

# The Indianapolis Times

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

## The Chinese-Russian Row

The world will watch anxiously the progress of the dispute between the Chinese Nationalist government and Soviet Russia, fearing a new war.

Both governments are reported to be massing troops in preparation for possible hostilities, following seizure of the Chinese eastern railway by the Nationalists, and the expulsion of the Russians who were participating in the management of the road. Both the Japanese cabinet and general staff have met to consider the incident, and the Japanese government is said to be prepared to send troops to Harbin if war develops.

The situation is such that a clash easily might be precipitated.

The Chinese Eastern railway long has been an important factor affecting the peace of the far east. Built originally by Russians, it has been operated since 1924 jointly by Russians and Chinese. The treaty providing for this stipulated that the Russians were to refrain from spreading communist propaganda. The Chinese long have been dissatisfied with Russian conduct under the treaty. Their immediate excuse for the seizure was the charge that a raid on a Russian consulate at Harbin disclosed clearly that the Russians were violating the treaty.

Japan's anxiety arises from the fact that she claims a special position in southern Manchuria, where she operates the South Manchurian railway, and has important concessions and large investments. Japan fears that the action of the Nationalist government toward Russia may indicate an eventual policy of the same kind toward her.

No one doubts that Japan would use arms to defend her position if this became necessary, or that she would dispatch troops, in event of war, to protect her interests. A year ago Japan was prepared to intervene when the Nationalist government was trying to bring Manchuria under its control.

Manchuria is almost as large as California and Texas combined, and has a population of 30,000,000. Its climate and topography resemble Iowa and the Dakotas. It is a good farming country and is rich in minerals.

Neither Russia nor China is well prepared for a war, though the Russians are said to have a large army, well drilled and well equipped, six divisions of which are along the Siberian railway between Lake Balkal and Vladivostok. Chinese forces in Manchuria consist of fifteen divisions with experience in war and fair equipment but poor organization.

The Soviet government has sent a plenipotentiary from Moscow to Harbin to negotiate for a diplomatic settlement of the row. It is to be hoped that the mission will succeed, for the Russian people have suffered much in recent years, and if they go to war, it is likely that others will become embroiled.

## Safe Flying

There is something dramatic and tragical in the spectacle of aviators beating against the gales with their airplanes and risking their lives on the gamble of crossing the Atlantic.

But that is not half so important to the people of this city as the fact that every day an airplane operated by the Embry-Riddle company leaves the airport at a certain hour and arrives on the minute at either Cincinnati or Chicago.

The Atlantic flights may be experimental or just plain adventurous. The flights by the air mails and the commercial companies are fast becoming a part of the transportation system of the land which will reduce the time of all travel.

The one condition which is important is safety and each and every day more and more men and women are discovering that the danger of air travel in commercial planes is scarcely greater than by any other means of travel.

There are three factors that make for safety. The first is a carefully inspected machine. The second is a carefully trained pilot. The third is advance knowledge of air conditions so that there are no unsuspected storms or air currents with which to contend.

The addition of passenger service to the mail contract is a real advance. It means a saving of time for those who believe their time is valuable. Time saved adds to the total of human living.

Instead of seven or eight hours by automobile or five and a half hours by train, the air service reduces the time between this city and Chicago to one hour and forty-five minutes. Another thirty minutes in a luxurious Packard limousine, furnished to the passengers, delivers the traveler from the air port to the Loop.

Only one thing threatens the great, swift advance of air transportation. Flying may become, very quickly, too monotonous for the traveler. Looking down on forests, fields, villages, rivers and cities may not have the appeal that scenery offers from the land levels. The lack of thrills, the absence of the physical sensation of speed, may limit its patronage to those who value time and want speed above any other considerations.

Any change in methods that saves time for human beings should be encouraged after the safety factor has been solved. Cities which encourage and stimulate the use of speed savers, whether in manufacture, communication or in transportation, the three activities in which it is important, have a better chance to grow than those who move more cautiously and conservatively.

## The People of Kentucky

A brief has been filed with the federal power commission alleged to represent the views of 200,000 inhabitants of the state of Kentucky.

