



The Indianapolis Times

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

Propagandists in Uniform

Thanks to testimony of a newspaper correspondent, Drew Pearson, the senate investigation of efforts to wreck the Geneva disarmament conference will include American admirals. From this correspondent's statement it is increasingly clear that the arch-propagandist Shearer was only the "bass drum"—as he called himself—for hidden forces of disruptive militarism.

Shearer is relatively harmless compared with ship building company officials who confess to hiring him, and the naval clique alleged to have used him. However dumb newspaper men may be in some things, they know propagandists from long experience, and are accustomed to spotting poison.

Shearer long had been one of the most notorious big navy propagandists operating in Geneva and Washington, and was known as such by the correspondents at the conference. Therefore he was suspected.

But his power consisted in his close contact with naval delegates. He had information which the public wanted to know and which the correspondents at times could not get elsewhere. It was their job to glean the facts and to discard the Shearer propaganda. They succeeded pretty well. Considering Shearer's privileged position with officials, surprisingly little of his propaganda filtered through the cables into the American press.

But that, apparently, was not the fault of certain American naval officers. To what extent they tried to prevent a cruiser limitation agreement is for the senate committee to find out.

Meanwhile, it is no secret that there are two types of navy and army officers in Washington and elsewhere, one type constantly agitating under cover for a bigger army and navy despite the avowed and official governmental policy of reduction.

It will be recalled that several times during the Coolidge administration the propaganda and lobbying inspired by army and navy groups became so vicious that the President had to issue public warning against attempts of the military to undermine the civil authority of the government.

And President Hoover in his disarmament efforts has been faced with the same sort of disloyalty, not to say mutiny, from certain officers, who have forgotten that he is their commander-in-chief. Indeed, the plausible suggestion has been made that the President's reason in part for forcing the Shearer investigation was to put the fear of punishment into commercial and naval interests trying to sink the present cruiser negotiations and projected limitation conference.

Obviously an army or naval officer who sincerely believes that Britain or Japan is plotting to invade this country soon, and believes that unlimited armament is the only preparedness against that menace, is sorely tempted to sabotage the official American policy of arms reduction. But, apart from his oath of allegiance, decency should restrain him. If his conscience or patriotism moves him to be a propagandist instead of an officer, he should resign his commission and hire a hall.

The conduct of the two chief naval delegates at the Geneva conference, Admirals Jones and Long, in contrast to that of certain others, apparently was a model for army and navy men serving under a democratic civil government.

They let the constitutional authorities of the civil government determine the policy; they acted as trusted technical advisers. They did not try to usurp the powers of the President, the secretary of state or the senate. They did not use Shearer, the paid agent of the armament makers; neither did they permit him to use them.

Others should be made to conform to that high standard of the naval service, or get out.

The Knees of the Male

The arbiters of men's fashions seem to have devised a number of radical innovations for the male's garb next summer.

It is written, we hear, that a new kind of pants is to make its appearance; a gaudy, Sybaritic affair, somewhat like a pair of basket ball trunks, cut off six inches above the knee, which will leave a lengthy bit of leg exposed to the fresh air, the inclement August rains and the curious public gaze.

This, they say, will be much cooler and more comfortable than the present trousers. Very likely that is true. Yet we shudder at the idea, somehow.

For, if the horrid truth must be told, the average male knee is not pretty. It is usually knobby, somewhat hirsute, and altogether unprepossessing. Much as we like frankness and comfort, we feel that most men should, out of kindness to the great American public, keep their knees concealed.

Holy Smoke

The Baltimore conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, meeting at Cumberland, devoted many hours of debate to the question of whether a young minister should be passed as deacon because he refused to promise to give up smoking.

A 16-year-old rule of the church, it developed, forbade ministers to smoke. Older members of the clergy—those who wore the cloth at the time the rule was enacted—may smoke as much as they like, and in public. And they do, even the bishop at the conference.

The young man, stories said, was of excellent character, and had studied hard for the ministry and demonstrated his ability. Yet an adverse report concerning him was presented.

A strange story to read in 1929 A. D.

