



# The Indianapolis Times

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

## Bank Banditry

Once more the gunmen are after the banks. It has been several months since the local institutions have been raided.

There is a cause for every effect. To find the cause is very often to avoid the undesirable result.

After the gunmen and bandits had run wild months ago a severe policy was adopted by the police department concerning public gambling.

It may have been a coincidence, but it is certainly true that when the big craps games were closed, the number of bold holdups decreased and almost stopped.

That may have been significant. It may have just happened, but very few things in this world "just happen."

For the past few weeks, for some unexplained cause, the gamblers are again bold and open in their operations.

There are a number of such places, run by the same old gang, which now invite customers.

Apparently every one but the police know exactly where these places are to be found.

The same old debate between the police and the courts starts, but the gamblers finish. They finish with the funds stolen from cash registers. They finish with the dollars that should be taken home.

The police explain that the city judges always turn the gamblers loose and so the officers for daring to make arrests. The judges complain that the police never have the proper sort of search warrants. If warrants are obtained, the gamblers get the tip in advance.

But the sure phenomenon is that whenever there is wide open gambling, there are bank robberies, hold-ups, banditry of all sorts.

Bankers who object to the visits of gunmen might find it interesting to impress the police with the necessity of closing these schools for banditry, as well as catching the bandits.

## Juries Are Important

When the President's commission of inquiry gets under way it is certain to hear a lot about the jury system. Many persons are apt to consider the jury an obstruction to American justice and, no doubt, at times it is. Certainly with the spectacle of juries refusing to convict persons arraigned under the Jones law, there is bound to be an outcry against the jury system by the hundred per cent prohibitionists. Yet the jury remains important to the people. It continues to protect against oppression.

Consider its history: Judges and other agents of the kings had acquired the habit of hanging people for petty theft. The people were unable to change the judges or kings, but they did obtain the right to be tried by their peers—meaning their neighbors, and folks who knew them and had the same interests and feelings as themselves. They knew that juries so made up would hesitate to hang a man for stealing a sheep; they would find "not guilty" instead.

That is what happened. In the course of time the makers and enforcers of laws learned that less drastic penalties and surer and swifter enforcement is the answer to crime. The too drastic laws were nullified, though many remained long on the books.

It was so with the blue laws. Ducking for gossip and drowning for witchcraft had to be nullified. There are hundreds of such silly laws still on the books today, but no one thinks of enforcing them and no one should think of enforcing them.

There is nothing sacred about the statutes. All are man-made; some are even fool-made.

## The Busy Housewife

The government's bureau of home economics just has upset another popular belief, and one which we suspect was cherished by some husbands.

We were quite sure, having been told so often, that home life was disappearing and that ancient virtues were being forgotten. The whole race, in fact, was imperiled by the growth of a generation of cigarette-smoking, card-playing women, who spent their time going to the movies or gadding about when they should have been at home darning papa's socks or minding little Jimmie. They fed the family out of cans instead of bothering to cook. And so on—you know the story.

Now the bureau through a survey has discovered that despite changed conditions and all the labor-saving devices, the average American housewife still has as many working hours as her husband.

The average working time of the women studied was fifty-one hours a week. Wives in small towns worked fifty-one hours, and in cities a little more than the forty-eight hours which has been established by union labor. Farm wives worked sixty-three hours a week.

The bureau concludes that the time spent by married women in housekeeping must be reduced to a reasonable full-time job for those now overworked, and to a leisure time job for those who are better adapted to some other kind of work, but are prevented by home duties.

The worst is yet to come. The survey is being extended to find out the money value of a housewife's time.

## The Pan-American Highway

A number of important things happened in the closing days of the last congressional session that most of us lost sight of in the press and more sensational news.

Among these was the action of congress authorizing the appropriation of \$50,000 with which the United States government can co-operate with Latin-American nations in a study and survey of the proposed Pan-American highway.

This roadway, projected to link all the nations in the new world, is as deserving a project as has been suggested in years. It would bring incalculable benefits to every nation on the continent, from Canada to Chile—and the United States would probably benefit most of all. It is to be hoped that the new congress will speedily vote the money that the last congress authorized. The sooner this job is started, the better.

