



# The Indianapolis Times

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

## The Final Evidence

If any additional evidence were needed of the desirability of supplanting the present form of city government with the city manager plan, it is furnished by the demands of party workers for city jobs from Mayor-Elect Sullivan.

The one reason advanced by the 2,000 or more who are asking for work for the city is that they are loyal Democrats and deserve well for their loyalty to the party ticket.

That was the same reason given by the men and women who got jobs from Duvall under the rule of Coffinism.

There is no reason, of course, why a man who calls himself a Democrat should be a better or a worse bookkeeper, inspector or policeman than one who calls himself a Republican.

This is the very foundation of the city manager theory of city government. It depends for its success upon the denunciation of city government. It demands only efficiency and service and not expensiveness in elections nor servility to partisan leaders.

Only where there is a political government would there be any thought of wholesale turnover in purely technical or administrative jobs when a change of mayors is made. And such changes emphasize the fact that the government is political and to a degree, gives warning to those who get the jobs that they must play the right kind of politics if they expect to keep them.

If there is to be a special session of the legislature to save the country schools from the starvation forced upon them by a legislature that was much more intent on spending vast sums of money for material things to care much about the child in the back woods, it might be well to take steps to get a start toward the city manager rule of cities and a strict civil service standard for all city and state employees.

The spoils system of government has always been costly and especially costly in other things than money. It means, inevitably, favoritism of all kinds and sorts.

The elimination of party politics from city government will be a long step toward better government in the state and in the nation.

Now that the people of most of the cities have turned to Democratic mayors as an escape from misrule under the regime that began with Jackson and Stephenson, the legislature may be in a mood to give laws that will really permit an honest trial of the city manager system.

Even the supreme court, after the last election, might discover that such a system would not violate the constitutional guarantees of citizens to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Sooner or later the cities, if they wish to grow and prosper, must get rid of the partisan viewpoint of government. Perhaps the time is here.

## A Job for Congress

Pressing as are the many problems which confront congress at the regular session, it should find time to consider and dispose of Muscle Shoals by repassage of the Norris bill providing for continued government ownership and operation.

Ten years after construction of this great power plant, delegates to recent conference of the Public Ownership League of America found its great potentialities almost completely going to waste, with one turbine out of eight operating, with one-eighth of its potential power being developed, and that one-eighth going to the Alabama Power Company for 2 mills a kilowatt-hour—the power company promptly reselling it for fifty times that. Nearby cities begging for power are denied it.

This situation often is blamed on congress. But it should not be forgotten that two years ago President Coolidge pocket-vetoed the Norris bill, which would have set the turbines to humming and put the plant in operation.

Nor should it be forgotten that all the great resources of the power trust have been thrown against any solution by congress, except turning the plant over to private hands.

## Congress Reassembles

The regular session of congress meeting today has much work to do. Among the more important things to which it must give attention are the tariff bill, tax reduction, appropriations, the Vare case, extension of the radio commission, prohibition, the world court, inland waterways, naval building and disarmament, railroad consolidation, Muscle Shoals and the anti-labor injunction bill.

Several investigations are contemplated, of which that dealing with communications and electrical power perhaps is the most important.

The session probably will last for six months, since members will want to devote the summer to preparations for the November elections, in which a third of the senate and the entire house must be chosen. There will be much sparring for political advantage.

It is unlikely that congress will be able to dispose of all its work. The tariff bill has been only half completed by the senate, and there remains afterward the task of adjusting differences between the two houses.

The progressive Republicans and the Democrats have demonstrated that they control the senate and the old guard has realized the futility of attempting to get away with a tariff grab of the kind originally contemplated. This fact should expedite the measure.

Tax reduction will be simple. There will be no general legislation overhauling the tax laws, but a brief

# M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Byrd's Feat Was Wonderful, But No More Wonderful Than the Fact You Could Read About It 24 Hours Afterward.

COMMANDER BYRD flies to the south pole; Jack Elder makes a ninety-six-yard run in the Army-Navy game; representatives of four great powers discuss the Russo-Chinese situation at Washington; the French flag is hauled down from Ehrenbreitstein; four labor leaders are convicted at Marion, N. C.; the Governor of New Jersey names Dwight W. Morrow as United States senator; twenty-five or thirty people die from cold throughout the United States; and an old clipper ship is up for sale as an art treasure.

