

# The Indianapolis Times

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

## Legislative Tickets

This county will elect eleven members of the state legislature this fall. These eleven, very probably, will determine the character of laws that are passed at the next session.

It is most important for the voters of both parties to select most carefully the candidates for these positions. If they are the usual sort who are bossed by the seekers of privilege and who put party chicanery above the welfare of the people, nothing will be gained by the aroused sentiment of the state for very definite reforms.

One of the causes of lack of prosperity among classes of citizens, especially the worker and the farmer, is the high cost of government. This can be cured by spending less money. A legislature can perform this service.

A very definite demand for a state-owned cement plant operated with prison labor will be made next year. That might result in the diversion of a part of the twenty millions of dollars raised through tax on gasoline to other purposes with no diminution of any road program.

The American Legion is demanding free school books for all children—a most logical and meritorious advance. This will be fought by publishers who profit from sales of books to families.

There may be a demand for investigations, which have been refused in the past. Legislators who favor giving the people all the facts should be chosen.

In view of the very definite trend of opinion this year away from the party in power, it is highly essential to have good candidates on the Democratic ticket. Two candidates for nomination on that ticket are so outstanding that every Democrat should give the independent voter a chance to vote for them in the fall. John F. White has a long record of unselfish services to the people in offices that lacked glamour but into which he put power. Walter Myers is a lawyer whose abilities and sincerity have made him a potential United States senator. It should be a privilege to have his services in this comparatively minor position.

Whatever else happens in the primary, Democratic voters owe it as a duty to the state to see that these two are named.

This, of course, does not mean that there are not other good candidates on both tickets. But these two are so unusual as aspirants for these positions as to demand a practically unanimous vote.

## The Rich We Have Always With Us

Rich people should not worry too much about Grundy's billion dollar tariff bill. True, it is going to play havoc with business and cut down profits when high priced goods are returned unsold. But the rich at least have the consolation that the proposed law is not going to increase their cost of living much. Indeed, the tariff on many luxuries has been lowered and some have been put on the free list.

The old guard politicians have looked out for their campaign contributors. Everything is arranged to make the working people pay most of the proposed billion dollar tariff tax.

Instead of scaling the rates upward, as in the case of the income tax, the Grundy bill goes easy on the expensive grades of materials and piles the tax on the cheap grades used by working people.

The clothes of working people are made of a little pure wool and much shoddy. So the heaviest Grundy tax is on the rags to make shoddy. The \$30 suit will cost \$35.

Take sweaters and knit goods. On expensive grades the Grundy rate is 60 per cent, on the medium grades, 72 per cent and on the cheap grades, 105 per cent.

So with women's hats. Mrs. Millionaire gets off with 55 per cent on her expensive hats. Medium grades are taxed 62 per cent, but girls who work in stores and factories, and workers' wives, when they buy their hats will be gouged 71 per cent.

It is the same story for house furnishings, china-ware and indeed most of the things in daily use—the cheaper grades are taxed most.

Working people pay the bulk of that billion dollar annual tax. They had to put it on all the cheaper grades of everything used. That is the only grade of goods the people can afford to buy. And it takes a lot of extra nickels and dimes and dollar bills on a lot of articles to make up that thousand million dollars a year.

By the same token, however, it takes a lot of poor folks' vote to elect a congressman.

## Business and the Farmers

Organized business as represented by the United States Chamber of Commerce definitely has arrayed itself in opposition to the policies of the federal farm board.

A resolution adopted at the chamber's annual convention asserts that the board's operations have failed to benefit agriculture and have imposed "unbearable burdens" on business enterprises. It opposes use of government funds to provide capital for co-operatives to deal in farm commodities.

It condemns employment of "public funds for participation in business in competition with established agencies." And, finally, it demands amendment of the agricultural marketing act to make this impossible.

The chamber's program strikes at the very heart of farm relief, as attempted by congress. The theory was that co-operatives were to be fostered and banded together and loaned money by the government, so that they could control the marketing of a sufficient amount of the principal crops to give them bargaining power. Co-operatives were to buy and sell through stabilization corporations. And this is what they have been doing.