## Murder Parked Four Days

The average American, it is to be suspected, minds his own business pretty well, after all.

In a Detroit residential district an automobile was left parked at a curb four days. No one went near it. Its presence was highly unusual, of course, but the police living nearby didn't give it a thought.

Finally a policeman investigated. Looking inside the car, he found the lifeless body of a woman. In-

vestigation showed that she had been murdered, and that the murderer had disposed of her body by the simple expedient of leaving it in the car and abandoning the car.

It is surprising to learn that that auto, with its ghastly freight, could have stayed at a curb for four days unnoticed. But the American city dweller has a way of minding his own business. He doesn't get nosy when something a little out of the way happens in his neighborhood.

## The Homicide Rate

It is something of a surprise to learn that figures compiled by Dr. Frederick L. Hoffman, statistician for the Prudential Insurance Company, show that Chicago does not have the highest homicide rate in the country.

The distinction, whatever it may be worth, is held by Detroit, where in 1928 there were 16.5 homicidal deaths for every 100,000 of population, as compared with Chicago's 15.8.

Chicago, of course, led the country in total homicides—498. New York, second in totals with 401, was fifth in the actual homicide rate, being surpassed by Cleveland and Philadelphia as well as Detroit and Chicago.

These are dubious honors for all of these cities. It is to be hoped that publication of the figures will spur citizens to a new realization of the seriousness of the situation.

## Farming

Despite all the talk of agricultural depression, farming continues to be one of the major industries of the country.

The department of agriculture has issued some enlightening figures on the matter.

In 1928 the total value of United States farm products reached the amazing total of \$9,093,000,000. Texas, as might be expected, leads the individual states with a production worth \$785,000,000. Iowa ranks second, with \$545,000,000, and California comes third with \$528,000,000.

When you see those figures you begin to understand the importance of agriculture in our national economy. It is easy to see the boost that general prosperity would receive if improved conditions should enable the farmers to add 15 or 20 per cent to their gross cash income.

A New York critic says the talkies, in bringing to every Main Street the music shows of Broadway, will give the small towns a new kind of civilization. They may be able to overcome it, however.

Today's question: "Why do they call so many of the cities along the Florida coast line 'watering places'?"

The Massachusetts legislature has a bill that would permit deer hunting with bow and arrow. Probably a conservative measure.

The saying that women's work is never done is becoming nearly true these days, with so many labor-saving devices to keep working.

Etiquette Note: The young man asking a father for his daughter's hand has to be prepared to answer the question of whether or not he can furnish alimony sufficient to support the girl in the style to which she has been accustomed.

A manufacturer proposes that used cars be shipped to Germany. But aren't the Germans having it hard enough as it is?

Warden Snook of Atlanta resigned after objecting to the practice of sending federal spies to prisons. But to date we haven't seen anywhere the headline, "Snook Scores Snooks and Cops Sneak."

David Dietz on Science.

## 50 Miles of Atmosphere

No. 315

THE force of gravitation is responsible for the earth retaining an atmosphere. The tendency of the atmosphere is to fly off into space. But gravity holds it in place.

The atmosphere is thickest or densest—use a more scientific and exact expression—closest to the earth's surface. As one ascends above the surface of the earth, the atmosphere grows thinner and thinner.

If the atmosphere had a uniform density from top to bottom, it would extend upward only five miles above the earth's surface. But the atmosphere extends to a much greater height and the density falls off very rapidly.

At a height of thirty miles, the air is only one-hundredth as dense as it is at the surface of the earth. At a height of fifty miles, the air has become so thin that it does not exert any measurable pressure. There is some air at this height, however. This is proved by the fact that at twilight there is some refraction or bending of the sun's rays at this height, and also by the fact that meteors "or shooting stars" become visible at this height.

Meteors are small chunks of rock coming in from outer space which become luminous because they are heated to incandescence by friction against the earth's atmosphere.

Just how much farther the atmosphere may exist is a problem. Dr. Willis Luther Moore, former chief of the United States weather bureau, is of the opinion that the atmosphere gives out somewhere between fifty and 100 miles above the surface of the earth.

