



The Indianapolis Times

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

Merit Is Worthless

To the young man who hopes for a career in government, there is a lesson in the change in the office of internal revenue collector for this district.

It will indicate that the path to preferment is not merit, devotion to duty and efficiency, but activity at the polls, attendance upon conventions, political intrigue and unquestioning loyalty to the bosses.

By a family circumstance, the present collector, George Foote, succeeded to the job. It was, at the start, a sort of legacy after some years of subordinate service in the department.

What happened was unusual. He took the job seriously. Those who have watched the conduct of his office declare that it has been conducted in a manner that reflected not only great credit upon Foote but gave to the government an exceptional grade of public service.

There has been no intimation that he spent his time in political adventures or that he permitted any partisan considerations to interfere with the workings of the office.

The result was that he obtained the respect and admiration of those who had business with that office and the people, as a whole, obtained the service for which they pay and for which the office is operated.

But Foote is to pass. Not even the fact that he is the son-in-law of the national committeeman could protect him in what is considered one of the best bits of political patronage. The one thing he lacked was a record of rounding up delegates at conventions or voters at the polls. He had not "earned" the job politically, although he earned it by service and by merit.

The change will be something of a shock to those who had hoped that a new day had dawned and that the political necessities of United States senators would be of less importance than the orderly conduct of public office.

That Foote is removed and another named to the job is not important, last of all to Foote, for private enterprise places a value on the qualities he has shown in office and regards them rather highly. Private enterprise promotes, and does not discharge, those who have a regard for their duties and have the ability to perform them well.

The sad part is the effect which such a change must inevitably have on the thousands of federal employees who hold minor positions and might have dreams that devotion to their duties would bring advancement and preferment.

They will understand that the doors are locked against them if they follow the Horatio Alger path to honors and rewards. They will know that merit is worthless under such a political system.

The thing to do is to make yourself important to a senator who finds the going hard and his future dusky and dim with threats of disaster.

Toward Disarmament

The long-awaited tentative agreement between the United States and Great Britain on naval limitation is nearer. It is not complete. But it is sufficient for Premier MacDonald to announce that he is sailing for the United States within a fortnight, and for Secretary of State Stimson to announce that they now are prepared to call a five-power naval conference.

It is safe to assume that two such able diplomats as MacDonald and Stimson would not risk these optimistic announcements unless they believe, as a result of the last three months of intensive negotiations, that the London and Washington governments now are in position to give a general naval conference with Japan, France and Italy a good chance of success.

The public has received this news with great rejoicing, as it should. But the public should not expect the impossible. Fireworks should be reserved for the actual signing of the treaty, and all sides should be prepared for the compromises which will be the price of that treaty if and when it comes.

First as regards cruisers. The President has demanded reduction, and has postponed part of the American cruiser construction program. But it now appears highly improbable that Britain will cut her cruiser strength to our level. Parity probably will mean that we are allowed to build up to her future level, which will be below her present level, but still above our present strength.

This country then must later decide whether it is satisfied with paper parity, or actually needs to build the extra cruisers allowed. Moreover, parity probably will not mean tonnage equality, but a differential balancing our fewer and larger cruisers with Britain's larger number of smaller cruisers. This could give her superior tonnage desired for empire patrol, and give us superior gun and battle strength.

By an increase in her ratio above 5-5-3, as compared with Britain and the United States, Japan doubtless can be brought into the agreement. It is believed London and Washington are prepared to make this concession.

There is not the same assurance regarding France and Italy. The chief weapon and the inexpensive weapon of these smaller naval powers is the submarine. Their unwillingness to restrict submarines was one reason for failure of the Washington conference to limit auxiliary craft in addition to capital ships.

As British and American cruiser strength is related directly to the submarine strength of the smaller

powers, the old submarine dispute is bound to cause trouble in the proposed conference.

Finally, the Stimson announcement is interpreted to mean that the proposed conference will handle not only auxiliary craft, but also will act as a revision conference for the Washington capital ship limitation treaty. Fleets in their entirety will be considered and, if possible, reduced. This is certainly an intelligent approach, but it increases the difficulty of obtaining full agreement among the five powers.

President Hoover in his disarmament efforts needs the support of the American public. But he does not need the sort of uncritical support which expects miracles, and which swings from one extreme today to another extreme tomorrow.

A complete five-power treaty, without which there can be no lasting Anglo-American agreement, will entail compromises if there is to be actual reduction of fleets. We must be prepared to make sacrifices, as well as cheer.

Mr. Free Sees Things

Not very long ago, President Hoover put his foot down, hard, on a red-baiting campaign launched in Washington, and the campaign came to a sudden end.