Inevitably, success of the co-operative movement means the displacement of some private dealers, speculators and operators. This is responsible for outcry against the board, which originated with grain trade, and gained support among others who

opiate anything that savors of "government in business."

Whether the policies of the farm board are sound or not, certain factors in the situation are clear. Admittedly the farming industry is depressed, and is suffering from an economic disparity with business and industry.

The problem was debated by congress for ten years, and after various proposals were rejected the present law finally was enacted. The farm question was the major issue of the 1928 campaign and the farmers definitely were promised relief.

One of the things promised was limited revision of the tariff to aid agriculture. This has not materialized. The Grundy tariff bill will hurt rather than help the farmers. The same groups opposing the farm board have turned the tariff into an instrument for their own gain. The spectacle of these beneficiaries of government protection so bitterly condemning a similar device for the farmers is absurd.

The farm board has been functioning for nine months, and it was hardly to be expected that it could accomplish a major economic readjustment, affecting more than a third of the population, in that time. It is an experiment and has made and will make mistakes.

It is unfortunate, we believe, that a situation has arisen where business and agriculture are at logger heads. Can business prosper if the farm purchasing power is destroyed?

Chairman Legge of the farm board, Secretary Hyde and others have chieftain business for failure materially to assist in solution of the farm problem in the past decade, and have suggested that if leaders have a better solution they should put it into effect.

What, we wonder, will this solution be, if the farmer is to be deprived of whatever benefits he might gain through the farm board and is to be mulcted through the tariff?

## Modesty Forbids

Senator Fess of Ohio, in his lonely defense of John J. Parker for the United States supreme court, accused us of putting human rights above property rights. We plead guilty.

He also accused us of being the "source" of the opposition to Parker and to supreme court usurpation of powers. We thank him for the compliment, but we can not accept such unwarranted credit.

The "source" of this protest is that body of public opinion which is determined that the supreme court shall cease overriding the laws of congress and the Constitution for the benefit of private interests. The "source" of this protest is that body of public opinion determined to stop the elevation of mediocre political partisans to the supreme bench, where they can oppress the people through court-made law.

This public protest was long in starting, but now that it is here it can not be laughed off and it can not be sneered away.

The defenders of Parker are facing a movement whose source is as wide and deep as the people's love of liberty.

Senator Fess should not make the mistake of overestimating his importance or our own in this great struggle.

## The Mail Pilot's Courage

Consider the things that keep life from being dull for the air mail pilot.

Pilot Harry A. Seivers flies the night mail from Cleveland to Pittsburgh. The other night he was flying over Warren, O., when ice began to form on the wings of his plane, weighting him down badly. Then came a hard snow storm. His plane became unmanageable at a 2,000-foot altitude and went into a spin.

Seivers wore a parachute, and he tried to jump. The centrifugal force of the spin kept him from doing so. He and the helpless plane shot down together. Finally, 200 feet from the ground, he got out. His parachute barely opened. He landed with a thud and was knocked unconscious, but was not seriously hurt.

Thrilling? Undoubtedly; but every air mail pilot is always prepared to face something similar. You might think of that next time you hear a plane whirling over head—think of it, and give a salute to a brave man.

Even though New York will spend \$47,000,000 for educational purposes this year, all the little New York pupils will still pronounce it "bold" and "foist."

## REASON By FREDERICK LANDIS

UNEASY lies the head of the American government, even though it does not wear a crown, and the newly elected President of the United States should gaze long and lovingly at his inaugural procession, for after it march the invisible battalions of turmoil.

Little more than one year ago Mr. Hoover was ushered into office by an avalanche and now he faces enormous expectations this year, all the little New York pupils will still pronounce it "bold" and "foist."

NATURALLY it is galling to one whose fiber has not been toughened by the give and take of politics, to one who never had his patience cultivated by the inherent compromises of statesmanship.

It finished Woodrow Wilson, as you may remember.

Mr. Hoover's sensitiveness was exposed by that letter he wrote to the president of an Ohio college, protesting against the obstacles which were placed in his pathway, for at that time he had not encountered anything comparable with the troubles which his predecessors had borne in silence.