Meteorologists and physicists are very much interested in studying the upper reaches of the earth's atmosphere—because they think that many of the weather conditions near the surface of the earth may be connected in some way with what is going on at high altitudes.

Studies have been made of the upper reaches by sending aloft small balloons to which scientific instruments are attached.

These instruments are of the recording type so that their records can be read after the balloon has been recovered.

Balloons are also used to study air currents. A small balloon is released. Its movements are then followed with a small range-finding telescope.

Interesting data also has been collected recently by airplane flights, though it is impossible for a plane to attain the same heights that the small balloons do.

## M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

"Wall Street Has Put a Definite Crimp in That Most Popular Topic of Conversation—Hooch."

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., March 28.—As in all other places I have visited during the last two months, people here are vastly concerned over the stock market. Neither is their concern of the old-fashioned academic sort, which ran to politics and theorizing.

The stock market has become a matter of bread and meat to millions and that, too, not only through playing it, because of the way it affects local credit.

It is amazing how many professional men, school teachers, small merchants and even mechanics have bought shares, or taken a flyer on margins. It is equally amazing how much money has been withdrawn from local banks for this purpose, or has been sent east by the banks themselves to take advantage of the call market.

Pinched credit is the result. From San Francisco to Knoxville, I have heard nothing so often as the complaint that merchants, manufacturers and real estate men find it difficult to get the loans their standing justifies.

## Waiting for the Crash

NOW the worry is doubled. Business feels apprehensive not only of the shortened credit, but of the threatened crash in values.

Most everyone admits that business is in fairly good shape, but without recalling what "run on the bank" can do, even though the bank is solvent.

The way the crowd has gone wild over a bull market during the last two years is grimly suggestive.

The majority, those who have not hesitated to play the game included, feel that there has been far more psychology than sense in the boom. What is worse, they feel that the psychology could go about as far in as opposite direction, if it once got well started.

Every second person one meets has the same questions—what is going to happen, will the slump continue and if it does, what about the effect on business?

## Worries of Prosperity

WALL STREET has put a definite crimp in that most popular topic of conversation—hooch. What stronger proof could one ask as to its intimate and universal appeal?

Under ordinary circumstances, the sinking of the I'm Alone, or that far more tragic affair in Illinois, where a mother was shot during a raid, would be favorite themes for discussion.

I have heard little talk about either. Even the flood, which could be described as nothing less than a local disaster of first magnitude, takes second place.

Ten people allude to the first 8,000,000 share day, 20 per cent call money and the wiping out of billions in paper profits, where one alludes to anything else.

Whatever else this may mean, it shows the effect of prosperity. People are interested because they have something at stake. They have something at stake because they had the cash with which to get it.

The stock market no longer is controlled and manipulated by small groups. Popular resources have become the most important factor to be reckoned with and popular interest the most important thing to be served.

This, of course, involves the necessity of a few and higher type of leadership.

## Not Bad for Business

PERSONALLY, I have seen little on this journey across the United States and back again to warrant the belief that the nation's business structure will be seriously shaken, no matter what happens.

It is true that something like \$20,000,000 worth of water has been forced into the capital investment by one of the most practiced, if not spectacular, bull markets in history.

If all of it were to be squeezed out, we should have lost but little more than it takes to buy and operate our autos each year and most of that goes for joy riding.

If the cash involved were lost, there might be more cause for alarm, but in the majority of cases, it merely has changed hands. In the majority of cases there is little to show for all the whoop-la and commotion, except a mass of paper transactions.

## Changing Pockets

THE bulk of the so-called fortunes that have been, or may be wiped out, did not exist two years ago, nor did they represent the result of toil, genius, or constructive thinking.

From beginning to end, the show was about 80 per cent hunch, and the enormously increased values largely were a matter of belief.

Many individuals have been tragically elated, and many more will be tragically disappointed. As a whole, however, they will have about as much left in the end as they started with.

Those who invested with the intention of holding, will suffer little but a shrinkage. Those who bought on margin will suffer just what the losers do in a poker game.

At the conclusion of a poker game, there is just as much money on hand as there was at the opening. It has merely changed pockets.

