



The Indianapolis Times

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

Another Reason

If any added reason were needed for drafting of a new constitution, it is now provided by the spectacle of candidates for judgeships seeking the support of the politically powerful.

The candidates are not to be criticised. Under the system, the only way to become a judge is to go out into the byways of politics and become political.

The election of judges on partisan tickets, at the same election with candidates for other offices, brings the bench distinctly into politics. The inevitable result is a constant menace to justice and a continuous assault upon public confidence in courts.

At the election next fall there will be elected many judges. Two members of the supreme court will be chosen. The appellate bench has a vacancy or so. Locally almost the whole judicial system is to be revamped.

Mixing politics with the judiciary has a far reaching effect. It hits at the basis of good government. It is, of course, absurd.

A constitutional convention would arrive at some system whereby the judges would not be compelled to play the part of petty politicians in order to gain office, or, if timid, permit themselves at times to be swayed by other influences than those of law and substantial justice in order to stay in office.

One of the most glaring evil results is the high cost of receiverships. There are others equally as bad.

If you make no other resolution as a citizen for next year, a good one might well be to vote and work for the approval of a constitutional convention.

If there is to remain any respect for courts and for law, the sooner the bench is removed from party politics the better is the chance.

His Own Defense

Somewhat or other we can not enthuse very much over the efforts of the Washington Society of Alexandria, Va., to defend the reputation of the first President.

"Few great men," says John C. Fitzpatrick, author of a pamphlet and editor of Washington's diaries, "have escaped vilification of one kind or another, but the whippersnappers against the morals of Washington seem more viciously continuous than the attacks on any other great American."

Presumably the defense was prompted to some extent by several modernist biographies which attempted to portray Washington as a human being, with foibles and frailties like the rest of us, and to destroy some of the legends of perfection built up around him.

There is nothing to be gained by besmirching Washington's character, of course. As a matter of fact, it could not be done successfully, if anybody wanted to. His accomplishments stand.

Trying to understand the man is quite another thing. Surely if he liked to dance, or take a drink now and then, or play a hand of cards, that does not detract from his greatness or require any defense. Rather, it makes him likeable, as well as great. Most of us have weaknesses which we hope our fellow human beings will overlook, just as we are willing to overlook theirs.

The Washington to whom we were introduced in classrooms was an awful prig, and would have been a bad companion. His austerity would have repelled any one but a saint. The George Washington we have been getting acquainted with lately seems to have been a pleasant person, and we like him much better.

The Lost Arctic Fliers

The speed and spirit with which the Russian government has responded to American appeals for rescue of the missing aviators, Carl Ben Ellison and Earl Borland, is heartening evidence of readiness to cut red tape when a humanitarian cause is at stake.

On the very day Moscow received the cable appeals of the Interior department and Senator Borah, it acted. Cabling that Moscow was sending a plane from the capital and ordering two other planes in the vicinity of the lost aviators to join in the search, Lavinov, acting commissar of foreign affairs, added: "The Soviet government will be happy if the purpose of the expedition will be achieved successfully."

Recalling the similar courageous Soviet relief work in the case of the Noble dirigible disaster last year, there was of course no reason to doubt Moscow's response in the case of the Americans.

The unfortunate aspect of the situation is that Washington delayed its appeal so long. Why the administration should have waited six weeks before notifying Moscow that those Americans were lost in the frozen desolation of Siberia still is unexplained.

We find it very difficult to accept the current explanation in Washington that it was due to White House and staff department unwillingness to communicate—even unofficially—with a government lacking diplomatic recognition.

It is hardly conceivable that Mr. Hoover would have countenanced such petty quibbling by his subordinates had he personally been aware of the fate of the two lost Americans.

"Peace on Earth"

Some sincere and patriotic citizens of the United States adhere to the conviction that world peace is to be advanced most effectively by war preparedness. One of these is Francis P. Garvan, president of the chemical foundation.

Chemistry, says Garvan in a widely circulated piece of Christmas season publicity, is a greater force for peace than all the pacifism in the land. His own words are worthy of attention in this season of goodwill to men. Hear them:

"Peace pacts and treaties are paper scraps, but the deadly vapors brewed in the chemist's crucible reek with assurances of peace. If ever consumed, the next war will be short, decisive and comparatively bloodless, for solid, liquid and gaseous poisons will

assail belligerents from every front and most plentifully from the sky.

