



The Indianapolis Times

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

They Never Learn

Bourbon to the last, the professional politicians never learn.

They have not yet discovered that a new day has dawned for Indiana and Indianapolis in which the people are no longer idiots nor sheep.

In the legislature they are taking up the time of the people discussing the "advisability" of the city manager form of government.

The people have already settled that. In Indianapolis the vote was five to one in its favor. In Evansville and Terre Haute the people are trying to vote on the same change with the chances in favor of its adoption in those centers by about the same vote.

In the past these slaves to the boss have tried tricks and force. They succeeded to a degree. Two years ago they delayed its operation in this city and kept in office one John Duvall until a grand jury discovered evidence on which he was later convicted.

The same forces which tried to protect Duvall are now at work trying to set aside the right of the people to run their own affairs.

The stupidity of these so-called leaders is only rivaled by their thorough and complete disregard for public opinion.

Why do they wish to kill the city manager plan of government?

And who are behind the bosses?

The answers are very easy.

The present scheme of things lends itself to the use of public office for political purposes. The jobs can be handed to the inefficient or the crooked. The power can be used to sell special privileges.

The politicians take the jobs. The grafters in business, in crime, in industry can buy what they want.

That is the reason that utility lobbyists are found working with the vassals of the bosses to kill the city manager law.

They are desperate, of course. And the showdown has come.

It would be a tragedy if an accidental majority in the last election should longer delay the rise of the people to power and a chance to assert the rights to run their own affairs.

Public Building

The state senate will do less than its duty if it fails to explore every ramification of the plan under which the state now has a large number of armories, all built within the past two or three years.

It may discover that the project was highly patriotic or professionally patriotic. It may discover that the purpose behind was to equip the state with buildings under which men can be trained for war and that the training is most necessary, or it may disclose that there was a high profit in the transaction which placed an unnecessary burden upon the people.

Most necessary is this investigation because of rumors that there is a very definite plan to erect a large number of schools under the same system of finance. The people ought not to be pledged to any such extensive program until it is thoroughly examined and completely understood.

There is a very definite provision in the constitution against the state contracting any debts.

That provision has enabled the state to escape the temptation to issue large numbers of bonds on which the future pays heavy interest charges.

There has always been pressure to avoid this provision and there is now an effort being made to avoid it for the purpose of road whistling.

On the surface the building of armories by private interests has some of the aspects of a plan to avoid this provision of the constitution.

It is explained that the private interests, composed of a bank, a contracting firm and other necessary factors built the armories under a plan under which the rent, on the installment plan would finally result in giving the state ownership of the armories.

The legislature had no control of the number, the location or the cost of these buildings.

That does not seem to be the spirit of the intent of the laws regulating the acquisition of necessary public buildings.

The senate will, of course, obtain all the details of the transaction and probably discover whether there was any but a real purpose of patriotism behind this project, started in the name of altruism.

But more than that, there should be a careful inquiry into the effect of the plan as a whole.

If it is possible to build armories in this manner, it is possible to erect other buildings and perhaps purchase other forms of property.

If legal, the debt provision of the constitution means nothing at all.

Of course, refusal of the legislature to pay rent might leave the private builders with the property on their hands. But if the transaction is marked by good faith, there is a moral obligation to keep on paying.

If we are to throw away the constitution, the legislature should discover the inspiration

for the plan. Was it conceived by the state officials who saw a great necessity, or did the private interests which erected the armories inspire it?

When the senate has discovered this one fact, it may be able to proceed with greater intelligence.

The Indian Inquiry

The senate committee on audits and contingent expenses meets today to pass upon the request for \$30,000 and continuance of the senate Indian investigating committee.

Senator Denman of Illinois is chairman of the audit committee. It has been reported that he may delay or oppose the appropriation for the committee, which has investigated contracts signed by Roy O. West, secretary of the interior.

The Indian inquiry is important. It affects an entire race of people, a race that has been mistreated or neglected by this government for years.

The committee should vote the money and let the inquiry go on.

Root to the Rescue

Elihu Root should be able to smooth adherence of the United States to the court of law if any one can. He has the confidence of the European governments and of the Washington government. The former have chosen him as a member of the commission to revise the court statutes, which he helped formulate.

His unofficial mission is even more important. In his dual capacity as an eminent American and a friend of the court, he may be able to reconcile the senate reservations to American membership and the European objections to those reservations.

The difficulty is over the senate reservation which would prevent the court from rendering without permission of the United States, so-called advisory league opinions on questions in which the United States "has or claims to have an interest." Other governments object that this would give the United States a veto power, which even members of the league council do not have. But they have agreed that the United States have equal powers with council members, and in effect have accepted all the other senate reservations.

Some jurists abroad interpret the present statute as requiring unanimous vote of the council in requesting the court's advisory opinion; that is, as giving all council members veto power. If this interpretation is upheld by the jurists revising the statute, apparently the senate reservations will be accepted automatically by the court members and American adherence assured.

This would be another case of getting a half loaf, and unfortunately, the senate will not join anything but an emasculated court.

That would not get us far, but it would be better than nothing.

It's almost time for some debunking artist to discover that Captain Fried looks under the bed every night before retiring or drinks tea from his saucer.

The west is still a cattle country, says a New York writer. If you have tried to get into a New York subway train during the rush hour recently, you must know that the writer hasn't taken in enough territory.

Headline in a New York newspaper says, "Hoover Wrestles With His Speech." Maybe there are some formidable figures in it.

Who said the spirit of adventure is dying? Chicago gained 75,000 in population in 1928.

Mr. Ake has been appointed a treasurer of Ohio following conviction of Treasurer Buckley on bribery charges. Governor Cooper may have figured the vacancy was an Aking void.