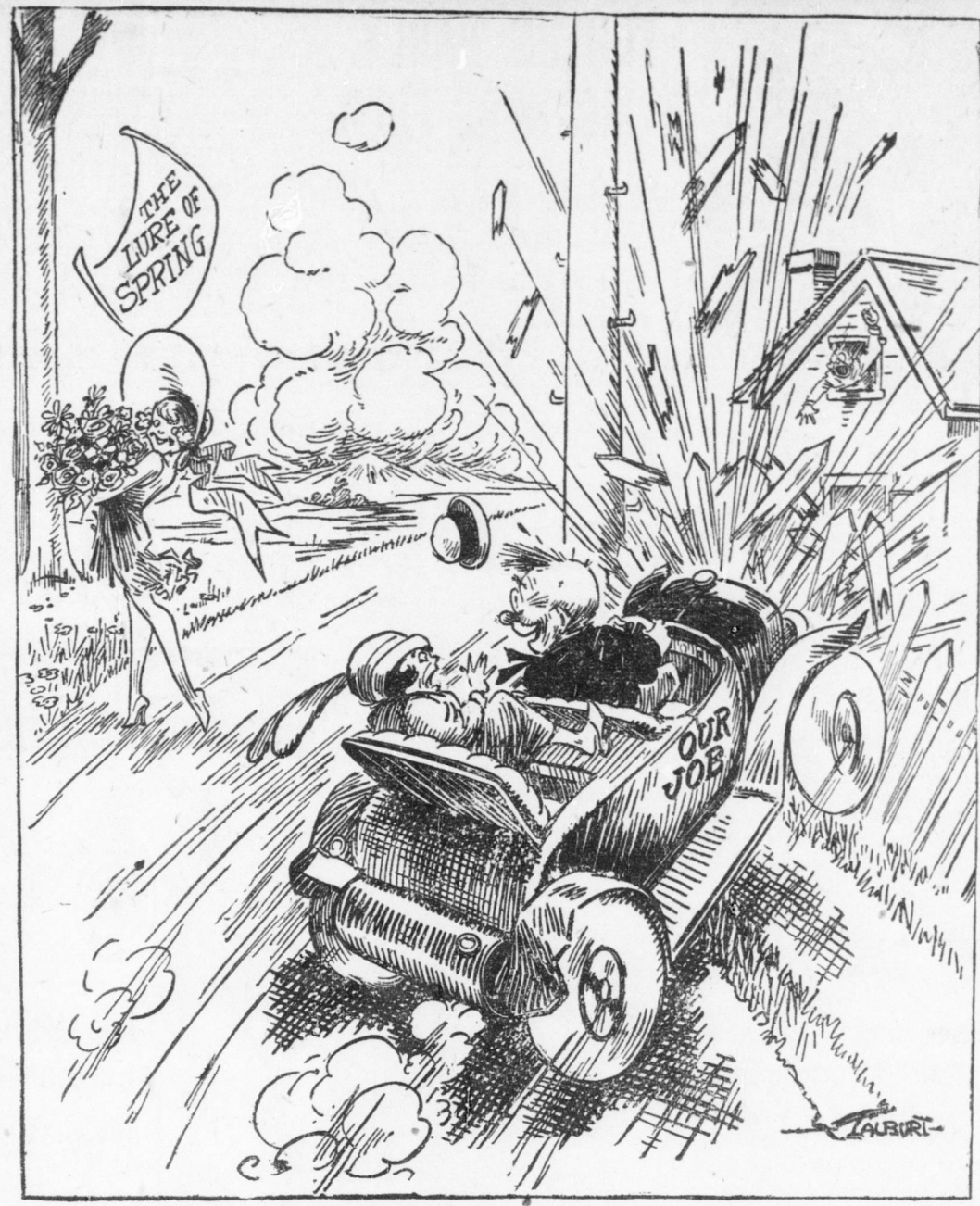
The saddest part of stock gambling is not the losers, but the innocent bystanders.

## Daily Thought

Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies.—Prov. 31:10.

THE whole of virtue consists in its practice.—Cicero.

## Just When We'd Resolved to Get Somewhere!



HEALTH SUPERSTITIONS—No. 6.

## Madstones Won't Cure Hydrophobia

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN  
Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygieia, the Health Magazine.