The brief was prepared by a firm of attorneys and advocates the leasing of Cumberland Falls to the Insull interests for fifty years for development as a power project.

In presuming to speak for the people of Kentucky, the attorneys no doubt have in their possession the names of the 200,000 inhabitants who favor the ruin of one of the most picturesque natural beauty spots east of the Mississippi to provide Insull with another source of profit.

They appear, say the attorneys, for "those who desire a working place for the honest poor rather than an additional loafing ground for the idle rich."

It is remarkable the liberties that can be taken in a legal document.

We do not believe that many Kentuckians, when possessed of the actual facts in the Cumberland Falls dispute, could favor the Insull proposal.

If the Cumberland Falls were the only water power in Kentucky and if getting electricity in that

state depended on its development by private interests, there might be some basis for the arguments advanced in the brief. But Cumberland Falls is not the only water power site in Kentucky and the people of Kentucky can get electricity without its development, and cheap electricity at that.

## Supporting the Constitution

The Los Angeles police commission has decided that it is just as desirable to enforce the provisions of the Constitutions of the United States and the state of California against unwarranted search as it is to enforce the Volstead act.

The commission recently issued an order forbidding search of private property without warrant. Dr. S. T. Montgomery, Anti-Saloon League superintendent of Southern California, objected. The commission thereupon virtually apologized for the order and named a committee to adjust it to the league's liking.

Meantime, opinions came from the city bar association and the city legal department upholding the order, and the commission decided to stand by its guns. Dr. Montgomery was informed in open meeting that the order would stand.

It is remarkable that it should be necessary to issue such order in the first place, for it was an open admission that the bill of rights was being ignored generally.

It is doubly remarkable that even a fanatical dry should have the effrontery to advocate the right of search without warrant.

The attitude of men like Dr. Montgomery has done much to foster public disgust with the "noble experiment."

## A Great Citizen

Success and greatness, the two goals which have most inspired men of achievement, came to Dr. Lafayette Page, whose passing the city mourns.

He made contributions to medical science which won for him the praise and recognition of his own profession. More important, his discoveries added to human life and reduced human suffering.

His interest in medicine was prompted by his interest in his fellow men. That was shown by his devoted service during the war, and perhaps even more, by his inspiration of the movement that finally erected a hospital for children to the memory of James Whitcomb Riley.

His own profession will pay him lasting tribute as a leader and a scientist. His city will remember him as one who gave impetus and often direction to its finer impulses and who never failed it in any need.

People who believe there is no devil never have opened their window and doors on a hot night to get all the breeze and then had to listen to somebody next door running the scales on a corner.

Why doesn't the National Safety Council issue some kind of bulletin instructing mothers how to keep ashes out of the baby's eyes?

A summer school is an institution established in order that the old varsity lineup will be intact in the fall.

Isn't the saturation point of the automobile that worries the pedestrian so much as the saturation point of the driver.

Perhaps it's just as well for some of our congressmen that the wheat crop in some of the foreign countries has been hit hard by bad weather conditions.

Professional parachute jumpers make good incomes, but not all people would lower themselves to do it.

A wealthy New Yorker left his fortune to a woman who had rejected him. Who said there is no gratitude?

A Denver man told police he had lost his canary the other day, so they sent out the flying squad.

David Dietz on Science

## Man and Machines

No. 408

CLARENCE DARROW contended in a debate a few months ago that man was a machine. Rabbi B. R. Brickner, debating him upon the subject, undertook to point out certain differences between a machine and an organism.

He called attention to the fact that no one ever had seen a lot of little steam engines playing about in the yard in front of a big steam engine.

One of the characteristics of living organisms is reproduction. In its simplest form, it consists merely of one individual splitting into two halves. The amoeba, for example, a microscopic animal consisting of a single cell, behaves in this fashion.

When it reaches a certain size, it merely pinches together at the middle, breaking into two halves. Each half then grows to a sized amoeba. A cardinal principle of modern biology is that life arises only from life.

The ancients believed in spontaneous generation. They believed that various organisms came into existence directly out of the air or out of the mud along the banks of streams.

They also believed that flies and other insects arose spontaneously out of decaying food.

