



# The Indianapolis Times

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

## An Opportunity

No candidate ever had a better opportunity to impress the electorate with his freedom from any obligations to either Boss Coffin or Coffinism than comes to Mr. Glossbrenner at the present time.

Next week speakers will go out in his behalf to urge the voters to support himself and the Republican ticket.

They will, undoubtedly, deny that the present ticket has any contacts whatever with Coffin. They will repudiate the statute of limitations. They will explain Duvall and the Four Horsemen as unfortunate results of the primary system.

A touch of sincerity can be added if the candidate and his spokesmen will call attention to the evil influence of Coffinism in the public schools, the waste of funds which brings worry to the Chamber of Commerce courses to the taxpayers' associations which are trying to find some relief from the peculiar evasions of the law concerning the letting of contracts.

They can plead for the defeat of Coffin's entries into the race for the school board. They can urge the voters to support the fine set of candidates supported by the citizens committee.

If every Republican orator would tell the people the plain facts about the effects of Coffinism in the public schools they would not only perform a magnificent public service but would probably secure for their other statements much more confidence and credence than if they remain silent upon this most important public issue.

Candidate Sullivan announced in his platform that he would do all in his power to prevent partisan politics from entering the school system. He is on record.

The saving of the schools from Coffin's malignant touch and taint is the major necessity of the hour. It is even more important than the outcome of the race for mayor, for the evil effects of machine control of the public schools will have its mark upon the generations of school children entrusted to its care for training and guidance.

And while the orators are at it, they could also disown any alliance with the movement which destroyed the city manager form of government.

The citizen in whose name the suit was brought is now a candidate for the council. He did not employ or pay the attorney who brought the suit. He has not revealed the source of support in that movement which blasted the hopes of so many fine citizens. The orators might insist that he reveal the inspiration for his attack upon the law and the names of the men who paid his attorney before they urge his election.

The people want to get rid of Coffinism. The candidates who are now disowning Coffin have such a simple way of impressing the public with their sincerity.

If they have no connection with Coffinism, why not strike at Coffinism where it is brazen, braggart and bold?

They would, at least have the satisfaction of having helped to save the public schools system from its present dilemma.

## Evidence and Guilt

The cornerstone of the theory of criminal law is that guilt shall be determined exclusively by the law and the evidence.

Yet anyone who has followed the actual administration of criminal justice must realize that social pressure in any community is often a more powerful factor in the outcome than the facts.

If the more influential elements want a conviction, they are likely to get it, even though the facts warrant an acquittal. The cases of Mooney and Billings and of Sacco and Vanzetti are an eloquent testimonial to this.

The Barkoski case now in western Pennsylvania is an illustration of the picture reversed. Here there is a vast mass of incontestable evidence to the effect that one John Barkoski, a Polish peasant and miner, was tortured to death by three coal and iron policemen. But the dominant powers in the Pittsburgh district desired an acquittal. They got what they wanted.

After the verdict, the trial judge dismissed the jury from further service with the comment that: "the jury was not competent and did not have sufficient moral stamina." He declared further that he never was surprised more in his life than he was by the nature of the verdict.

Social pressure in western Pennsylvania apparently affected parties to the trial other than the jury. The police were defended by one of the most distinguished and influential attorneys in the state, while the prosecution was left to the least experienced member of the district attorney's office.

Another hearing now is to be held. The case is of vital importance. For involved in it is the question of whether juristic methods of the medieval inquisition and the industrial policies of early nineteenth century England shall prevail in our land in 1929.

## Word War Pensions?

The American Legion, at its convention in Louisville, took what may prove to be the most important action in its history.

This was the passage of a resolution calling upon congress to provide "compensation" for wives and children of deceased or incapacitated veterans of the World War, whether or not the cause was traceable to military service. Under existing law, compensation

is paid only to dependents of men who died or are suffering from disabilities connected with their war service.

The resolution attracted little attention and its significance only now is beginning to be appreciated. It means that the Legion for the first time definitely is committed to the policy of extending the country's traditional pension system to the World War veterans, who number roughly 4,000,000.

It marks also a complete reversal of the attitude of the Legion, which in its 1922 convention at New Orleans passed a resolution agreeing to forego pension demands if the veterans were granted a bonus.

It is true that the present demand is only for pensions for widows and children, but no one will doubt that once this is granted, demands will arise for a general pension bill. This was the history of pension legislation in both the Civil and Spanish-American wars.

Spanish-American war widows were granted pensions in 1902, and sixteen years later a general pension bill was enacted. Earlier Civil War pension bills were followed by general pension legislation in 1890.