THE belief that madstones will cure hydrophobia is one of the strangest of superstitions.

Hydrophobia has been known as a disease from the earliest times. It apparently was recognized that some dangerous material came into the body with the bite of the dog, and the obvious attempt on the part of an unknown people was to put something on the bite that would draw out the poison.

Since the development of stones in the body of man or of animals was not understandable to these ancients, a magical influence was attached to the stone.

Sometimes other stones than those developed in the human body were used for these magical purposes, including for instance, stones associated with great natural monuments such as the Giant's Causeway or volcanoes.

Hydrophobia is caused by infection transmitted through the bite of animals. This infection attacks particularly the nervous system of the body, and one of the chief symptoms is difficulty in swallowing.

The ancients mistook the fear of swallowing for the fear of the water itself and so called the disease hydrophobia or the fear of water. The modern name of the disease is rabies.

The famous scientist Pasteur discovered a method of developing resistance in the body against hydrophobia to which the name Pasteur treatment has been given.

Since development of the Pasteur treatment in 1882, hydrophobia has been brought under control.

Rabies is spread principally by the homeless stray dog. When a person is bitten by a rabid animal, he should have the Pasteur treatment.

The disease is controlled in any community by strict enforcement of the muzzling ordinance and destruction of stray dogs.

The person who depends on a madstone when bitten by a rabid animal is likely to terminate his existence with hydrophobia.

Ideals and opinions expressed in this column are those of one of America's most interesting writers, and are presented without regard to their agreement or disagreement with the editorial attitude of this paper.—The Editor.

## IT SEEMS TO ME

By HEYWOOD BROWN

I DON'T know much about international law, but I do know that all the sentimental and romantic values lie with the captain of the little schooner I'm Alone. Skipper John T. Randall admits that he carried liquor and he may not have a legal leg on which to stand.

He possesses something which seems to be more important. The man has a glorious narrative style. Besides he got his story in first. If I were a publisher or an editor I would sign up Captain Randall on the spot. I'd rather have his memoirs than those of Calvin Coolidge. The run-runner is the better writer and his way of life has been less placid.

But granting that all the virtue lay with the revenue boats it must be admitted that the bootleg craft ran away with a moral victory. They belied the schooner for an hour, but they could not make John T. Randall heave to.

## Skipper Dramatic

AS a writer and as a dramatic character the skipper possesses that rare and valuable quality of understatement. I cite two paragraphs from his report:

"He ordered me to heave to. I replied, 'Captain, you have no jurisdiction over me. I am on the high seas outside the treaty waters. I can not and will not heave to.'"

"Then they fired three or four blank shots and left me and proceeded toward the westward. Shortly afterward they returned with the signal 'heave to' flying. I replied by signal 'No.'"

The rest of this amazing deep sea tale is an epic fortification of the word "No." Blank shots solidified. They rattled the sails of the I'm Alone. Shells pierced her hull. I roughly estimate that about thirty or seventy shots struck the vessel.

And a little later, "The engineer reported to me that the water over the engine room floor and that the vessel appeared to be settling down. I immediately gave orders to stop the engines and clear away the dories which, although they were of no use, would be something for my men to cling to in the heavy sea."

## Riddled

THEY riddled the I'm Alone until she blew at every seam. The sails came down, the bulkheads went, but the forces of law and order could not shoot away the captain's "No."

"I believe I was the last to jump from the ship. My bow was then about twenty feet under water and her stern about ten feet in the air and she was beginning to dive."

It can hardly be said that Skipper Randall quit his ship. It was the ship which quitted him. Literally the American navy had shot his craft from under him and he and his crew leaped off into the storm-tossed gulf where one was drowned. Down went the Scotch and gin, good Scotch and gin, with salt water on the side.

I like to think that the last ves-

tige of the I'm Alone was her little signal flag which cried out, "No" above the gale until the waves sucked her down and the gallant negative nailed to the mast.

## Navy Wins Another

OF course, the victory lies with our American arms, and yet I doubt whether the admirals and the ensigns will talk much in the long run about this fight as they might sometimes discuss even yet the Monitor and the Merrimack. Nor will school children be asked each one to give a penny to save the Dexter from the junkyard. Oh, yes, we won, but let's not talk about it. We got the ship and one of the sailors, but we never got the skipper. We salted down good liquor, but not the soul of John T. Randall.