These ideas have persisted through the centuries. After bacteria were discovered, there were men who insisted that they arose spontaneously out of the air.

The idea of spontaneous generation still exists. Frequently, you will see a group of boys on a farm, immersing a hair from a horse's tail in the watering trough. They are hoping that it will turn into a snake.

The boys undoubtedly never heard of spontaneous generation, but they are giving it a trial.

Careful experiments by the world's greatest biologists have established that every supposed case of spontaneous generation was due to some other cause.

As already stated, a basic belief of modern science is that life arises only from life.

A type of reproduction higher than the sort which takes place in the amoeba is known as budding. In the case of the amoeba, the identity of the parent amoeba is lost when it breaks into two halves. In budding, the main part of the organism remains unchanged, a small bud breaking off to grow into the new organism.

A steady development of reproductive processes can be traced through the plant and animal world.

## M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

*The Chief Weakness of Our Amusement Field Lies in Its Willingness to Glorify Everyone, Except Those Who Know How to Amuse.*

MENDELL and Reinhart get a stage contract which promises to net them from \$5,000 to \$7,000 a week.

No one begrudges them the good fortune, but in its background some creditable actors, and artists are starving to death.

The fact that public curiosity can be made to pay is less important perhaps than is the fact that theater must conserve and reward its own profession if it is to remain a self-supporting institution.

In the long run, a good show by those who know their business is better than a poor show by those who have attracted attention in some other line.

## Stick to Knitting

THERE is danger in not letting each industry stick to its knitting.

If aviation does not include sufficient honor and reward for those who make good in it, it will fail, and so will the theater.

This idea that one line of endeavor can borrow from another, that it can sidetrack those who have spent their lives in promoting and developing it and survive by temporary excitement is wrong.

The chief weakness of our amusement field lies in its willingness to glorify every one, except those who know how to amuse.

## High Cost of Charity

ALFRED I. DUPONT is considering the establishment of an old age pension fund for the state of Delaware.

The plan which interested him was evolved by Mrs. Laura C. Walls, a school teacher, and grew out of her efforts in behalf of the old age pension fund which was before the Delaware legislature last winter.

This bill was defeated by a small majority because it provided for a high salaryed commission. People are getting tired of giving a dollar to charity and finding that 98 cents of it goes for expert advice, or administrative services.

## Old Age Pensions

REALIZING this, Mrs. Walls mapped out a program which would reduce the administrative expense to a minimum.

Her program, which now is being organized, calls for the work to be done by church and religious organizations of Delaware.

The heads of such churches and organizations have been appointed as district chairmen, they in turn have appointed clergymen as sub-chairmen, under whose direction committees are gathering the necessary data.

The object is to discover all deserving poor over 65 years of age, without families or friends.

When this information has been gathered and tabulated, it will be placed before Mr. Dupont.

## Race Prejudice

RACE prejudice toward the Negro is not confined to the south, as many seem to think, but is more or less latent throughout the country.

Theoretically, the Negro has his rights in most northern states, but practically he finds it hard to exercise them when the excuse for trouble arises.

Just now the Negro inhabitants of North Platte, Neb., are leaving town by every possible conveyance.

One of their race shot a policeman and then fled to a house, where he was trapped and committed suicide. The excitement led to threats of mob violence. Negroes, of which there were about 200 in the town, were ordered to leave and most of them are doing so as fast as possible.

## World's Biggest Light

THE world's strongest light will soon be established on the new Palmolive building in Chicago. It will have a candle power of two billion, will be visible for 7,000 miles out in space and will be known as the Lindbergh beacon.

But for the airplane, such lights never would have been produced, which shows that progress in one direction forces progress in others.

## France Complains

FRANCE complains of a slump in the American tourist trade. Polite press agents surmise that the decline in stocks may have compelled some Americans to remain at home.

Other press agents, less polite, are inclined to think that they have been out-ballyhooed by Germany and England.

## Fickle Tourists

THE chances are that France expected too much.

People usually do when they bet on the tourist trade.

The tourist trade peculiarly is unreliable.

Being out for a good time, it yields to impulse and curiosity, and seldom goes to the same place for very long.

