



The Indianapolis Times

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

Politics and Judges

Now comes the report that the two senators from this state have agreed on a candidate whom they will recommend to the President for membership on the federal court of appeals. They may have chosen a very able man. He may be qualified to fill the place and add knowledge and dignity and confidence to the court.

But the reasons for the agreement suggest that the senators have a very low ideal of the courts, and especially of these higher courts.

Back of the sponsorship of one senator is said to be a friendship of many years. Back of the agreement of the junior senator is the explanation that he was driven to assent by the knowledge that he had no chance to place his own partner in the place and that the other outstanding candidate for recognition was the partner of Arthur Gilliam, whose candidacy against him in the primaries was not only vigorous but memorable for its denunciation and exposure.

So the senators get a chance to pay debts—One of friendship and one of vengeance.

Such a genesis is not likely to add greatly to the confidence of the people in the purity of the courts and their freedom from entanglements of partisan politics.

The bar association of this state is somewhat alarmed at the situation as it relates to elective judges. They have found that the courts, including those of higher authority, no longer command universal respect. They know that the delays in decisions, the failure of criminal enforcement, the technical blockades to justice in civil matters, have focused public attention upon the manner in which the judges are selected.

They are also convinced that the judiciary has fallen foul of party politics and that the judgeships are no longer distributed on merit, but are the subject of the same bickering bargains that go with the election of councilmen and Governors.

The bandage is quite likely to slip from the eye of Justice and her scales dip when candidates trade with bosses for places on the bench. Such at least is the suggested belief of the lawyers when they solemnly appoint committees to make a drive for better judges.

If politics are to be divorced from our judiciary, the separation should be complete and final. One way might be a constitutional amendment providing for separate elections with no party designations.

The only other alternative is to drive out of business those politicians who have so low an ideal of courts as to use their power to influence them. That may be the more direct route.

The French Will Pay

The French finally have decided to pay their debt to us. This is a fortunate thing. It will remove a source of irritation between the two countries which has been productive of much ill will. The French have accused us of being a Shylock among nations. We have accused them of seeking to dodge their just debts, and of being ungrateful for our aid in the World War.

The chamber of deputies approved the Mellon-Berenger agreement after eleven days of debate, during which Premier Poincare made a brilliant fight for ratification. He spoke for thirty-seven hours and exhausted himself.

Foreign Minister Aristide Briand led the fight in its last hours, when Poincare was unable to be present. The government's victory was by a narrow margin of eight votes. The French senate also must approve the pact, but little difficulty is expected there, since the government has a comfortable majority in the upper house.

The text of the bill, as approved by the chamber, authorizes the president of France to ratify the Mellon-Berenger agreement. Efforts to attach clauses making the payments contingent on the receipt of reparations from Germany were defeated.

The American house of representatives has ratified the settlement, but the senate refused to act in advance of acceptance by France. It is unlikely that the administration will encounter difficulty in getting the approval of the senate, which is necessary to make the agreement operative.

The agreement as negotiated calls for payment of a principal of \$4,025,000,000 in sixty-two annual payments. The \$400,000,000 due this government on Aug. 1 for war supplies sold to France is included in the general debt. Congress had empowered the President to delay this payment if in the meantime the debt agreement was approved.

The French have complained at the terms insisted upon by America. They are in reality lenient, and could not have been much more so unless the debt were cancelled, which the American people never would have consented to.

Senators have said the settlement was on the basis of 50 cents on the dollar. Secretary Mellon has figured that the "present worth" of the debt on a 5 per cent interest basis is only \$1,681,369,000. Since the debt prior to the funding agreement was \$4,230,777,000, the "present worth" represents a cancellation of \$2,549,408,000 or 60.25 per cent of the debt.

Surely this is about as far as the American taxpayers who put up their billions to support the war should be expected to go.

It is to be hoped that the French during the long period they are required to pay money to this country do not find the burden irksome. There no doubt will be complaints, but the feeling between the two countries should be much better than if payment were delayed longer.

A Professor Gets the Facts

Some college professors have been paid fancy salaries to spread propaganda for the private interests and have been exposed by the federal trade commission. Professor William E. Mosher of Syracuse university is not one of these. Mosher, instead, has conducted a survey to obtain the facts.