Speed in Farm Relief

Alexander Legge, named by President Hoover as chairman of the federal farm board, pointed out to senators who were criticizing his officials acts that it had taken Congress eight years to pass a farm relief bill, and that his board had been functioning only two months. The confirmation of Legge was being considered.

His point was well-taken. The idea that any man or group of men, even though they have at their disposal \$150,000,000, can revolutionize the farming industry over night, is grotesque. The farm problem is deep-rooted and complicated. Its solution, if there is to be one, will be a matter of years.

Legge left his job as head of the International Harvester Company to take his present post, at the earnest solicitation of President Hoover. The entire

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Sudden Activity Shown in Rothstein Murder Case Probe Is Rather Amazing.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY BANTON of New York orders George McManus to trial in the Rothstein case.

He may have good reasons for such a sudden and amazing change of attitude. If so, he should take the public into his confidence.

Otherwise, the public will be justified in feeling puzzled, if not suspicious.

It is to be conceded at the outset that District Attorney Banton may have discovered some new evidence which he has not seen fit to announce.

Barring that contingency, his activity requires explanation.

Without new evidence, he is in the same position he was three, six, or even nine months ago, and has failed to try a man whom he could convict, or now plans to try one whom he can't.

Again, barring the contingency of newly discovered evidence, nothing has happened to throw light on the Rothstein case except a little politics.

Meaning Is Hidden

AT first thought it may seem cheap for the greatest city in America to be devoting so much attention to a murder, but murder, like any other social episode, may have a peculiar meaning. If a bank failure can expose graft, as happened in the City Trust case, why can not a killing reveal crookedness and corruption?

It is possible, to be sure, that the people of New York have misconstrued, if not overestimated, the Rothstein case.

It is possible that it just was one more homicide, which the police failed to solve, through circumstances over which they had no control, and that the district attorney has been justified in not forcing McManus, or any one else, to trial.

On the other hand, there is grounds for suspecting that it was something more.

Arnold Rothstein was killed a few days before the national election of last year.

He was not only a gambler, but had participated in a very interesting poker game just before the killing occurred.

He was not dead when found, but expired in a hospital the second day afterward.

While the police appeared unable to learn anything from him during his stay in the hospital, those who wanted him to sign a new will had better luck, though only to see their wills spoiled by the courts. His death caused considerable furor.

This was attributed to his prominent social and political connections. Curiously enough, gossip has held the same thing responsible for failure to find out who killed him.

Silence Not Justified

THE country must not imagine that New York is picking up a murder as the focal point in its municipal campaign out of morbid curiosity or for lack of something better to discuss.

While not particularly excited, New York would like to know just why there was so much racket at the outset and so much silence later on.

If the racket was justified, the ensuing silence was not.

By the same token if the ensuing silence was justified, District Attorney Banton's sudden awakening leaves a big question mark on the horizon.

It is to be conceded that District Attorney Banton may have been irritated by the political sharp shooting of his opponents, but what has that to do with George McManus' guilt, or the possibility of convicting him?

To put it in another way, if Justice is the only object, the Rothstein case has nothing to do with politics.

Contrasting what has happened during the last eleven months with what has happened during the last few days, it is hard to believe that politics has had nothing to do with the Rothstein case.

Putting aside the abrupt dismissal of the late Police Commissioner Warren for failure to unravel it as ancient history, putting aside not only the release of all the witnesses, but of McManus himself on bail and coming down to very recent times, it looks as though politics could be credited with rejuvenating the Rothstein case at least, and as though District Attorney Banton considered the charges of his opponents worthy of attention, if not comment.

Questions and Answers

Who wrote the lyric poem "Mar-

garette"?

Stephen Phillips. It was published by John Lane Company, New York and London, in 1900. The story is from Greek mythology. Marpessa, being given her choice by Zeus between the god Apollo and the mortal Idas, chose Idas.

How many troops were furnished by the state of Maryland to the Federal army during the Civil War?

A total of 62,961 men including 50,318 white troops, 8,718 Negro troops and 3,925 sailors and marines.

What is the derivation of the word "limousine"?

The name has been applied in the automobile trade to a certain type of body. There seems to be no connection between it and the French word limousin, which means a coarse mantle, or rough masonry.