Prior to the presidency he had been accustomed to drive great enterprises straight through; he could mature carefully his plans, then direct others to carry them to a successful conclusion, but while the President of the United States may plan, he can not direct the congress to do anything.

WE must counsel rather than command, and if his suggestions occasion the most puerile opposition he must smile and appear to ponder the absurd. If it were a private project he could fire the whole crowd, but in the White House he must massage those whom he yearns to skin.

In the old days he could tell the help to build a dam or a bridge or open a mine, and they would do it, but if he sends to congress the plans and specifications of a colonial mansion congress is like a hot dog barbecue.

The rugged qualities which make the engineer a star with the India rubber qualities which make the diplomat a star, these are the qualities which Mr. Hoover must possess. He must fly the executive coop, put on a flannel shirt, corduroys and boots, enter a wilderness and tackle a job, free from the tyranny of triviality.

# M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

It Is Time That the Old Charges of Direct Relationship Between the Soviet and Disturbances in This Country Be Cleared Up.

IF authentic, the document made public by Police Commissioner Whalen of New York leave no room to doubt that a direct connection exists between Moscow and Communist agitation in this country. If spurious, a great injustice has been done the Russian government and its representatives abroad.

The issue thus raised should not be left to guesswork and supposition. Either such connection exists, or it does not, and we have come to a pretty pass, if the point can not be established definitely.

Agitation to stir up class hatred is not new in this country. We always have been afflicted with a small noisy element devoted to the gospel of malcontent.

But it is something new if that element is receiving funds and instructions from a political party in absolute control of one of the greatest governments on earth.

But it is something new, if that element is receiving funds and instructions from a political party in absolute control of one of the greatest governments on earth.

Nor can that government excuse itself by pleading that the party is responsible.

## One Party Rules

WHEN we talk about a political party in Russia we are talking about something different from a political party in the United States.

Here we have two, while in Russia there is only one.

That one not only dominates the government, but the Third Internationale, which admittedly is an organization dedicated to promotion of world-wide revolt.

It was wrong, of course, to hold the Communist party responsible, without giving it a day in court.

The British government did that on one occasion, and has been sorry ever since.

Though the documents made public by Commissioner Whalen bear every mark of authenticity, they may be the trumped-up work of clever forgers.

The question of whether they are comes as a distinct challenge, not only to the intelligence service of New York City, but of the federal government.

## Prejudice in Saddle

IT is time that the old and oft-repeated charges of direct relationship between the Soviet and disturbances in this country were cleared up.

On their truth or falsity hinges the question of whether we should recognize Russia, and not only that, but the greater question of what attitude should be taken toward similar disturbances in other countries.

Off and on, there has been a lot of loose talk about this matter. We have heard about a Bolshevik nest in Central America, of collusion between Moscow and a political faction in Mexico, of the red terror in China, and so on ad infinitum.

But when all is said and done, we have not proved very much in a convincing way.

By and large, most of the talk has begun and ended with prejudice.

Too many people have been saying what they thought would please the crowd.

## Labor Takes Hand

LABOR leaders have asserted for a long time that Moscow was pouring money and propaganda into the United States with which not only to stir up a class war, but to demoralize certain important trade unions.

Commissioner Whalen gives labor leaders credit for inspiring the investigation which resulted in the seizure of documents, some of which he just has made public.

Putting that aside, it is logical to assume that trade unionism would be the first object of assault, because it represents the element of industry and society which Communism must have with it to get anywhere.

Trade unionism, organized as it is on the principle of squaring personal rights to the machine age through collective bargaining, represents the one great stumbling block to red propaganda and no one realizes this more keenly than the Communists themselves.

All of which makes the assumption logical that their first efforts would be directed against the American Federation of Labor and that officials of that organization would be first to feel their activities.



## MACHIAVELLI'S BIRTH

—May 3—

ON May 3, 1469, Niccolò Machiavelli, an Italian historian and statesman, was born in Florence, Italy.