In a newly published book entitled "Electrical Utilities," Mosher attempts to give the plain, unvarnished truth about the power industry.

The truth, as Mosher sees it, is that a real crisis exists, that state control has broken down because of interstate monopolies, and that unless something is done the country will find itself at the mercy of powerful holding companies beyond reach of the law.

Mosher lists the suggestions that have been offered to save the people. These include:

Federal regulation and control of interstate transmission of power.

Public competition by government operation of Muscle Shoals, Boulder Dam and the St. Lawrence river hydro-electric resources.

Stricter state and federal laws controlling the industry.

Complete government operation of all power companies.

Forcing power companies to bind themselves by federal or state contracts to keep rates at reasonable levels.

Mosher says that government operation is a success in Canada and gives rate comparisons with American cities, proving electricity is sold more cheaply there. He believes, if necessary, government operation can be made a success in this country.

Mosher further says power rates in this country can not come down as long as secret financing methods are tolerated and power companies allowed to audit their own books and fix their own systems of valuation.

This newspaper for years has been telling its readers what Professor Mosher now says in his book. Like the professor, it has sought to disregard the propaganda and obtain the facts. Once these facts generally are realized, the domination of the private power combines will be broken and the people will enjoy the advantages of cheap power they so rightly deserve.

Going Up

Predictions that the final accounting would show largely increased government expenditures during the fiscal year ended June 30 are borne out in figures just released by the treasury.

Total expenses chargeable against ordinary receipts were \$3,848,463,189, an increase of \$204,943,519. All departments of the government spent more, the largest increases being \$33,226,000 for the navy and \$26,361,000 for the army. The postal deficit was \$137,790,000, an increase of \$105,433,000.

It is expected that similar increases will be shown during the current fiscal year. The tendency of government costs is definitely on the upgrade, and has been for several years.

It is unlikely that this tendency can be checked, at least for some years to come. The government is committed to huge expenditures for flood control, farm relief, aviation, cruiser building, public buildings, inland waterways and other projects for which money must be supplied.

There was a surplus of \$185,000,000 for the fiscal year, despite the larger expenditures, due principally to greater income tax payments from profits on stock exchange transactions. So Uncle Sam is solvent and has money in the bank.

It is not surprising, however, that President Hoover has discouraged talk of further tax reductions at this time.

Cotton growers are still trying to induce women to wear more cotton. Why don't they try devising some warm garment for summer and a chilly costume for winter?

—David Diefz on Science

Flower and Universe

No. 414

SOMETIMES we are prone to overlook the importance of the plant kingdom. Yet animal life would be impossible if it were not for plants.

Professor E. N. Transeau of Ohio State university, sums up the importance of plants under five headings. He writes:

"First. Plants furnish all the food there is in the world. Of all living beings, green plants alone are able to organize the simple materials found in the air, water, and soil into the complex substances which sustain all plants and animals must have for food.

"Second. By far the greater part of all the fabrics we use in the making of clothing is woven out of cotton, linen and other plant fibers; and wool and silk come from animals that are fed on plants.

Third. The trees supply the lumber that is used for the construction of most houses. Wood is used also in the manufacture of paper and in countless other ways.

"Fourth. Most houses are heated in winter by the burning of wood, coal or gas. When we burn wood, we release the great store of energy which the tree obtained from the sunlight during its lifetime. When we burn coal, petroleum, or natural gas, we release energy which plants accumulated from the sunlight of millions of years ago.

"Fifth. Certain small plants have other and quite different relations to human beings, and their activities are of the greatest consequence to man. These particular plants, the bacteria, are so minute that they can be seen only by use of the microscope.

Here are five reasons why everyone should be interested in the science of botany. There are others, of course. One is that nature is beautiful and that our appreciation of nature increases with our understanding.

If we understood a flower completely, we would understand the universe completely. Tennyson, the great poet, wrote:

"Flower in the crannied wall,
I pluck you out of the crannies.
I hold you here, root and all, in my hand,
Little flower—but if I could understand
What you are, root and all, and all in all,
I should know what God and man is."