"Steel helmets and bosom plates will be of no avail to the fighting soldier; he must be protected against laughing gases, blistering gases, coughing gases, itching gases, sneezing gases, choking gases, vomiting gases, tear gases and clouds of suffocating smokes. The air will be charged with hazes, fog banks and explosives. The smoke of battle—poetical phrase—is something that will linger days, even weeks, after the fighting legions, for there will be fumes heavier than air that will tarry like pestilence and kill with vengeance.

"The intimidation and slaughter of noncombatants, the razing of cities and destruction of crops, crippling of transportation and sinking of ships will go on simultaneously. Thirty asphyxiating gases were known at the beginning of the World war; today there are more than a thousand.

Bullets or Brains?

History affords plenty of proof that the ship of human progress frequently has been borne forward on billows of blood. Man often exhibits an incredible incapacity to learn by experience or to adapt himself to changing conditions in an orderly and peaceful manner.

Abuses are allowed to become intolerable in spite of endless protests by competent observers and reformers. They are not uprooted until the nuisance finally is advertised by violence, bloodshed and disaster. Then somebody may try to do something about it, though reform always is handicapped when launched in the midst of carnage and heated emotions.

American history affords plenty of examples. Great Britain had to fight the Revolutionary war before she could be induced to make those reforms in imperial legislation and administration which enabled her to save the rest of her colonial empire. The north and south had to go through a bloody Civil war before they could discuss slavery in sane fashion and thresh out knotty issues of constitutional law.

For more than fifty years, scientific students of crime and prisons—often men of great learning and renown—have been protesting against the illogicality of our present system of punishment and the barbarities of our contemporary prisons. They have warned of impending disaster.

Yet our lawmakers and administrators have turned a deaf ear to their suggestions and imprudences. They have answered the proposals of reform by programs of greater severity and brutality. When riots came, because of cruel discipline and long sentences, the answer was more brutal treatment and long terms of imprisonment for the rioters, already driven to desperation by extreme sentences.

We may hope that society will not have to shoot its way into effective prison reform. Brains are more effective and economical than bullets. But if the calm and sound sense of law-abiding reformers can achieve nothing, the lives of a few guards and convicts may not be too high a price to pay for the thorough dislodging of the plot of prison savagery.

It is the hard luck of decent men like Warden Jennings that they have to reap the harvest of a half-century of obstinate refusal to listen to the dictates of reason and science.

REASON By FREDERICK LANDIS

WE boast of our independence, but we are as helpless as a child.

Let a flood put out our gas and electricity and we are on a raft in a sea of cold and darkness; let a coal strike come and millions tremble, lest they freeze and starve; let a blizzard, like our present white-whiskered friend, blow in from Baffin's bay, and we are snowlocked hermits.

We can hand a declaration of independence to Mr. King George, but not to Mrs. Nature.

Frank Ward O'Malley, American writer who left the country on account of the eighteenth amendment and went to Europe to live, states that he is very happy to get away from the United States.

If he would rather be boozed in any other country than thirsty in the United States, we hope he never comes back, and if he gets tired of Europe we will gladly tell him where to go.

A new crop of hyenas is now lying about George Washington.

It's enough to make a fellow take a vow never to become the father of a country.

SEYMOUR LOWMAN, in charge of our customs service, threatens to imprison rich women who smuggle diamonds and furs into the country, instead of letting them off with a fine.

It's a very happy idea and we've wondered for years why nobody did it.

Grundy of Pennsylvania is an eloquent example of the value of audacity.

Had he apologized to that senate investigating committee he would have been lost, but he put on his armor of brass, gloried in the fact that he was a lobbyist and denounced his investigators because they came from little states, whereupon Pennsylvania hailed him as a conquering hero.

This government was strong enough to break the Hindenburg line twelve years ago and it is strong enough today to break the conspiracy of the grain commission men and food pirates to defeat the efforts of the federal farm board to lift the farmer out of the depths by marketing his crops.

RAMSAY MACDONALD'S narrow escape from defeat on the coal mines bill makes one think what a grim jest it would be if he should have to resign before the convening in London of this international naval conference which he has sponsored.

Senator Nye of North Dakota might as well save his time and strength, instead of trying to unsettle Grundy, for the southern states, devoted to the proposition of states rights would rally to the support of the right of a Governor to appoint anybody so long as the appointment is not corrupt.

Secretary of Labor Davis states that "if the demand keeps on growing he may not be able to get out of running for Governor of Pennsylvania. And if it should stop growing, the secretary is good enough politician to know how to handle the oxygen tanks."