At the outset of the World War, every effort was made to set up a system of compensation and insurance that would preclude any possibility of the growth of a pension system like that which followed the two preceding wars, and which still is costing the country some \$220,000,000 a year.

Men injured in service were to be cared for, and their dependents compensated; dependents of those who died from service causes were to be compensated. The government next fiscal year will spend more than \$600,000,000 for these purposes, or roughly one dollar out of every seven or eight that will be spent.

Since then congress passed the "insurance" bonus bill, which finally will cost the country between two and three billion dollars. Vocational training was provided for thousands. The privilege of hospitalization was extended to every veteran, from whatever cause his illness.

But the rank and file of the Legion apparently have the pension idea, despite widespread opposition.

It is not to be expected that there will be immediate action by congress. But the Louisville resolution was the opening wedge, and marks the beginning of the pension drive, of which more and more will be heard year by year.

World war pensions probably will become a political issue, as were Civil War pensions, and the bonus, and on a larger scale.

The question is an important one.

## More Testimony

The Canadian system of liquor control has been subject of much dispute. Some assert it has reduced drinking, and eliminated the evils that accompanied prohibition; others that it has encouraged the use of liquor.

Therefore the opinion of Premier Ferguson of Ontario is interesting. He told members of the Conservative party that drinking in Ontario would decrease 50 per cent in the next ten years if people would continue to support the liquor control act.

He credited the reduction to temperance teaching in schools and churches.

A Chicago man offers to trade his typewriter for a shotgun. Probably this should be a warning to a couple of editors.

## REASON By FREDERICK LANDIS

AT the very hour President Hoover was giving a reception at the White House in honor of Premier Ramsay MacDonald and his daughter and in the interest of international friendship, Bertrand Russell, the English philosopher, was contending in debate with Will Durant in New York City that Europe, in general, and England in particular, is far ahead of the United States in culture.

It would be hard to imagine a more pointless discussion or any other city in the United States where people would pack an auditorium and warmly applaud the foreigner who sneered at them and their country, but then it should be remembered that the snobbish New Yorker turns his face toward London when he prays, as the Mohammedan turns his face toward Mecca.

Had Durant journeyed across the Atlantic for the purpose of impressing the English that they were hopelessly inferior to Americans in the silken graces which denote distance from barbarism, he would not have been applauded by an audience, chained to an inferiority complex; he would have been hissed from the stage as his impudence would have deserved.

OF course, Mr. Durant could have informed Mr. Russell that the man who boasts of his culture is utterly devoid of it, since the proof of culture is modesty and decency, and that he who grows eloquent over the consciousness of his own spiritual and intellectual magnificence is only a hopeless ass.

Mr. Durant might have added in reply to Mr. Russell's charge that we are very young, with the assurance that we will be much older by the time Europe pays what she owes us.

In reply to this Englishman's reference to the coarseness of America, Durant might have pointed to the cowardice and barbarism of the English audience, as evidence by the riots of abuse and intimidation which greeted Henry Ward Beecher when he spoke for the north during the Civil War in Liverpool and Manchester, indecencies as destitute of provocation as they were of precedent.

Instead of having devoted his time to a defense of his countrymen, Durant might have reminded Mr. Russell that to this day the English audience is a hopeless rough-neck, its cowardly hecklers never tiring of smearing England's greatest statesmen with vilification. In her campaigns for parliament, Mrs. Nancy Astor has been subjected to insults which would not have been tolerated by the convicts in any American prison.

IT is perhaps the inevitable consequence of centuries of world domination that the seeds of arrogance should be planted in the hearts of Englishmen, but we submit that in their appraisal of nations and of people, they should differentiate between those who have worn their yoke and those who have thrown it off, between those who have yielded to them and those who have whipped them, between the helpless Hindoo and the free American.

This hateful superciliousness has been an ever-present irritant between England and America; it resulted in open rupture between George Washington and insufferable British officers during the Indian war, before the revolution, and it caused conflict between the English and American soldiers almost every time they came together during the World War.

## M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Chances are That But for Religious Zeal and Love of Gold, Columbus Would Have Found No Backing.

IT was 437 years ago that Columbus made his memorable discovery. The world has changed tremendously since that time. One wonders if it will change as much during the next 437 years.

The clothes Columbus wore were made from cloth woven by hand. The sword at his side was forged by hand, the planking of his ship was sawed by hand, and the bread he ate was made of grain ground by hand.

There was no tea, coffee, sugar, or potatoes on his table, no after dinner cigar with which to while away the monotony of a sea voyage, or latest novel.

We like to think that it was a purely scientific expedition. That a humble man with a big idea was wholly responsible and that material interests played no part.