Why is it easier to swim in salt water than in fresh water?

Because salt water is more buoyant and less effort is required to keep afloat.

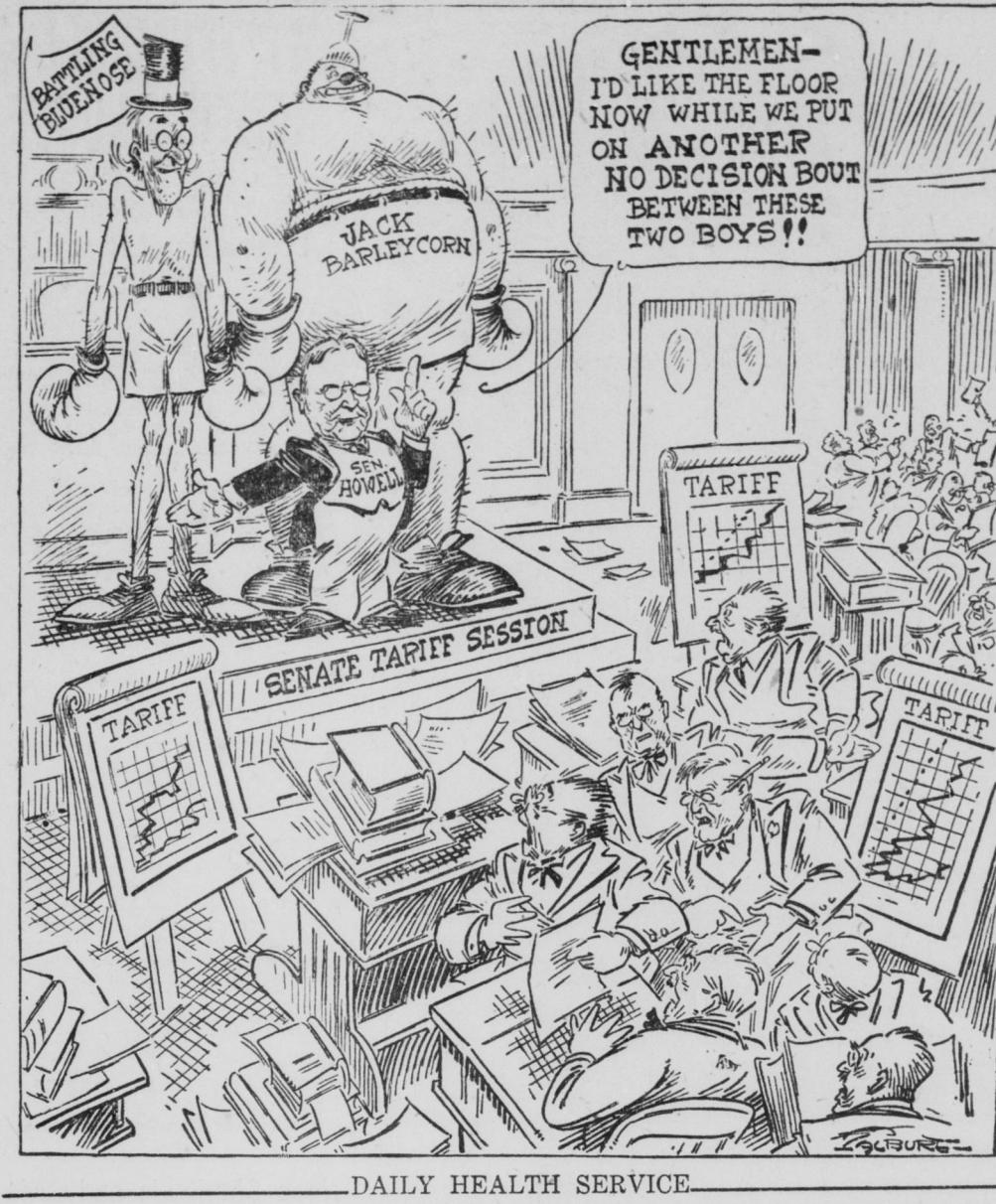
When was Colonel Lindbergh born, and how old was he when he flew to Paris?