One could moralize over any of these incidents to the extent of a thousand words, since each has a more or less definite bearing on that complex thing we call progress.

If Byrd's performance shows how science has made it possible for men to find romance and adventure, young Elder's feat shows what a part sport has come to play in modern life.

French evacuation of the second Rhine land zone suggests that, in spite of all arguments, Europe gradually is healing its war sores, while the fatalities due to cold put the weather in competition with the dry agent.

The acceptance of an old clipper ship as an art treasure proves how far we have left one great era behind, and how irrevocably we have entered another.

Polar Feat Wonderful

YOU read about Commander Byrd's flight to the south pole, of course, with all the details—how they zigzagged the great plane up through wind-swept canyons, throwing away food to save gasoline; how they skittered over the great plateau at an altitude of 10,000 or 12,000 feet; how they came to the bottom of the world at last and never would have known it without their scientific instruments; how they circled around to be sure those instruments were right, and how they came back at a smashing pace just ahead of a storm.

A wonderful performance, truly, but no more wonderful than the fact that you could read about it twenty-four hours afterward.

## An Object Lesson

Advocates of waterways development will rejoice in the excellent showing during the last fiscal year of the government-owned inland waterways corporation, revealed in the report of the secretary of war to congress.

The corporation was created as a war-time transportation aid, and since has been expended.

During the fiscal year the corporation's barges handled 1,881,000 tons of freight, and collected revenues of \$7,163,000. Net income was \$441,651, compared with a net income deficit of \$10,750 the year before.

Congress wisely is extending the service of the corporation to the Missouri, St. Croix and Chicago-Illinois rivers. Terminal facilities have been provided at many Mississippi and Warrior river ports, and others are being projected.

Eventually, barges will operate on the intracoastal route between Mobile and New Orleans. Forty additional standard type barges are to be acquired at a cost of \$2,500,000.

The report stated that the corporation "has been of incalculable benefit to the people at large," and continually is increasing in effectiveness. It will, through co-ordination of railways and highways, bring cheaper freight rates, with reasonable returns to all participants.

## Bigger and Bigger Riots

Michigan, it is reported, is planning to send her habitual drunks to prison for terms of seven to fifteen years. If this be true, it would seem that she is aching for bigger and better riots in her penal institutions.

If there is anything of which we may be certain relative to the startling prison outbreaks of the last year, it is that they grew out of the overcrowding of the institutions and the growing hopelessness of the inmates. Both of these factors were chiefly due to the long sentences imposed under "habitual criminal laws."

In other words, our prisons evidently are breaking down because their housing facilities and their administration can not bear up under the increasing strain of jailing the convict class. Handing bona fide criminals brings them to the breaking point.

Whereupon Michigan proposes to solve the situation by asking the state penitentiary to assume also the burden of acting as a jail, alms-house, dyspepsia ward, down-and-outer-club and other institutions in which confirmed inebriates might be confined with propriety.

Soon or later the cities, if they wish to grow and prosper, must get rid of the partisan viewpoint of government. Perhaps the time is here.

**REASON** By FREDERICK LANDIS

PROFESSOR ROBERT EMMONS of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology reminds one of the old-time evangelist when he declares that bridge playing is "the lowest depth to which a human can fall."

Card playing becomes a liability only when it develops into a habit which murders time which should be given to better things, such as the reading of good books.

When it leads to gambling, it is an unqualified curse, of course, for gambling, rather than tuberculosis, is the Great White Plague.

It is bad enough to gamble at night, but the man who does it after lunch is absolutely hopeless; he is headed for the poor house and his business for the junk heap.

The man who mixes either jackpots or booze with business hours has a reserved seat on the toboggan.

Which reminds one that the insufferable folly of our clandestine drinking is that so much of it is done during the day. The possessors of the embalming fluid may absorb it after the day's cares are over, just as before the eighteenth amendment, but for some reason, known only to the insanity expert, they stay in their desks, so they may wave farewell to consciousness whenever such sublime aspiration arrives.

The United States supreme court upholds a law which denies a hitch-hiker, who gets hurt in an automobile accident, the right to sue the fellow who gave him a ride, which decision meets with our august approval.