We hope he will put his foot down equally hard on Representative Arthur Free of his own state and induce him to bring to an equally sudden end a scheme that panicky person just has evolved.

Mr. Free fears the country is in danger from radicalism. Every once in a while some one thinks he sees that particular bogey. But somehow we have managed to survive. Mr. Free feels this is impossible longer without extending to the District of Columbia and the federal territories California's obnoxious criminal syndicalism law.

Once the law has been enacted in the District of Columbia, the idea, presumably, is to use it as an example which other states shall follow.

The danger about Free's proposition is that it seems so far remote from actual life that few people will pay much attention to it. No one considers himself a criminal syndicalist, or intends to become one. Yet Californians have found by bitter experience that their law, upon which the proposed one is to be modeled closely, can be, and has been, used to send a large number of persons to jail who were discontented with the present political and economic structure of life, and thought they were proceeding in the manner sanctioned by the Constitution to work for a change.

Those persons who respect the Constitution and its guarantees of free speech and assembly will oppose Representative Free's criminal syndicalism bill. The two ideas are abhorrent to each other.

The People's Side

Senator Watson of Indiana, Republican floor leader, Friday night spoke in favor of the pending tariff bill over a nation-wide hookup, and millions of radio listeners heard him, provided they did not turn their dials to something livelier.

Doubtless the broadcasting company which invited Watson to speak, now will extend an invitation to some Progressive or Democratic senator to reply. The bill is too important and too controversial for purely ex parte argument.

Senator Borah of Idaho, who did a great deal more to elect President Hoover, would have something to say about this higher-cost-of-living bill which might be more interesting to the radio audience than Watson's remarks.

REASON By FREDERICK LANDIS

KENTUCKY is having a school book scandal, the year before the grand jury and tell what he knows about the attempt of the school book trust to plunder the people.

Every state should print its own school books and furnish them to the children free.

The endless changing of such volumes is an injustice with which every home is familiar, and it leaves a toll of millions of dollars every year on those who can not afford to pay it.

Every house has a pile of books, perfectly good, but made obsolete by the adoption of new ones, thus keeping the younger children from using the ones outgrown by their elders.

He grows excited if a bandit ties a bandana over his countenance and sticks up a gas station, but he is a mere retailer. We should display a much greater contempt for the publishers and the politicians who through the years have pillaged millions of fathers and mothers.

OF course, if some day South America should trade places with Africa, we should have a new geography; if some day two and two should make five instead of four, we should have a new arithmetic; if without warning stomachs should be worn on the outside, we should have a new physiology, and so forth and so on, but we should not change the text books just because somebody desires the coin.

Believing that a crown would be very becoming to her, the Kaiser's second wife wants him to try to stage a comeback, but the inventor of the inverted mustache is greatly depressed by the inability of King Ben Purnell to remount the throne after being given the hook.

The finest wines and the choicest French cooking were on the menu when the representatives of those twenty-eight European countries met to form a United Europe to oppose Uncle Sam in economic matters, but it had not been for Uncle Sam back in 1917 our former allies would be eating crow for many years to come.

IT is not so surprising that the Japanese should think that Al Smith was to play ball with the New York Giants next season, for in the last presidential campaign all of the dyes in the country thought he was a pitcher.

A corporation selling stock in a Minnesota muskrat farm has defrauded the customers out of a half a million dollars, but we should rejoice that nothing has occurred to disturb the confidence the American people have in their polecat farm investments.

It is perfectly easy for Minister Briand of France to tell all the nations of Europe to join this union against the United States by promising them they will get something out of it, but they would fly at one other's throats the minute there was something to divide.

If the Russians and the Chinese expect to have any Americans in the audience they will have to postpone their war until after the world's series is over between the Cubs and the Athletics.

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

The Full Stomach in This Country Has Led to an Unnecessary Amount of Emptiness in the Head.

MAC DONALD will come and Hoover will stay to greet him. This is good news for those who want to see the rash rivalry in naval construction stopped. Neither the British premier nor the American President would do so far unless he had good ground for believing that agreement is possible.

According to unofficial reports, the last remaining point in dispute centers around three 10,000-ton cruisers. With her vast empire, England demands a larger number of small cruisers.

To balance the advantage in tonnage this would give England, the United States demands a larger number of big cruisers.

It is said that England has agreed to limit the number of her 10,000-ton cruisers to fifteen, while the United States keeps eighteen, but that the United States demands that the number allowed England be reduced to twelve.