"To my surprise, on going below after supper, I was told that I would have to submit to leg irons. I remarked to the captain that I did not consider that I was a prisoner of war and had no intention of doing anything rash. But he assured me that it was his orders, and as

## Questions and Answers

You can get an answer to any question by writing to Frederick M. Kerby, Question Editor, The Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1322 New York Avenue, Washington, D. C., enclosing 2 cents in stamps for reply. Medical and legal advice cannot be given, nor can extended research be made. All questions will receive a personal reply. All letters requesting cannot be answered. All letters confidential. Please do not cordially invited to make use of this service.

What is the National Vaudeville Artists, Inc.?

An organization which extends its fraternal and benevolent care to about 15,000 members and between 2,000 to 3,000 artists in other branches of the theater who are or have been engaged in vaudeville. It was started in May, 1916. The benefits to the members include a paid-up life insurance policy, sick benefits, a pension for members and their dependents and aid of any kind that can be given to the members in time of emergency or need.

What is the origin of the state names Wyoming and Wisconsin?

Wyoming is an Indian name meaning "extensive plain." Wisconsin is also an Indian name meaning "wild rushing channel."

Who holds the record for the junior one-mile run?

George C. Ashton of the Pittsburgh Athletic Association. The record is one mile in 4 minutes, 23 and one-fifth seconds.

What is natural history?

In the widest sense it is that form of history, whose facts or events relate to nature as distinguished from man. It is often held to embrace all the natural and physical sciences. In a narrower sense it includes only zoology, botany, mineralogy and geology and sometimes zoology alone.

## REASON

By Frederick Landis

"Mexico Is Inferior in Most Things, But No Nation Exceeds Her in Nerve; a Coal Miner Is Entitled to All He Asks."

IF we are going to continue to let scientists lecture on birth control to the boys and girls in our state universities, we should ask the Free-Press Islands to send a few missionaries to the United States.

We are not surprised that the county commissioners refused to let the children skate in the court house at Fairfield, Texas, for that's entirely too much action for any court house.

It created astonishment when an Arkansas farmer put up the sign "Hunt all you please," yet this is the identical sign those who are opposed to a national defense would put on the United States, and the letters would be big enough for all the world to read.

American and British power combinations are bidding for the Shanghai municipal electricity plant, but if the people of Shanghai know their business they won't sell it to either of them, but will keep it municipal.

The most tragic result of this Mexican war occurred in Pennsylvania when the head of a military institute called in the young son of the rebel general, Aguero, and told him his father had been executed, whereupon the boy, without batting an eye, saluted and retired.

Mexico is inferior in most things, but no nation excels her in nerve.

Police Commissioner Whalen of New York wants President Hoover to favor legislation to control the sale of firearms, to keep them out of the hands of criminals, but in the first place the law could not be enforced and in the second place all the criminals have them now.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kinman of Walla Walla, Wash., have been married seventy-three years, which is much longer than all the married people in Hollywood have lived together.

Florida has just produced a strawberry which measures five and one-half inches in circumference, but this isn't it with the raspberry Florida handed to northern investors.

The trouble about ex-Attorney General Daugherty's defense of his administration is that it is something like seven years too late.

This horrible coal mine disaster in Pennsylvania which claimed more than thirty victims moves one to observe that a coal miner is entitled to all he asks.

If President Hoover does not want any wet or dry on his commission to investigate the violations of the Volstead laws, he will have to select gentlemen who drink "half and half."

These German newspapers which claim that the late Marshal Foch showed them no chivalry when the terms of the armistice was arranged should be recalled how Blomberg struck the table until the ink well danced when France asked for terms at the end of the Franco-Prussian war.



## A PRESIDENT CENSURED

NINETY-FIVE years ago today the dignified wall of the United States senate chamber echoed unprecedented proceedings on the floor. For the first time in the history of the country, staid senators were so annoyed by the actions of the chief executive that a resolution of censure was introduced, passed long and bitterly and finally passed.

The President was Andrew Jackson, and in 1837, three years after its passage, the resolution was expunged by vote from the record.