The greatest Christmas gift that will be given by anybody in this world is that law appropriating enough money to take care of the disabled veterans of the World war.

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

The Underworld Appears to Be Getting Respectable, With Racketeers Dining With Public Officials.

STRAWs show which way the wind blows, which is enough to make the Johnson case now going on in New York worth more than a passing thought.

Ordinarily such a case would be dismissed as of purely local significance, but this one is too typical of what is going on throughout the country for that.

Whether the evidence thus far brought out is to be relied on, or whether it is just some more of the fantastic adventuring in which the case originated, makes little difference.

The whole performance justly might be described as a flier in racketeering, a rather vivid illustration of how criminals have profited by studying modern social, political and commercial methods.

First, we have a dinner, with not only a judge, an ex-judge, and court attendants present, but at least seven persons with police records.

More amazing still, the dinner is held in a club supposed to be political, but with 68 per cent of its membership ineligible to vote.

Incidentally, the club is named Tepecano for no reason in the world except that some one did not know how to spell Tippecanoe.

Holdup Is Staged

WHILE the dinner is in progress, and more particularly while the judge is making a speech, a holdup takes place, in which not only the guests are relieved of their jewelry and cash, but Detective Johnson of his gun.

Some hours afterwards, and without any assistance on the part of the authorities, the gun is restored miraculously to Johnson, while all the jewelry finds its way back to rightful owners and all the cash excepting \$600, which appears to have been retained by the holdup men as compensation.

Because the show looks rather fishy, Detective Johnson first is demoted and then suspended, with a hearing by Police Commissioner Whalen and an investigation by the bar association as the result.

At the hearing before Police Commissioner Whalen, Inspector Donovan comes forward to explain that the holdup was a fake designed to get back a \$20,000 contract for the murder of Frankie Yale and Frank Marlow which a New York racketeer had entered into with a Chicago gunman, and on which \$5,000 had been paid.

By implication, the racketeer would have been apprehended and lodged in jail, if the police could have found him, which listens all right until a New York Telegram reporter experiences no difficulty in locating said racketeer and getting an interview.

Outgrowth of Politics

THE racketeer—Circo Terranova by name—says that he will surrender any time and submit to questioning by the police, that he is innocent of signing any contract for murder or of staging any fake holdup and that the whole thing is just an episode of the political row now going on between followers of Mayor Walker and followers of ex-Governor Smith.

Whatever one may think of these widely divergent views, there are certain facts with regard to the dinner, the holdup and subsequent events concerning which no doubt exists.

In the first place, Frankie Yale and Frank Marlow were killed.

In the next place, law enforcement officers broke bread with known criminals. In the next place investigators appear to have known enough about the background for earlier and more effective action on their part.

Underworld 'In Right'

THE worst part of it is that such episodes are becoming tragically common.

One constantly hears of this or that racketeer being on surprisingly good terms with this or that alderman or even magistrate.

To a measurable extent, the underworld appears to be getting respectable, especially at dinners in political clubs.

Millions of people condone bootlegging because they do not believe in prohibition.

If that is right, why shouldn't thousands of people condone racketeering because they do not believe in some other law, or because they find it the most effective means to protect themselves against the gang?

This idea that it is justifiable to encourage law breaking because one does not favor some rule, regulation or party has come to exercise a big influence on private opinion.



ALEXANDER
Dec. 28.

ON Dec. 28, 1818, Alexander I of Russia gave his peasant subjects the same right with his nobles to establish manufactures.

Alexander was a liberal and this was one of a number of constructive measures he instituted.

To further uplift the country, he instituted the Imperial bank, and Odessa was made a free port and the laws on debts and mortgages were amended.

Today also is the anniversary birthday of Woodrow Wilson, on Dec. 28, 1856.

And on Dec. 28, 1832, John C. Calhoun resigned as Vice President because of the President's nullification proclamation.

On Dec. 28, 1846, Iowa was admitted to the Union.

Coming on the Run!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Advance Is Made in Difficult Surgery

This is the fourth of a series of six articles in which Dr. Morris Fishbein, editor of the Journal of the American Medical Association, and one of the nation's outstanding authorities on health subjects, summarizes the accomplishments of medical science during the year 1929.

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN,

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

RAYNAUD'S disease is one of the most peculiar conditions known to scientific medicine. In this condition the extremities, either the arms or the legs, become blue and indeed proceed to gangrene.