When you pick up a stranger along the highway, it's enough to have to run the risk of being robbed.

Edward N. Hurley wisely announces that the United States is as rich as before the market crash, but numerous gentlemen inside of it are not.

The only difference is that a lot of air which had been diverted from ventilation to high finance has returned to its original purpose.

The stock market is not the country any more than a faro bank at a county fair is the country.

WE are glad to see Frank E. Hering of South Bend, editor of the Eagles magazine, and all-round public asset, honored by the War Mothers as the founder of Mother's day.

Hering is one of the brightest men in America, and one of the most likable.

He is a humanitarian whose eyes are on the stars, but whose feet are on the ground.

It is hard to see how ex-Secretary Kellogg can get the Nobel prize for outstanding service for the promotion of peace, so long as Russia and China, both of whom signed the Kellogg treaty, outlawing war, are blowing the daylights out of each other.

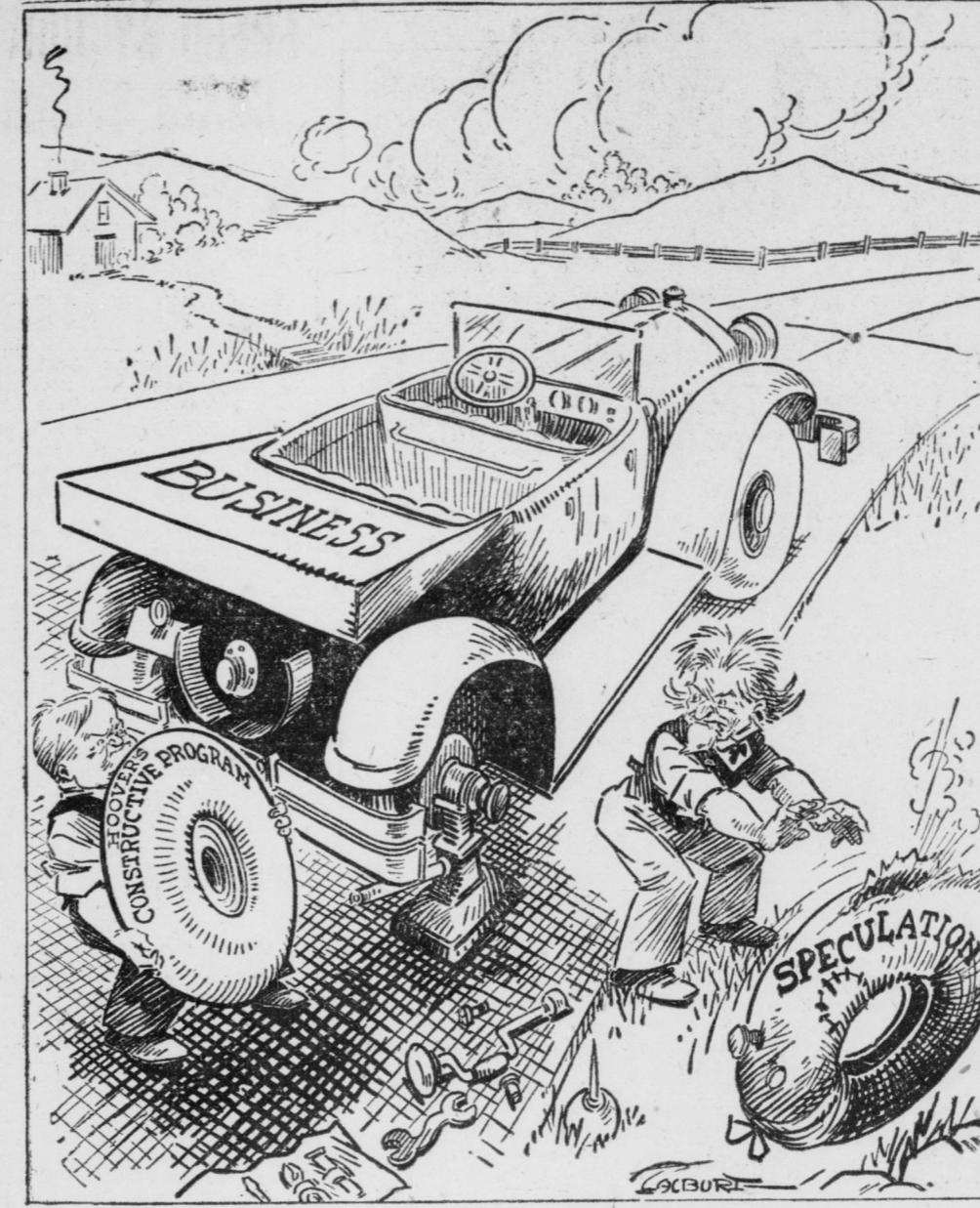
The whole course of history may be changed by a trifle. How different things might have been had Clemenceau's father not ordered him back to France when he wanted to become an American citizen.