No Gain for Prohibition

MRS. COLVIN, president of the New York State W. C. T. U., absolves drinking legislators who vote dry. They are not hypocrites, in her opinion, but merely "good, practical politicians." Indeed, she regards their support as not only legitimate, but as proving the strength of prohibition.

If prohibition were meant only to raise wind, she's right. If, on the other hand, it was meant to stop the flow of liquor, she's wrong.

Whatever prohibition may gain through the moral support of drinking dries is more than offset by what bootlegging gains through their financial support.

Law Limits Authority

BISHOP CANNON, just home from Europe, voices the opinion that action ought to be taken against Police Commissioner Whalen of New York for his refusal to co-operate with federal authorities in suppression of speakeasies.

"If public officials go against the law they have taken oaths to enforce," he asks, "isn't that a matter for impeachment?"

The trouble is, of course, that whatever oaths they may take, the authority of officials is more or less circumscribed by our system of government.

If Police Commissioner Whalen were to undertake the enforcement of federal laws, he soon would find himself in hot water.

Bishop Cannon should study the Waggoner case.

Prosperity Is Unsound

PROFESSOR JOHN DEWEY of Columbia is right in assuming that liberal thought needs a better medium of expression in this country. He also is right in characterizing the present era of prosperity as unsound in certain respects and as likely to produce an unfavorable reaction.

We are not only riding a wave, but have become infatuated with it.

To a measurable extent, thinking along progressive lines has ceased. The country is having far too good a time with its flippers and radio sets for serious study. The full stomach has led to an unnecessary amount of emptiness in the head.

U. S. Is the Treasurer

UP to date, Germany has paid \$1,990,000,000 on her reparations account, while she has borrowed \$1,799,000,000 from the United States.

Whatever else that may mean, it shows where the real money comes from. Theoretically, we may have avoided entanglement with German reparations, but in reality we are providing the cash.

In the long run the result will be little different from what it would have been had we accepted German man bonds in partial payment of the French and British debts and wiped out a lot of unnecessary book-keeping.

The Old and the New

LIFE continues to be a strange admixture of the old and new. On the same day that a British flier broke all previous records by driving an airplane at the rate of six miles a second, a French journal announced that the alleged mummy of Cleopatra would be buried in the gardens of the French National Library "with honor."

Putting aside the old argument as to whether it is really Cleopatra's mummy, the Egyptians seem to have done as well with embalming as we have with aviation. Indeed, people of all ages seem to have done well with anything on which they are concentrated.

One of the secrets of present-day progress consists in the fact that people are thinking more about material progress and less about superstitious fancies.

Superstition Survives

SUPERSTITIOUS fancies survive, however. The Governor of Texas commutes a Negro's sentence, rather than see him launched into eternity on Friday, the thirteenth, while the good ship Bremen sails eleven minutes ahead of time to avoid beginning a journey on that supposedly fatal day.

On the other hand, several couples not only defy tradition by getting married, but glory in it.

Daily Thought

Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance.—II Corinthians 7:9.

WHEN a man has been guilty of any vice or folly, I think the best statement he can make for it is to warn others not to fall into the like.—Addison.

One Swallow Ends a Summer!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Diphtheria Could Be Wiped Out

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

SOME years ago an eminent epidemiologist stated that if all of the knowledge now available were to be applied practically, diphtheria would disappear from the world.

Nevertheless, human beings, because of their unwillingness to learn or to put into effect the knowledge that they have, continue to suffer with this disease. Medical literature continues to contain reference to the ways in which the disease may be spread from one person to another.

The control of diphtheria depends on its prevention by isolation of those who have the disease, by eliminating the germs in their throats, by eliminating the possibility of dissemination of the germs by means of milk and food substances, and by the inoculation of people who are susceptible to the disease so that they will not continue to be susceptible.

The control of the disease when

it once occurs in a human being depends first of all on early and accurate diagnosis, and second on the giving of antitoxin in sufficient quantity to control the condition.

An investigation made in the municipal children's hospital in Augsburg showed that newborn infants had diphtheria germs in their throats due to some cases to the fact that the mother had the diphtheria organism on her person.

The presence of the germ was found three times as often among the lower classes as among the well-to-do. Exposure of the children to fresh air and sunlight and the treatment of the throats with proper antiseptic solutions resulted in the disappearance of the germs from the throat in from two to three weeks in the majority of cases.

Not long ago seven cases of diphtheria occurred in a small town in England due to the fact that milk taken by the persons affected contained the germs of diphtheria and the germs were found on the udder of one of the cows which had been milked by the farmer's daughter

who had the germs in her throat.