There are neuralgic pains, diminished sensibilities of the skin and a general sensation of coldness. The disease occurs more often in women between 18 and 40 years of age, although cases are frequently seen in men.

A distinction has to be made between this disease and a similar condition known as Burger's disease or thrombo-angiitis obliterans, in which the blood vessels primarily are involved.

In many instances in Raynaud's disease there seems to be some relation to a severe psychic disturbance, although associated with this there have been crushing accidents of one type or another.

The conditions heretofore seldom have yielded to ordinary methods

of treatment. Some years ago it was suggested that the nerves of the sympathetic nervous system, which control the contraction and relaxation of the blood vessels, might be cut apart and in this way permit free circulation of the blood to the extremities affected by Raynaud's disease.

Recently an operation was performed on a patient with this condition in which the nerve roots were removed. In the hand on the side on which the nerve roots were removed, the temperature was increased and the circulation was improved.

The benefit was so great following the operation on the one side that the patient asked voluntarily for an operation on the other side, with similar good result.

More than three months after the operation the results were still maintained. The procedure is one of the most difficult known to modern surgery, but the results so striking as to cause the investigators to believe that the surgical control of this disease is an accomplished fact.

One of the significant observations of the current year has been the establishment of the fact that life expectancy after forty years of age has decreased by one year during the last quarter century.

The conditions which carry men off after middle age are those asso-

ciated with degenerative diseases, such as high blood pressure, and disease of the heart, kidneys and blood vessels.

It has been the general impression that degeneration of the tissues is to some extent associated with diets containing insufficient amounts of the necessary vitamins which are found particularly in fresh fruits and vegetables. For years the diet of the American people consisted primarily of meat, potatoes, coffee and sugar.

Dr. Lovell Langstroth of San Francisco, carefully recorded the diet of 501 people with degenerative diseases and found that they had eaten few protective food substances. Non-protective foods formed 54 per cent of their diets. If all accessory foods were considered, the non-protective foods formed 88 per cent of their diets.

Bread, butter, meat, potatoes and sweet desserts were the foods most frequently eaten, and with the exception of butter and cream, which are rich in fat soluble vitamin A, these diets are vitamin-poor.

When the patients were put on well-balanced diets with sufficient amounts of the protective substances, the percentage incidence of the degenerative diseases decreased.

Next: The development of tula-

IT SEEMS TO ME By HEYWOOD BROWN

Ideals and opinions expressed in this column are those of one of America's most interesting writers, and are presented without regard to their first or second merit with the editorial attitude of this paper.—The Editor.

BITTERNESS is my lot around Christmas time because this is the season when people display the perfume bottles somebody sent to them.

And I don't suppose perfumes can be "adroit," or "whimsical" or "droll."

By this I mean no disrespect to men who spray their handkerchiefs. I see no reason why perfumes should be restricted to a single sex.

Only a few years ago the wrist watch was denied to men. The war changed that or should have. However, within a week the police chief in Newark advised all members of the force to return their wrist watches to their aunts and sisters.

He seemed ignorant of the universal use of this sort of timepiece by men in every army. Even rings and bracelets are not exclusively the right of women.

At a night club recently I saw Kid Chocolate, most exciting of all the recent fighters. This small Negro pugilist was decked out in two slinky bracelets and four rings. All the better ball players go in for diamond solitaires.

There used to be a good deal in the advertisements about fashioning perfume to the personality.

If that's feasible, it sounds to me like an excellent idea. Under such auspices the night club door-tender would begin unfastening the locks even before he heard the ring and to the bank teller who required an identification the customer might simply pass his handkerchief through the grating.

Modest Violet

BUT, of course, I would never undertake to equip myself with a perfume expressing my individuality. The shopkeeper could fool me too readily.

He might hand me "modest violet" or something like that, saying that this was the essence of my personality and send me out into the world a living and reeking lie. One misses much imagined by being modest.

Daily Thought

Who unto him that giveth his neighbor drink, that putteth his bottle to him, and maketh him drunken also, that thou mayest look on their nakedness!—Habakkuk 2:15.

Man is an imitative creature, and whoever is foremost leads the herd.—Schiller.

Art's Sake

NEVERTHELESS I think it is true that the post of perfume critic must be one of the most trying jobs in the world. He can not say after the fashion of the men in the art galleries, "nice color," nor

What is a blue peter? A blue flag with white square, flown at the foremast of a merchant ship as a signal that the vessel is ready to sail, to recall the crew.