He was born Feb. 4, 1902, and left for Paris by airplane on May 20, 1927.

According to the American Institute of Steel Construction, it is feasible to put buildings 150 stories high, the same covering entire blocks, the bottom floors to be used for business and the top for residences, each building being a miniature world of its own.

This is the kind of proposition that makes a man glad that he has a lifetime date with a country town.

Pardon the Intrusion!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Man Is Different Kind of Machine

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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

LAST year debates were held all over the United States by several eminent debaters on the question as to whether or not man is a machine.

The question is answered as well as it can be answered with our modern knowledge of science by Professor C. Judson Herrick in his new book called "Man—The Thinking Machine."

Of course, a human being is not a machine like a loom or a rotary press. If a belt or a cog wheel breaks or any power apparatus, the machine is likely to stop until somebody repairs the damage.

The human being is the most complex machine that possibly can be imagined. It has tremendous

automatic powers of regulation and repair.

The human machine is a part of the great system of life. There is order and system in nature which may be called evolution, or which may be credited to some higher power.

There is no scientific support for the fatalistic conception of life nor for the belief that everything is or has been in life was predetermined.

Many things develop as a result of natural agencies. Professor Herrick wisely points out that a mechanistic conception of life demands first of all the recognition of the meaning of mechanism.

The chief function of any mechanism is to control the agents which are a part of its business.

The human being is the greatest capacity for self-regulation of any mechanism on earth. It even can control the disappearance or

the appearance of its followers by scientific genetics.

At the same time the human being must respond inevitably to natural processes in its environment.

This the human does with his mind, whereas lower species and material objects respond only as the physical changes influence them.

Mental acts, Professor Herrick points out, are natural because we are natural bodies and they are therefore the real determiners of conduct and character. They are part of the biologic machinery regulating and controlling life.

Self-control by voluntary effort is an activity of the human body. Self-control can be strengthened and cultivated by training, just as muscular training in riding a bicycle can be cultivated.

Man is a machine, but distinctly and apparently the only thinking machine.

THE survey of the engineering profession comes at an opportune time. The nation in general is coming more and more to think in terms of engineering.

Many people hold the view that Herbert Hoover's success as secretary of commerce, and the success which he has enjoyed so far as President, were the result of his engineering training.

There has been a tendency in cities adopting the city manager plan of government to secure engineers as city managers.

This general trust in engineers is an inevitable result of the growth of science.

People find themselves surrounded today by many new things which they do not understand completely.

They find themselves dependent upon the opinions of electrical engineers, radio engineers, transportation engineers, chemical engineers and many others.

It is natural, therefore, that they should turn to these same men to solve problems in other fields.

Such terms as "civic engineering" and "human engineering" are creeping into the language, showing the trend of the times.

It is a good thing, therefore, both for the public and the engineers themselves, that they take stock of their own abilities, ideals and responsibilities.

Objectives

ONE of the first tasks to be undertaken in the survey will be a classification of the various types of engineers.

"There will be classifications into which each type of engineer belongs and a statement of the qualifications requisite to each classification," the committee announces.

"This is particularly needed in the federal government service."

The question of government registration of engineers will also be studied.

"Registration of engineers prevails in some twenty states," the committee says.

"This movement has had no guidance on the part of any major fraction of the profession. However, because of existing registration laws, an adequate plan can be projected relating to the economic and professional status of the engineer without giving due consideration to the influences and trends of registration.

"Such a survey as is contemplated will not fail to bring to light certain related questions, which will necessarily have to be pursued in some degree to get that breadth of comprehension necessary to an inclusive judgment and action."

"There should be opportunity to set up certain forward-looking and comprehensive objectives for the profession."

"It is hoped that major objectives for the profession to endeavor to realize in the years ahead can be set up."

The flight to America was under way.

The dream of the old Count was at last to be realized.

The big ship crossed the Atlantic and was landed at Lakehurst on Oct. 15, having traveled 5060 miles in 81 hours.

(To Be Continued)

NEXT: Four long years of idleness, raising funds and then the Graf Zeppelin.