

One effective barrier, and one only, may be raised up against admixture. That is pride of race.

Purity of the Proud

AND so I say if the south wants racial purity it must increase the ego of the Negro woman. Now I ask you is that a way in which to encourage chastity sufficient to repel the advances of lewd white men? For there are such even in the south.

Horrible penalties are visited upon the Negro who dares to cross the color line, but there is lenience for the white man who makes the same journey.

If there is to be a true passion for racial purity it must come from both sides. It is not possible to tell a person in all sorts of ways that he is inferior and at the same time assure him that he ought to be satisfied with the condition into which it has pleased God to call him.

I know that in certain southern libraries books written by Negroes are not acceptable. Could anything be more silly and short-sighted on the part of the white faction? Instead, the southern Nordic should be eager to hail every display of Negro genius. Raise up the Negro from an enforced humility and he may in time be not only content but eager to accept segregation.

Not Less but More

ONCE I heard James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the Association for the Advancement of the Negro People, make a speech in which he said that in most every southern state far more was appropriated for the education of white children than was spent on a like number of Negro children.

"I don't understand that," he said, "because most southern white men say that the Negro child is much more stupid. In that case twice as much ought to be spent on his education as is spent on the white children."

It will be said that I have no right to voice an opinion on the Negro problem after spending one week in Florida. But as a matter of fact it is the white problem which I am discussing.

No ruling class ever has benefited in the long run by the existence of a peasant class. For one week I have been moving about among Negro men who continually touch their hats and "sir" any visitor. And in a week's time I feel that these ridiculous rites have in some way injured me.

But if this process went on, not for a week, but for months and years, I think it might have a permanently harmful effect. A certain number of white men in the south are so busy being superior that they really have no time to be in any way worth a tinker's dam.

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