David Dietz on Science

Heavenly Motions

No. 276

THE spectroscope not only is able to detect the chemical composition of the sun or a distant star and its temperature as well, but it also is able to detect the motion of a heavenly body.

Every one knows that when a locomotive is approaching, the pitch of the whistle seems to rise, while the locomotive is receding from one, the pitch of the whistle falls.

This is due to the fact that when the locomotive is approaching it is crowding the sound waves on top of each other. Consequently, we get more per second but we would

if the locomotive were standing still. As a result, the pitch goes up. For the pitch of a whistle depends upon the number of waves per second, what is known technically as its frequency.

When the locomotive is receding, we get fewer waves to the second and as a result the pitch is made of green cheese.

This is known as the Doppler effect because Christian Doppler, an Austrian physicist, first pointed it out.

The spectroscope reveals a similar situation with respect to light. If a source of light is approaching us, the number of waves received per second is increased.

This results in an increase in frequency and as a result, the lines in spectrum are shifted toward the violet end of the spectrum.

If the light source is receding from us, the spectrum lines are shifted toward the red end of the spectrum.

As a result of this, by attaching a spectroscope to a large telescope, it is possible to tell whether a star is moving toward the earth or away from the earth.

If the spectrum lines are shifted toward the violet, it means that the star is approaching us. If the lines are shifted toward the red, it means that the star is receding.

In the case of the sun, the spectroscope can be used to determine rotation.

Let us suppose that we focus our spectroscope on one edge of the sun and the spectrum lines are shifted toward the violet. This means that the edge of the sun, apparently, is approaching us.

Now let us focus the spectroscope on the opposite edge of the sun. This reveals a shift toward the red. Apparently this edge of the sun is receding from us.

There is only one possible interpretation, namely that the sun is rotating on its axis.

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M. E. TRACY SAYS:

"Some Day Germany Is Going to Float a Bond Issue, We Are Going to Buy the Bulk of It and France Is Going to Get the Cash Which She Will Turn Over to Us."

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Feb. 11.—

This is a town of amazing contrasts.

Though on the mainland, it largely is dependent on ferries.

Though on the west coast, it has an eastern waterfront.

Though suffering from a light rainfall, it is foggy much of the time.

Though built on hills, it has a new curved streets.

Those who laid out San Francisco had a higher regard for geometry than nature, running their highways straight, regardless of grade or slope and sacrificing beauty for the sake of a good by-line.

Inexcusable as much civilized blundering may have been, it failed to wipe out the original charm. The humps still are there—Telegraph Hill, Nob Hill, and a dozen more, making it possible for architects and real estate men to produce a sky line with far fewer stories than if the ground were level. So, too, is the Spanish tradition, oriental atmosphere and those curious phenomena with which Providence has blessed the surrounding region.

One can get from the roar of market street to the somber silence of giant redwoods within an hour, climb to the top of any skyscraper and look at mountains as high and rugged as the Adirondacks, or cross the bay and be in a valley where oranges ripen a month earlier than in the Los Angeles territory.

Chinese New Year

FEIRE crackers announce that celebration of the Chinese new year has begun. This will be a week of queer noises and queer parades in San Francisco. We white people will look on with mixed emotions. When we have maintained our civilization as long, we may be able to appreciate what it means more accurately.

Like the thousand-year-old trees out in Muir Woods, where I went Sunday afternoon, these folks from Asia, clinging to their ancient customs, in spite of the so-called modern life with which they find themselves surrounded, speak of forces big and far away.

Earth on Its Way

A DISCIPLE of Einstein says the earth is falling through space like a rock, that it is headed for a cluster of stars somewhere down below and that it may collide with one or more of them later, but that no one need worry since it has some 200,000 years to go.

That gives us plenty of time to settle the prohibition question, adjust German reparations, decide whether the talkies have not proved the case for legitimate drama and do a few other things.

If the earth is falling, it must have been on its way a good long time.

At all events, no one seems to know when or where it started, and nothing has happened within the memory of the oldest living inhabitant, or that of his grandfather, to justify the idea that there is a reckless driver at the steering wheel.

That is great opposition in all states to a state income tax, but something should be done to lift the nation's tax burden.

Once upon a time Mr. Taft decided to appoint a Mr. Crane to high office and asked him to remain silent, whereupon Mr. Crane told it and Mr. Taft did not appoint him.

May be so, but there are three distinguished American financiers in Paris—J. P. Morgan, Thomas W. Lamont and Owen D. Young—to help solve the problem.

If that lets us out, the moon is made of green cheese.

Splendid Isolation?

WE keep telling ourselves that "splendid isolation," whatever that may be, is possible.

At the same time, we keep doing things to make it impossible.

The worst of it is, we keep doing it, because the warp and woof of modern civilization forces us to do them, because it is out of the question to pursue any other policy and stay in the parade.

Call the thing by whatever name you like, but some day Germany is going to float a bond issue, we are going to buy the bulk of it and France is going to get the cash which she will turn over to us.

These things are not possible to do, because the warp and woof of modern civilization forces us to do them, because it is out of the question to pursue any other policy and stay in the parade.

He should be impeached for trying to pass the buck to a woman, if for nothing else.

All state legislatures seem to be concerned with movements to promote the safety of automobile driving and two things would help greatly. The first is to send all drunken drivers to the penitentiary for five years and the second is to banish all reckless drivers from the highway.

DAILY THOUGHT

A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that also love one another.—St. John 3:4.

On what date did Easter Sunday fall in 1887?

April 10.

For Their Own Good



THE HUMAN BODY AND ITS CARE—NO. 4

Woman Quick to Use Health Fad

The fourth article of Dr. Fishbein's interesting series of "The Human Body and Its Care" is presented here. The series in pamphlet form can be obtained from the American Library Association, 80 East Randolph street, Chicago.

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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