SCIENCE

By DAVID DIETZ

The Great Zeppelin Was Made Possible by the Intensive Research of Chemists.

THE modern Zeppelin owes its greatest debt to chemistry, according to Dr. Harrison E. Howe, editor of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, one of the official journals of the American Chemical Society.

Without helium and duralumin, Dr. Howe points out, the modern development of the airship would not be possible.

Duralumin, an alloy which combines the lightness of aluminum with the strength of steel, makes possible the construction of the huge frameworks of the big ships.

Helium, because of its non-explosive qualities, removes the objections which a large part of the public probably always will feel toward hydrogen, which, of course, is explosive.

The chemist discovered helium and produced duralumin.

Duralumin first was produced in Duren, Germany, by Dr. A. Wilm. It is now one of a number of alloys known as the "hard aluminums." Duralumin is about 94 per cent aluminum with small amounts of copper, manganese and magnesium as a rule.

The magnesium combines with silicon, which is present in the aluminum as an impurity, and gives duralumin its useful characteristics.

Helium exists in small amounts in the atmosphere. The helium used for commercial purposes is extracted from natural gas. A number of gas fields in Texas are rich in helium.

Helium

THE Goodyear Zeppelin Corporation at Akron is building a super-Zeppelin for the United States navy which will employ 6,500,000 cubic feet of helium. The ship is to be known as the ZRS-4.

According to Dr. Howe, the ZRS-4 never would have been if it had not been for helium.

"Records show that we never would have gone ahead with our rigid airship program in the absence of helium," he says. "Had there been no helium, there would have been no Zeppelin, for when funds were required for her construction, the appropriation committee told Admiral Moffet they were supplying money to complete the Shenandoah because helium was available for that ship, but that if hydrogen were ever put into her, appropriations would stop."

"If there had been no Shenandoah, there would have been no Los Angeles, and the building of the Zeppelin organization together, but encouraged the British again to take up lighter-than-air-craft development. "Without this train of important events, it is doubtful if there would have been a ring-lying in Akron last month."

"The success of commercial dirigibles will depend upon the use of helium, because our public will not tolerate the hazard involved with hydrogen."

"It is the work of chemistry and physics which has made the whole enterprise possible, by providing helium in great quantities and in devising means for its purification."

Use

THE story of the discovery of helium is one of the most interesting in the annals of science. It was first discovered not on earth, but in the sun.

In 1868, the French astronomer, Janssen, noted a line in the spectrum of the sun during an eclipse which had not been previously recorded.

Later, Lockyer and Franklin, British astronomers, showed that the line was caused by an element not then known on earth.

Lockyer named it helium from the Greek word "helios," which means "sun."

In 1894, Sir William Ramsay, famous British chemist, showed that slight amounts of helium existed in the atmosphere.

Later it was shown that some gas wells contained helium. The world's chief supply of helium is at the American gas wells which are rich in helium.

A plant built at Ft. Worth, Tex., in 1925, is capable of turning out 1,000,000 cubic feet of helium a month.

The story of helium is a splendid answer to the critic of scientific research who asks "What's the use?"

Times Readers Voice Views

Editor Times—Your paper recently carried the charge that the Christian Science church and its members were using wrong tactics in opposing a new biography of their leader, Mrs. Eddy. Most of the protests against this biography by Dakin have been made by individual Christians on their own initiative. It is possible that some of them, or even a committee on publication, has overstepped the bounds of propriety in making objections. If this is the case, such action has not been instigated nor approved by the church.

It is only fair to state, moreover, that this author and his publishers (Scribner's) have given much reason for provocation, as they have been so ungenerous, both to public and to book stores, that the book is unfairly and unbiassed, which is ethically not. Not only did the publishers refuse the church any opportunity to check the facts regarding Mrs. Eddy's life, but the author has omitted almost every favorable mention that would give her credit.

He neglected to interview any of her friends and associates of many years standing, many of whom now are living. He also took as the basis of his work the account of Georgine Milmine, whom he quotes as having said that she had "searched the whole of Mrs. Eddy's life for a kind, a generous, an unselfish, a fine womanly deed, and would have been only too glad to have recorded it, but had not found one."

This new biographer has taken Mrs. Eddy's life and "jazzed" it with his own improvisations, soft-pedaling the things so that the public is presented with a grotesque picture, which is as far from the original as is modern synopses from classical music.