France would have collapsed and Germany would have won the war.

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# That's Better!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## 'External Feeding' of Skin Discounted

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

MANY women believe that it is possible to feed the skin or cause it to fill out by the use of pastes, ointments, lotions or similar preparations rubbed on, stuck on, or dobed on in some manner.

There is, however, no way to feed the skin by something put on the surface. The skin is kept alive and clear by the blood that comes to it in the lower layers.

There are no blood vessels in the outer layers of the skin, and these layers get the material on which they are kept alive by an oozing of the fluid from the blood through the lower layers up to them.

The layer that is on the outside

is a horny material which serves primarily as a protective covering and which has not within it any stimulating elements for taking up or assimilating nutritive material.

The blood vessel that comes to the skin, like those in other portion of the body, are controlled by nerves which can dilate them or contract them.

When the nerves dilate the blood vessels, more blood comes into the skin, and conversely when the blood vessels contract, less blood comes in.

The nerves in the skin react to many influences. If a person blushes, his blood vessels dilate; if he faints, the blood vessels contract. If a person takes alcohol his face flushes, and if he eats too much he is likely to have a flushed complexion.

The undamaged skin will not allow water to pass through it or any substances that may be in solution in water. A person can be put in a bathtub full of water and kept there for many days he will not be any more thirsty due to water passing off his body, nor will he swell out due to water passing into the body.

If the water is very hot, he will perspire and due to the loss of water from his body by perspiration, he will become thirsty.

Fatty substances and ointments placed on the skin will not be absorbed by the skin, but if they are rubbed hard enough they may be forced to penetrate the skin and get into the glands, from which they may be taken up.

When fat is rubbed in, it does not remain in the skin, but is taken up by the blood and carried to other parts of the body.

Michelson and Morley devised an apparatus, the interferometer, based on an invention of Michelson's for comparing the speed of two beams of light.

It consisted of a great steel cross with twelve-foot arms. By means of a system of mirrors, a beam of light is split in two, and half the beam reflected back and forth along each arm.

Now it can be shown mathematically that a boat can travel a certain distance down the river and back to the starting point in less time than it can travel the same distance back and forth across the current of the river.

Similarly, a beam of light ought to go faster back and forth in the direction of the ether-drift than it does back and forth across the ether-drift.

Accordingly, light waves traveling in one direction, are moving with the ether-drift. Light waves, at right angles to the first, are moving across the drift.

The situation, therefore, might be compared to a river. The current of the river represents the ether-drift. The boats represent the light waves.

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The interferometer now is rotated. If the speed of light depends upon its direction with reference to the ether-drift, the speed of the two halves of the beam along the arms will change continuously with the rotation of the cross.

This should make it apparent in a shifting back and forth of the interference pattern, or "fringes," as they are called.

The experiment first was performed in 1887. Michelson and Morley were seeking for a shift which would be due to the rotation of the earth around the sun. They did not find it.

A suggestion was made by two European scientists that the failure of the apparatus to show the shift was due to a contraction in the arms of the instrument with the speed of the earth. This became known as the Lorentz-Fitzgerald contraction, after the scientists who suggested it.

Enstein developed this into his special theory of relativity, first announced in 1905, in which he set down the postulate that all motion is relative and that it never would be possible to measure the absolute motion of the earth through the ether of space.

However, Dr. Miller, who has been experimenting with the interferometer since 1906, insists that he has proof in observations with the instrument of an absolute motion of the whole solar system through the ether of space.

She wears her hair much too long and yet I was always