## Daily Thought

Then I commended mirth, because a man hath no better thing under the sun, than to eat, and to drink, and to be merry.—Ecclesiastes 9:15.

BLESSED be mirthfulness. It is one of the renovators of the world. Men will let you abuse them if only you will make them laugh.—Henry Ward Beecher.

## Where It's All Leading To!



HEALTH IN HOT WEATHER

## Faulty Diet May Cause Illness

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEN

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

THE most frequent cause of America's most common disturbance is bad diet. The best advice toward correction of this disturbance is the use of correct diet.

Much of the trouble with the action of the bowels of the people of America is due to sophisticated foods which provide little or nothing to encourage bowel action. Another frequent cause is the choice of foods poor in important food factors.

All too frequently the daily water intake of many people is below the average of six glasses a day, which should be the minimum, and quite below the eight glasses a day recommended by the physiologists.

Finally, the speeding up of life and the demands of the machines

for and by which the human beings live have destroyed the regular habits of bowel action which prevent constipation in less mechanized nations.

In some instances obstruction once noted is overcome by the use of laxatives and then of cathartics, until the tissues lose all initiative and must be whipped every time into action.

To overcome obstruction and lack of action of the type that has been described the reverse procedures are necessary. A regular time of action must be established through encouragement of habit.

The person should drink invariably six to eight glasses of water each day. The use of drugs and of regular injections of fluid must be deprecated, that automatic bowel action be encouraged.

A diet must be taken which is rich in fruits and in bulky vegetables so that the musculature of the

intestines will have something to act upon. If such a diet is taken it will have in it sufficient amounts of vitamins B and C to take care of the needs of the body for these substances.

All too frequently the attempt to correct slowness of bowel action by diet begins with the use of bran or highly irritating roughage which may stimulate the intestines to action, but which also may irritate a sensitive bowel and encourage or make worse an existing colitis.

Because of the wide factors of safety that exist in the human body many people think that it is safe to experiment with themselves in relation to these matters.

The path of safety lies in attempting nothing in the way of treatment of disease without having first a thorough and exact knowledge of the nature and extent of the disturbance to be overcome.

## IT SEEMS TO ME By HEYWOOD BROWN

Ideals and opinions expressed in this column are those of Heywood Brown, a most interesting writer, and are presented without regard to their agreement or disagreement with the editorial attitude of this paper.—The Editor.

GEORGE M. COHAN and several other philosophers have pointed out the fact that life is a funny proposition, but even relettering comment upon the fact of existence must be pardoned since new manifestations constantly are cropping up.

For instance, the current headlines record the fact that policemen working in shifts labored thirty-eight and one-half hours to save the life of an obscure laborer named Paul Bregnetti. But Bregnetti wanted to die. That was his idea when he turned on the gas in a Coney Island rooming house.

He came back to consciousness after long administration of oxygen. His lungs took in the air he did not want.

Something of interest might be said by this man who was dead and alive again, but he will not speak. He simply lies silent on his hospital cot and glowers at the rescuers.

The attending physicians say severely that Bregnetti has an excellent chance now, but that he must exert his will-power or it may be lost.

## Purely Personal

BREGNETTI wanted to die. He still wants to die.

No one knows why. In the room where his body was found no letter of explanation was discovered. For reasons which seemed to him good and sufficient, Bregnetti lay down and turned on both gas jets. How long he lay there no one knows. Upon first examination there seemed not even a flickering chance of survival.

And when a spark did show it was



THE WAR OF 1812

July 15

ON July 15, 1812, the Massachusetts legislature voted against continuance of the war of 1812.

This act, on the part of one of the strongest and most powerful states in the newly organized Union, found sympathy with other states and indirectly played a part in the historic Hartford convention.

Although the federalists were in control at the time, the war was very unpopular in New England, especially since the embargo acts proved injurious to their commerce.

The Hartford convention, however, adjourned sine die after the conclusion of the war, delegates, including twelve from Massachusetts, were in secret session when peace was declared.

It was first believed, because the sessions were secret, that Massachusetts and other states planned secession from the Union, but this was denied.

a challenge to medical science to apprehend this man who had turned his back upon us all and started out the poor. He was more than half-way through when they dragged him back.