The chances are, however, that but for religious zeal and love of gold, Columbus would have failed to get the necessary backing.

Whether religious zeal has subsided, the love of gold has not.

The love of gold still is strong enough to make such hard-headed men as General Von Ludendorff fall for the cheap tricks of alchemy.

## Gold Out of Lead

OVER in Germany, a plumber causes great commotion by pretending he can change lead into gold at the ratio of sixteen to one.

Why should a man with such a secret need any backing, and why couldn't those from whom he sought it see the fake?

God only knows, but since the days of Dr. Dee and Cagliostro, people unable to subordinate their greed to common sense have fallen for the rot.

So we find this plumber, Tausend, getting real money from generals, merchants and bankers.

Even the cold-blooded Von Ludendorff signs up, though not until he is promised 75 per cent of the profits to use for "patriotic purposes."

Von Ludendorff and his gullible associates are mulcted, of course, and the plumber lands in jail.

Still, there are those who look upon him as a martyr, a scientist pilloried by the "system," a victim of class rule.

Plumber Shows 'Em.

THE plumber rises nobly to the occasion. He is not trying to put anything over on anyone. He merely has discovered a great principle, and is more than willing to publish the formula.

Not only that, but he is ready to give a public demonstration, with experts looking on and safe-guarded by all the precautions that can be devised.

What could be fairer, and why should the law turn thumbs down on such an obviously honest crook? Public sentiment is outraged. The situation does not call for mercy, but merely justice.

Authorities have no choice in the matter, especially in a nation saved for democracy, along with the rest of the world.

They yield to public demand, call in the experts, devise the necessary precautions, and tell Plumber Tausend to do his worst.

Plumber Tausend provides himself with lead and other necessary ingredients, lights the fire and heats the kettle while sharp-eyed prison officials, hard-boiled chemists, bewhiskered savants and newspaper men look on.

At the conclusion of the experiment, he produces one-tenth of a gram of pure gold, extracted, as he claims, from 1.67 grams of lead.

"Vindication," shout his supporters.

Cigaret Does It

THEN comes the denouement. Among the onlookers is Plumber Tausend's partner, equipped with a package of cigarettes, which he casually passes the former at some time during the experiment.

It is all so natural, you understand—a plumber taking a pull at his cigarette, while he cogitates over the problems of his great task.

And what if Plumber Tausend drops a little of the ash in his kettle now and then, and what if the ash contains a little gold?

No feature of human intelligence is so amazing as his blind spot.

Even the great Columbus thought he had discovered Asia, which is why our red men are called Indians.

Who, then, can blame folks for being unable to realize that gold would cease to be precious the moment it was made from lead.

Wealth is not based in the color or weight of a substance, but what people want.

Queen Isabella wanted gold and converts, but modern Germany seeks a loan from the Swedish match trust, while modern America is interested in stocks and bonds of industries that were not dreamed of a few years ago.

## Daily Thought

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. St. John 8:32.

We must never throw away a bushel of truth because it happens to contain a few grains of chaff.—Dean Stanley.

Who was the prime minister of Great Britain in 1924? J. Ramsay MacDonald was prime minister from Jan. 22, 1924, to Nov. 5, 1924, and Stanley Baldwin held the office from Nov. 5, 1924, to June, 1929.

What French aviator was credited with bringing down seventy-five planes during the World War? Rene Fonck.

## The Prodigal Son and the Fatted Calf



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## Chemical Reactions Index to Health

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

WHEN an individual is at complete muscular rest, certain chemical and physical reactions are going on nevertheless in his body. To obtain some measure of the activity of the body under these circumstances, methods have been devised for measuring what is called the "basal metabolism."

The person fasts for from fourteen to eighteen hours and rests for at least thirty minutes before being tested. It is also best, if possible, to have a calm attitude toward the test and people who are likely to be nervous should have the method explained to them before they are submitted to the test.

The temperature of the room should be such that the person neither perspires nor shivers.

He then is tested in a machine which collects the air containing carbon dioxide that is breathed out as contrasted with the oxygen that is breathed in, and on the basis of these factors one can determine the extent of the chemical activity.

Basal metabolism usually is higher in childhood, because children are active and growing. From adolescence until middle life, the basal metabolism is maintained at a fairly constant level. It then gradually declines until old age.

In certain diseases, the basal metabolism is much greater than normal. Anger and fear temporarily raise the basal metabolism. Thus it was found raised in a number of patients who were informed that they were going to have an operation.

During sleep the basal metabolism is less than during waking hours and it is also slightly less after physical exercise in many people.