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Ten Years of Preaching, Flag-Waving and Theorizing Have Left Russia Practically Without a Friend.

OLD "Peppersass" simply refused to be stuck up on a pedestal. Instead, she jarred something loose just before it was too late, ran off the track, rolled down the side of Mt. Washington and blew up.

It was a foolish performance at best. The idea of dragging out a sixty-year-old, wood-burning engine to make such a climb.

One man was killed and three hurt. No doubt, those who escaped mishap had an interesting time, but isn't there tragedy enough on the serious side of life, without inviting it for purposes of ceremony?

Laugh Doesn't Hurt

PROFESSOR GODDARD'S rocket also blew up, which caused a good laugh without hurting any one.

But let's not take it all out in laughter. A new type of rocket promises far more than an old type of engine, even if it never hits the moon.

There is a good deal between us and the moon that we know practically nothing about.

Rockets, if equipped with the proper instruments, might tell us something.

At all events, the Smithsonian Institution is willing to spend some money on the experiment.

The Wheat Problem

"WHEAT Slump Raises Flour Price," reads a headline in the New York Times. "London bread cost goes up as reports show conditions are serious in Canada."

In the very next column another headline announces that "Lack of Market Piles Up Wheat," and that the rail embargo in Galveston is caused "by port congestion as foreign demand falls."

Evidently, the wires got crossed somewhere, but not so evidently in the news room.

Waiting for Other Fellow

THE wheat market has become a rather large and complicated affair. For a short time, at least, it is entirely possible to have an abundance of wheat with high prices, or a scarcity of it with low prices.

Now European buyers are made hesitant by bad reports from Canada, while American sellers are made anxious to unload.

Bread goes up in London, while elevators overflow in Galveston.

Such a situation can not last, but every one is waiting for the other fellow to crash the gate.

Dream of the 'Reds'

AS if knowledge of crop conditions in Canada and lack of knowledge of them in the United States were not enough, a strike breaks out in Argentina, which threatens to tie up not only shipping but many other lines.

The strikers have been granted all they asked, but what they asked does not seem to be what they want.

This paradox becomes clearer when one realizes that communists are supposed to be in control.

Communists want nothing so much as disorder and commotion. Whether it's a strike in Argentina, a demonstration against the Boy Scouts in New York, or a move for control of some oriental state, their predominating idea remains the same.

Russia's Lost Credit

WOULDN'T it be queer if, after a decade of the western world for ten years, swaggering Soviet Russia were to get her come-uppance from China.

Such a thing, however, is not beyond the range of possibility. Whatever else China may have gotten out of revolution, she has learned how to wage war.

Whatever else Russia may have gotten out of it, she has lost her credit.

Country Without Friends

EIGHTEEN years of internal strife have taught China how to mobilize, maneuver and maintain large armies.

Ten years of preaching, flag-waving and theorizing have left Russia practically without a friend.

Besides, there are the White Russians—150,000 of them in Manchuria alone, as it is said—not only well organized, but with an undying hate of the Bolshevik regime in their hearts.

Put Bet on China

BECAUSE of the pressure being brought to bear on both Russia and China, it is more than an even bet that war will be avoided.

Even so China likely is to win. China is not only in possession of a new-found strength, but enjoys the sympathy of the whole world. Russia has chosen to isolate herself. The position she occupies in this particular dispute is but a part of the price she eventually will pay.

Daily Thought

For when he dieth he shall carry nothing away: his glory shall not descend after him.—Psalms 49:17.

THERE is this benefit in brag, that the speaker is unconsciously expressing his own ideal. Humor him by all means, draw it all out, and hold him to it.—Emerson.

Where is the magazine Our Navy published and what is the subscription price?

It is published semi-monthly at 81 Sands Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. The yearly subscription rate is \$4.50.

Let's Hope They Can Straighten It Out!



HEALTH IN HOT WEATHER

'Speed' Causes High Blood Pressure

FOR almost seven years insulin has been available to the person with diabetes. As a result of education in the use of this substance the lives of diabetics have been prolonged.