At the age of 29 he became first secretary of the Ten—a governing organization—and held the position for fourteen years. His experience gave him a keen insight into the workings of government and he has given an excellent opportunity to study the business of government, which was to influence his later writings.

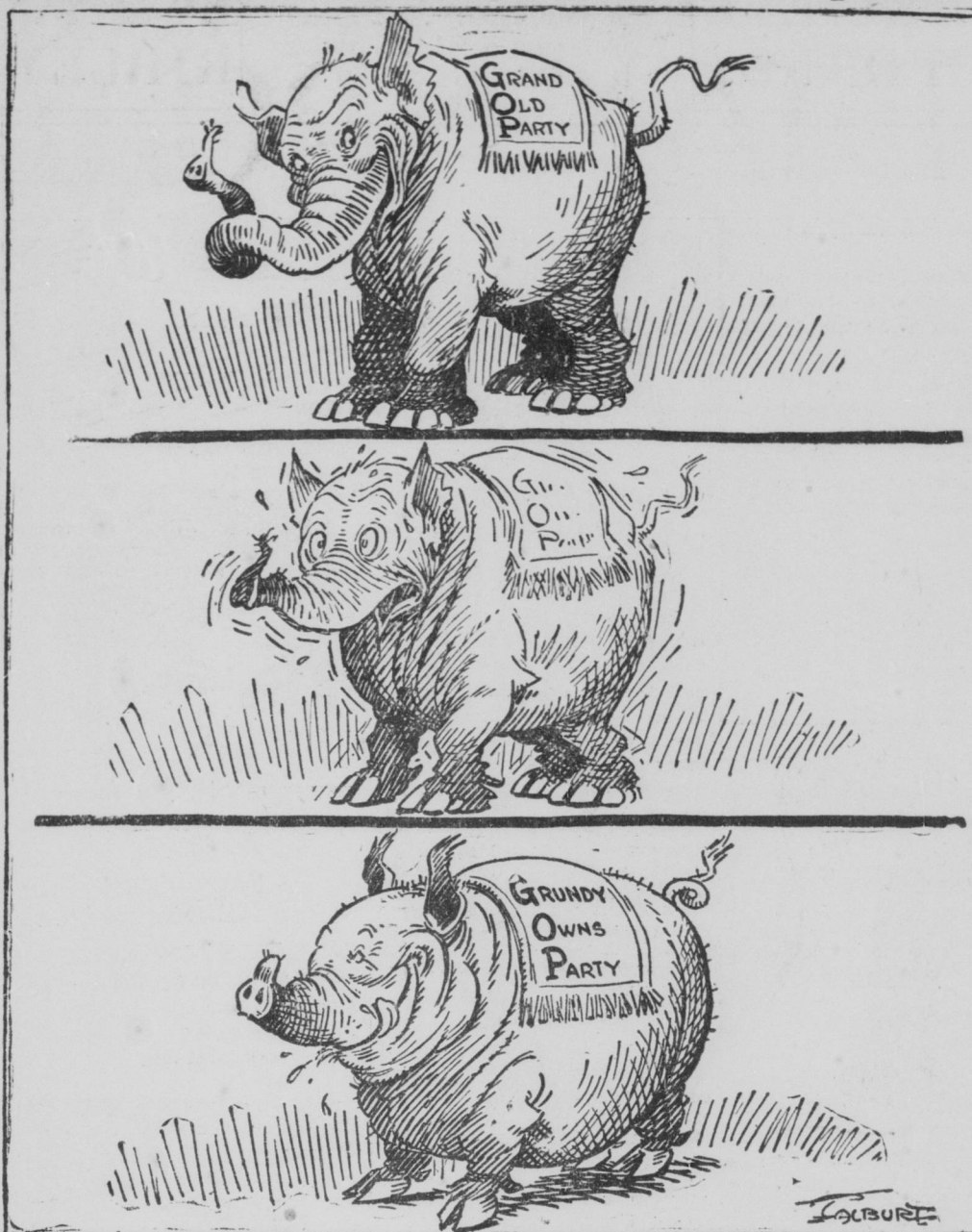
When the republic was overthrown by the Medici, Machiavelli was put to torture and banished for a year. On his return to Florence he turned to writing politics. His chief works were "The Prince" and the "Discourses," and what he set forth in them has been adopted, to some extent at least, by political science today.