In cases of exophthalmic goiter or overaction of the thyroid gland, the basal metabolism is greater than normal. Such people are exceedingly nervous and are inclined to lose weight.

In cases of obesity or overweight, the basal metabolism is likely to be lower than normal and is reflected in the fact that such people put on flesh.

Several seasons ago which was treated harshly by Alexander Woolcott in his criticism.

He was particularly severe in dealing with the prima donna, who played the part of a ballet dancer. And when she saw the notice she was angry. "He says my high voice is uncertain, does he?" exclaimed the angry actress. "I'd just like to see him tackle the role."

And often the complaint has been raised that newspaper critics have no right to express an opinion about books or plays or paintings, since they are, for the most part, not proficient in these arts. Yet, as has been said, one need not be a hen to know whether an egg is good.

Bishops

WIFE and mother spoke of bishops as well as Rudy, and I am concerned to find that after the recent Episcopal conference at East Hampton, the assembled clerics intimated that in another year they might bar all newspaper men from their conventions.

I fear that this particular church grows too exclusive. First it was Negroes who were discouraged, and now the ban may also be set against reporters.

It is not impossible that in time the great edifices of the Episcopal church may be reserved only for Bishop Stires and God. And I am panicky about the possibility that after a bit only Bishop Stires will be considered eligible to enter.

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A Hoax?

I GRAVELY fear that the writer of this letter merely is spoofing, but having read a number of other complaints from Vallee admirers it may be true.

At any rate, it has sufficed to fill some space on a day when columnizing is difficult. I can't seem to concentrate at all on afternoons when the world series is coming in by radio. Other public concerns fade into the mist when Howard Ehmke stands upon the pitching mound and strikes out thirteen Cubs.

Speaking of Rudy's talents as a singer and my own lack of them, I am reminded of a comic opera

Editor Times—Street widening has done more than any other one thing to give Indianapolis that keen snap of the big and capable city. In Illinois street, Pennsylvania street, Delaware street, things go bustling on, loading and unloading, altering, remodeling, enlarging, a new building going up here, a better one going up yonder.

With completion of Delaware street to Massachusetts avenue, and with completion of Massachusetts avenue from Pennsylvania street to St. Clair street, all is slated for fall, the city will have a smart record in street widening for the year.

Next in order is Sixteenth street. A good while ago when plans first were made for Sixteenth street, the proposal was not taken seriously. It was looked upon as a bold adventure, with little to recommend it, apart from optimistic advocates of the plans, who were few. But during the passing of time it has grown remarkably into public favor.

Of course, time has brought on the growth of business and the consequent growth of traffic, and in the light of what the city already has done in street widening, with its outstanding advantages and benefits, the improvement of Sixteenth street really has been made plausible in all points, and further made absolutely necessary.

One thing which appears positively settled is that Sixteenth street

At the end of the voyage, Columbus immediately began making plans for a second expedition, on which he set sail Sept. 25, 1493.

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## SCIENCE

By DAVID DIETZ

Scientists Today are Reproducing the Phenomena of Two Billion Years Ago in Formation of the Earth.

EVENTS that occurred 2,000,000,000 years ago are being duplicated today by a group of scientists in Washington, D. C. Two billion years ago, so scientists believe, our earth just had solidified out of a mass of molten material hurled out of the sun. The rocks which comprise the earth's crust then were in the process of formation.

Today, scientists at the geophysical laboratory are repeating the phenomena of 2,000,000,000 years ago. They are causing rocks to form as they did in the "early days" of the world.

The geophysical laboratory, the finest of its kind in the world, is part of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, which now is celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of its entry into scientific research.

Great hydraulic presses, capable of exerting pressures of 300,000 pounds to the square inch and fiery electric furnaces, capable of attaining temperatures of several thousand degrees, are part of the equipment of this great laboratory.

During a recent visit to Washington, Dr. Arthur L. Day, director of the laboratory, and one of the world's most distinguished scientists, explained to me the reason for the laboratory's program.

It represents an application of the newest knowledge of physics and chemistry to the problems of geology. It is yielding new and important facts about the origin and history of the earth.

## Making Rocks

THE older method of geology was to examine the rock formations and seek to interpret the meaning of what was to be seen.

"This meant the comparison of one type of rock formation with another," Dr. Day told me. "It answered the question of 'where,' but not 'why.'"

"It was felt that more fundamental knowledge was needed. In 1900, I was called into consultation by the United States geological survey to see what could be done. Two years later the Carnegie Institution was founded and when it embarked upon scientific research, it decided to build the geophysical laboratory and attack the problem.

"We decided to duplicate the processes of nature in the laboratory and manufacture rocks.

"A rock is not a