Now Dr. S. F. Adams asserts that a patient suffering with uncomplicated diabetes may live as long as his non-diabetic neighbor of the same age. The diabetic must, however, control his existence carefully and any slip in his technic of living may bring him bad health and even early death.

In the first place the diabetic who wants to live long must be intelligent. He must learn to recognize the symptoms of danger and to avert them in their incipency.

He must live constantly with his diabetes in mind. Therefore, a careful slow thinker is better off under these circumstances than is a careless intellectual giant.

The patient with a mild form of diabetes gets along better than the one with a severe form of the disease. Diabetics must be particularly careful of small infections.

An infection such as a boil which is not especially serious to a non-diabetic may quickly assume sufficient virulence to cause death in a diabetic.

Dr. Adams points out that the ideal occupation of a person with diabetes is one which will permit him to have regular hours and which will not demand violent physical exercise.

Persons who travel much or who are engaged in heavy physical work are not able to take care of their diets and their insulin as well as those who have less active occupations. The ideal life for the diabetic person is of course to live at home and to be able to eat all of his meals there.

A significant observation is the fact that diabetes is not a poor man's disease. The person who re-

quires insulin finds that it costs from \$2 to \$15 a month for his supply of the drug. The person with diabetes usually has to have special flours, foods, chemicals for tests of the excretions, and a certain amount of attention from physicians and nurses regularly.

These things are all fairly expensive and the diabetic is better off if he keeps himself fit to earn his way than if he is dependent wholly on others.

Diabetes is a disease which bears no trifling. If it is treated badly or if the patient is indifferent as to his care, the results are promptly unfortunate.

The disease is, in its severity of reaction, an indication of the care that is being taken to combat it. Here again, man is invariably the victim of his own ignorance and perhaps of his stupidity. Medical science has provided the knowledge, but human beings do not choose to avail themselves fully of that knowledge.

IT SEEMS TO ME By HEYWOOD BROWN

ALL my life I have been going to parties. The gay round began when I was 5 or 6 and we had ice cream and cake and kissing games. For a time I feared that I might become an addict, because in the beginning I did like ice cream and cake.

Later I realized that it was not a true craving which impelled me to ask for second helpings. All of us ate the ice cream out of a certain neurotic desire to be occupied, to warm the party up, to keep it going.

A little later, in the years before prohibition, I went to beer nights, and then, when liquor was banished by law, to cocktail parties.

I don't want to be classed as a propagandist for the Anti-Saloon League, but it does seem to me that this dependence upon ice cream or alcohol argues something wrong with the party system as administered in this community.

When two or three are gathered together, the grace of sympathy, understanding and entertainment may descend upon them. This can happen to ten, with luck to twenty, but beyond that lies mob rule.

Oppressed

I WILL admit that I have seen parties of 100 go with great success, but only when a process of disintegration has set in. No joy can come from such an afterthought as the sheep were separated from the goats.

Things lag along as the man who wants to discuss football is sitting between the lady and gentleman intent upon talking about the future of the American drama. The tension is even worse if, by any chance, they want to talk of love.

Once self determination has set in, the party is all right, but there is a fearful amount of waste motion before automobiles can be established. Mr. K. has come, we will say, largely for the purpose of seeing Miss B. Sooner or later the meeting will occur, but not until both have gone through floods and fires.

Civilization is a monster demanding sacrifice. We all know that, and such selfishness as brings pleasure to another is not unworthy. But the sacrifice demanded by the social usage of large parties is not like that at all.

Mr. K., whom we introduced at the beginning of the parable, can not possibly go directly to Miss B. and ask her pleasantly, "How are you?" Instead, he has to stop and greet Mrs. C. This is called politeness, even though it may be painful to both.

"Well, well, how fine you're looking. I guess you must have lost forty pounds since I saw you at the

Mellishes last winter. Maybe fifty. Well, well, keep it up. It certainly agrees with you."

No Importance

NOTHING of the heart of Mr. K. is in this discourse and Mrs. C. thinks it a matter of slight importance that she should be pleasing in his sight.

But the surge of the crowd in the narrower rooms happens to have tossed them both into the same window seat. There for a little time they must sit and pretend to like it.