What did he see in that deep sleep under the gas fumes? He has not said and yet quite evidently he wants to return. Perhaps there was only nothingness and maybe nothingness seemed to Bregnetti a better break than he ever had known.

Out of the vast spaces there came to him voices crying, "Come back, come back, we will not let you go." He sighed and turned and blinked, but did not smile.

These men at the oxygen pumps were almost gods who had created life anew. In the beginning there was not even any flutter in the heart of the still and silent man. Life which he did not want is his again.

## What About Now?

THE twist in the whole affair which seems curious to me is the attitude of the newspapers which

speaking as if the doctors and the police who worked so hard had placed Bregnetti under a debt to them. I think the balance lies on the other side.

It is quite useless for the community to force life upon a man unless it is also prepared to see that from this time on it has for him some meaning and some purpose.

Who knows what his own personal hell may have been? If he, by any chance, were facing slow starvation through unemployment it is impertinent for us to say, "You must not die. We've pulled you through. Now go and starve some more."

In the fundamental kindness of humanity I have every faith, but trouble must be dramatized before anything is done about it. A friend of mine who went through tough times before he finally got to writing for the motion pictures once told me that a man can starve to death in New York with almost no interference whatsoever.

Unfortunately, it is more theatrically satisfying to pump oxygen into a man than to give him hot soup and buttered rolls.

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## Quotations of Notables

"It is no service to the farm family to keep it on the land, at the cost of a declining standard of living. Nor is it a service to the state. If the farmer finds that he better can educate and improve his own condition by enlisting in the ranks of industry, it is the business of the state only to keep the door open so that he may do so.—Arthur M. Hyde, secretary of agriculture.

Men, as we have said, crave some badge as a tangible evidence of their distinction if they have attained it. For those not content with being a master of a brand lodge or the high priest of something-or-other, wealth is the sole badge of success.—James Truslow Adams. (Harper's Magazine).

Even if marriage should never become an exact science, you can always fall back on love to guide you. Love has the virtue that science hasn't—it overlooks a lot of things.—Eddie Cantor. (Collier's).

Unfortunately, today there are many who have let the custom of church attendance with their children lapse. They are making a great mistake.—Theodore Roosevelt. (Liberty).

The fit, from the social point of view, are those who, through their own survival, contribute most to the survival of the group. People are divided into two groups, those who have managed to make an economic success of their lives and those who have made failures.—Professor Thomas Nixon Carver, Harvard University.

## REASON

By Frederick Landis

*Governor Roosevelt Is Raising Squashes, Getting Ready to Stampede the Farmer Vote in 1932.*

THE other day two gentlemen from Indiana, their wives and children, returned from Canada. At the border the American customs officer spent a lot of time examining two fur pieces worn by the children, the pieces having been bought in Indiana.

While he was saving the country by looking at the furs, a great big truck with sawdust for camouflage drove up.

"What have you?" asked the customs officer.

"Sawdust," replied the driver.

"Drive on!" cried the officer.

You know what was in that sawdust.

We have too many grafters on guard.

As it flies to Berlin, the "Untin" Bowler, the Chicago Tribune's sea plane, should take advantage of the opportunity to drop that name somewhere between Labrador and Greenland.

Attention, World war millionaires! Kenneth Fainstock, war veteran, ends his life in Chicago because wounds received in the Argonne campaign caused suffering he could not endure.

THE people of England did the proper thing to give King George that fine reception on his return to London after long illness, for he is a nice old man. Had he been on the English throne around about 1776, the American revolution would have been postponed indefinitely.

This king doesn't monkey with government at all; he just sits in the palace and smokes the bugs off the geraniums, going out only to lay a cornerstone.

Governor Roosevelt of New York is raising squashes—getting ready to stampede the farmers when he's a presidential candidate in 1932.

Some time ago the Republicans celebrated the birth of their party at Ripon, Wis., and now they just have celebrated its birth at Jackson, Mich.

If they have a speck of gratitude they now will celebrate the birth of the Democratic party, the very best friend they ever had.

A blind news dealer in New