The number of deaths from diphtheria has not declined throughout the world nearly as much as from scarlet fever, although the means of combating diphtheria are more perfected than those against scarlet fever.

The mortality from diphtheria continues to be high in the United States. Whether the organisms are becoming more virulent is, of course, yet to be established.

In a study of diphtheria recently made in Indiana and in New York, it was found that 40 per cent of the deaths occurred in patients who had been sick for three days before a doctor was called, that 10 per cent occurred in patients who had not received antitoxin at all, and in 33 per cent the giving of antitoxin had been greatly delayed.

Seventy-five per cent of all deaths occurring from diphtheria were in children under 10 years of age.

The importance of toxin-antitoxin to prevent the disease, particularly in young children, can not be overemphasized.

IT SEEMS TO ME By HEYWOOD BROWN

ONE phase of the recent announcement that Yale is to conduct an ape farm escaped my attention. I overlooked the fact that the anthropoid annex was already a part of the university.

This seems to have created a certain self-consciousness in New Haven, since the average undergraduate could not tell just where he stood. Even his best friends wouldn't tell him.

The ape school now is to be shifted to Florida, and segregation is to be practiced. According to the press, "Dr. Angell later disclosed that an anthropoid colony had been conducted quietly at Yale for the last five years under Dr. Robert Yerkes, professor of psychology."

Now in spite of the protests of the football coach, the unity of the university is to be disturbed. The fact that a gorilla was elected to Phi Beta Kappa may have had something to do with this advent of separation.

Brutality

AT any rate, W. J. M. comments on the growth of species consciousness at New Haven as follows: "This step doubtless is being taken to avoid confusion. That such a policy of segregation should prove necessary indicates the narrowness of our so-called liberal universities."

"To deprive these honest beasts of the society of their peers, gathered together from all parts of the world, is an excessive cost, is meaningless."

"That the animals in their present favorable environment attain a tremendous size I can testify from my own observation. In fact, it is not uncommon to see several specimens at a time on the campus, and it is noticeable that their fur has attained a remarkable length and luster."

"They apparently have adopted the less attractive habits of their contemporaries, such as wearing derby hats and drinking directly from bottles."

News Spreads

THE news of the impending deportation has spread rapidly among the returning undergraduates by the grapevine telegraph. It has caused uneasiness and dissension.

"Every man is looking askance at his classmates and many have had considerable trouble in locating their birth certificates. The certificate speculators are said to be reaping a harvest, with pure ancestries running around \$50, although some of the bootleg stuff may be had as low as \$5."

"The exact method of making the segregation remains a secret. It has been rumored, however, that the entire student body will be assembled in the Yale bowl."

"Wherever everybody has been

seated a man with a megaphone has been appointed to shout, 'Will everybody please remove his raccoon coat?' Those unable to comply will be sequestered for transportation to the ape farm in Florida.

"There is a likelihood that several football players and a cheer leader may be lost in the sweep. 'But perhaps I am wrong in ascribing all this to duress and an automatic regime. The move may have been initiated by the student association for the advancement of apes. There is a limit to all things.'"

Distressing

W. J. M. does not present a complete or a fair picture of the

Times Readers Voice Views

Editor Times—Is "Tarzan of the Apes" fiction, or is it an actual possibility? Science teaches us that like begets like, while the atavistic theory would denote that certain foods and surroundings, whether they be mental or physical, will provide skeletons in all species of man or vegetable life. Of course, environment must be considered as next in importance to heredity.

In the case of Tarzan, heredity and environment were the opposite. According to the narrative Tarzan was about 12 months old before his foster mother not only changed his diet, but also his environment; therefore, he became a dual animal, and so long as this lasted his instinct became his dominant and semi-natural heritage. While he was in all the glories of his tribal instincts and surroundings, at the same time he had that heredity in him through his natural human mother. Therefore, Tarzan was only an ape man through force of circumstances.

As he grew older, hereditary transmission came more and more to the front. These fundamentals became more acute to him as he pondered over the picture book and play things he found in the shanty built by his father, and where he spent the first year of his life.

Another thing in favor of his arboreal activities is the fact that history tells us that man at one time, in the earlier stages of existence, was arboreal in his habit. Therefore, the revision to type was an ancestral gift, rather than a habit taught by the tribe which adopted him.

It may be possible that through amalgamation a man-like ape could be produced, and through several generations be brought to man-like perfection, and, like Tarzan, that natural heredity instilled in him will sooner or later prevail. The prowess shown by Tarzan as he overcame all obstacles shows his superior brain power. His great strength was not wholly through his muscular power, but through superior mental traits.

decision to separate the apes and the undergraduates at Yale. This decision was not taken until after a singularly distressing incident.