Presently he will go for a drink and never return again, or Mrs. C. may remember that she has left her lipstick in another room. It is

Questions and Answers

You can get an answer to any unanswered question of fact or information by writing to Frederick M. Kerby, Question Editor, The Indianapolis Times, Washington Bureau, 1322 New York Avenue, Washington, D. C. Inquiries 2 cents. Advice can not be given nor can extended research be made. All other questions will receive a personal reply unless requested can not be answered. All letters are confidential. You are cordially invited to make use of this service.

What salary does Babe Ruth receive as a baseball player?

At the beginning of the 1927 season Babe Ruth signed a three-year contract to play baseball for the New York Yankees at a salary of \$70,000 per year. Under his previous contract he was receiving \$52,000 a year.

Did Lon Chaney play the part of clown in the picture "He Who Gets Slapped?"

Yes.

How many Greeks are there in the United States?

According to the last census, 221,768.

What is the value of a United States large copper cent dated 1824, and a small copper cent dated 1878?

Large copper cent, 1824, 3 to 25 cents; small copper cent, 1878, 1 to 2 cents.

What is the distance from the earth to the moon?

The mean distance is estimated at 238,840 miles.

What is the nationality, age and marital status of Fidel La Barba, retired world's flyweight boxing champion?

He is an Italian-American, born in New York, Sept. 29, 1905. He is unmarried.

REASON

By Frederick Landis

Wickersham's Wet Advice Just About Ends His Usefulness on Hoover's Crime Commission.

WE hope these Cleveland editors beat the judge who is trying to put them in jail for criticizing his decision, since the right to talk about the acts of public officials is the essence of free government.

If the President of the United States can stand criticism, surely a county judge can survive it.

The fiction, "the king can do no wrong!" has been driven from every part of our political system except the courthouse, and it is time we drive it from there.

Those charged with contempt of court should be tried by some judge other than the one who makes the charge, the present method of letting the accuser try the case being unworthy of a civilized land.

A scientist, perched in one of the watch towers of the republic, informs the world that the coming of the automobile means the going of the horsefly; but, even so, the speed bug is infinitely worse.

It has been suggested that this country serve as mediator between China and Russia, but we could hardly do it, for we never have reconciled Russia, and from our viewpoint that government is not in existence.

WICKERSHAM'S wet advice to Governor Roosevelt, read to the council of Governors, has lost him the confidence of the dries of the land and he should resign as chairman of Mr. Hoover's commission to investigate lawlessness and its cure. His usefulness in this capacity is ended.

It's rather strange the United States court of appeals of New York should have decided the ambulance has no special right of way on highways, since the fire department has this right and it is more important to save life than to put out fire.

The Russian politicians now are talking about "defending the fatherland."

That's the old reliable bunk they feed the boys when they are not sufficiently enthusiastic about going forth to get shot full of holes.

The world's most powerful fighting ship, the British dreadnaught Nelson, made a wonderful record, shooting at a moving target, but one little airplane could put the mighty Nelson out of business.

WE don't see how Russia can find time to go to war with China, after receiving all these Americans who have gone over to investigate her government.

A fashion note from New York states that next year the ladies will wear trousers on the street and pajamas on the porch, which will be the end of the "See America First" movement.



July 22

THE Battle of Atlanta, which led to the capture of Atlanta, Ga., by federal troops on Sept. 1, was started on July 22, 1864.

Because of its strategic location, Atlanta became, at the outbreak of the Civil war, one of the most important cities in the Confederacy. It was a rallying place for recruits, a depot for supplies, and the center of manufacture for arms and ammunition.

For this reason it was the objective of General Sherman when he started his famous march to the sea.

After one preliminary skirmish outside of Atlanta on July 20, the siege of Atlanta began on July 22. Hood, the Confederate general in command, made a bloody but unsuccessful attack on Sherman's extreme left under command of McPherson, who was killed in the battle.

Loss of federal troops in this battle was estimated to be 20,000, while the Confederate loss was nearly 15,000. Hood again attacked on July 28, and, as before, was repulsed.

Meanwhile, Sherman had continued his bombardment of the city and on Sept. 1 it was evacuated by Hood and his troops and the federals took possession the next day.

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