It seems that when Tap day came around last spring one of the delegates from Wolf Bones slipped a prominent athlete upon the back with the traditional custom, "Go to your room!"

Unfortunately, the student selected was so surprised that he climbed an elm tree and began to throw down coconuts. The authorities felt that something should be done about it. The fauna in Florida is the result of their deliberations. The faculty intends to do its best and hopes that no mistakes will be made.

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SCIENCE

—BY DAVID DIETZ—

Struve Family Has Contributed Four Generations of Famous Astronomers to Science.

FOUR generations of famous astronomers have been the contribution of the Struve family to the world of science.

One war brought the first astronomer of the line to Russia and a second war has brought the youngest of the line to America. It was my good fortune to meet him at the sessions of the American Astronomical Society at Ottawa, Canada.

Dr. Otto Struve is a tall, youthful-looking man who speaks English with a slight accent.

His great grandfather, the first of the astronomical line, was Wilhelm Struve, one of the great names in modern astronomy. Wilhelm, along with Herschel and Bessel, laid the foundations of modern astronomy.

From Dr. Struve, I learned the story of the part war played in the life of his great-grandfather and in his own life.

"My great-grandfather was born in the province of Holstein, then Danish territory," he said. "During the napoleonic wars he was arrested by a detachment of French soldiers who were making recruits forcibly for the French army. He was taken to Hamburg and locked up in a house on the Elbe river. 'But he jumped out of a second-story window and swam to a boat. The boat was bound for Russia.'"

THE rest of the story of Wilhelm Struve is known to every student of astronomy. His work attracted the attention of the czar and he was commissioned to build the famous Russian observatory at Pulkowa.

The observatory, at the time of its completion, had the finest equipment of any in the world.

Wilhelm served as the first director of the observatory. He was succeeded as director by his son, Otto Struve.

Two of Otto's sons became astronomers. Herman served first at Pulkowa and then went to the University of Berlin. Ludwig became professor of astronomy at the University of Kharkov in southern Russia.

Each of the brothers had a son who entered astronomy. Herman's son, George Struve, is now professor of astronomy at the University of Berlin. Ludwig's son is the Dr. Otto Struve now in America.

It was the World War which brought Dr. Otto Struve from Russia to America. During the war, he served in the Russian army. During the revolution, he served first in General Denikin's army, later in General Wrangel's army. When the Reds defeated Wrangel, he fled to Constantinople.

While at Constantinople, he received an invitation from Professor Frost, director of the Yerkes observatory, to come to America and resume his astronomical work.

STUDENTS of heredity and environment should find the Struve family worth studying.

No doubt, the heredity enthusiasts will claim that here is an excellent example of the importance of heredity.

On the other hand, in all probability, the environment enthusiasts will claim a victory for their side. They will claim that it was the environment of the great Pulkowa observatory, rather than heredity, which was responsible for the line of astronomers.

The average citizen will be willing to grant part of the credit to each, assuming that it was an inherited aptitude plus growing up in an astronomical atmosphere that inclined the successive generations of the Struve family to the study of the stars.

Dr. Otto Struve has been working on two of the most interesting problems in modern astronomy.

One is that of the possibility of space containing faint thin clouds of gases in addition to the stars. The other is the problem of the pressure in stars. According to modern theory, each star is a great bubble of gas. Gravity tends to hold it together while internal pressure tends to blow it to pieces.

The star continues in existence because there is an equilibrium or balance between the two.

TODAY IS THE ANNIVERSARY

HARVARD FOUNDED

Sept. 14

ON Sept. 14, 1638, the Rev. John Harvard, an English nonconformist clergyman, the minister of a church in Charlestown, Mass., died, bequeathing his library and half of his estate to help found Harvard college, which later became Harvard university.

Previously, the general court of the Massachusetts bay colony had voted 400 pounds to "educate the youth in knowledge and godliness," and organization of a college was in progress at the time of Harvard's death.

The clergyman bequeathed 260 books and about 400 pounds to the college. In recognition of this gift—which was a magnificent sum in those days—the new school was named Harvard college.

The colonial magistrate and many private persons, emulating Harvard's generosity, also contributed books and funds.

The first class, consisting of nine students, was graduated in 1642.

The school continued to expand, a law school and various other units being added. The greatest expansion took place during the administration of Charles William Eliot as president of the school from 1869 to 1909.

His term was marked by the large growth in student enrollment, in the endowment and in the university plan which gave it prestige and influence.