He insisted that in politics it was right to deceive to accomplish a purpose. He is frequently criticized for his cynical maxims. In these works, but they represent his deductions from facts actually acquired by close study. He had little faith in aristocrats.

He was the first to present the idea of a United Italy and he showed the "Prince" how that could be brought about.

As one historian has said, Machiavelli has "taught the world to understand political despotism and to hate it."

# Is This What They Are Doing to the Elephant?



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## 'Meddling' by Doctor Aids Childbirth

This is the third of a series of four articles in which Dr. Morris Fishbein discusses modern medical practices in connection with childbirth.

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

PEOPLE who believe that mother nature knows best and that the physician or midwife should not interfere in childbirth, but permit nature to carry out the responsibility as far as possible, do not take into account the scientific records that compare conditions as they were fifty years ago with what they are today.

Recently Dr. J. F. Gibberd has compared the death rates of mothers in childbirth in 20,000 cases, the first series covering the period from 1863 to 1875, and the second period 1918 to 1928.

In the period from 1863 to 1875, forceps were used in 0.51 per cent of the cases, the infant was turned in 0.45 per cent, the Caesarean operation was not used at all, and the instruments were not used in any instance to cause childbirth to begin.

In the second period, forceps were used eight times as often, that is, in 4.5 per cent of the cases; the child was turned in approximately the same number of instances. Caesarean operation was performed in 1.3 per cent of the cases, and instruments were used to begin childbirth in 2.4 per cent of the cases.

Thus, what might be called interference by the obstetrician was carried out in 1.35 per cent of the cases from 1863 to 1875, and in 8.86 per cent of the cases from 1918 to 1928.

The striking fact is that the death rate fell from 4.4 per thousand cases in the first series to 1.93 per thousand cases in the second series. Hence, it is obvious that the modern obstetrician interferes more often, but also to the advantage of the patient.

The modern obstetrician has a more humane standard—when pain seems to be intolerable, when exhaustion is great, or when for any other reason interference seems advisable, he does not hesitate to apply modern methods for the aid of his patient.

## 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 agreement or disagreement with the editorial attitude of this paper.—The Editor.)

DURING the give-a-job campaign anybody had called me to side and whispered, "I got a T. L. for you. Gertrude thinks your ears is immense."

"I seen then that I wasn't no longer a larva and I guess maybe it hurt at first. But its like falling hair or the telephone service or anything else."

"When you have lived with it a while you don't mind. Which is just as well because there ain't a week passes when you wouldn't get touched on the raw if they was any raw left."

"Like for inst. a few wks. back I was up in Boston, where I got a young and beautiful sister-in-law."

When it come time to part from she and her husband she kissed me 6 times, which was suppose to be once for me and once apiece for the Mrs. and 4 kiddies.

"Well, I thought it was pretty nice and got kind of excited about it till I looked at her husband, to see how he took it. To him it was like as if she was kissing an old cab horse on a bet for the benefit of the red cross."

"And when I had left them and they was alone together, instead of leaping at her throat with a terrible curse he probably says, 'Janey, you're a good game gal' and she gave him a kiss that meant something."

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## Times Readers Voice Views

Editor Times—What are the blind of Indiana asking of their sighted fellow-citizens?

They blind of Indiana are asking their sighted fellow-citizens for two things: First, to be treated by the public just as any other normal American citizen is treated, and, second, to be given opportunity to earn an honest living and not to be considered as either a wonder or a freak. Intelligent blind men and women are normal, except that they do not see.

We feel that these demands are both reasonable and natural. But the public is not to blame for these conditions; it is rather the fault of the educators and those who head special industries for the blind provided by the state.

While in school, the sightless boys and girls are given the regular common and high school education, they are made to believe that all they have to do after graduation is to step out of school and demand a position as a finished musician, a first-class piano tuner or an experienced broom-maker.

Disappointment is the inevitable ultimatum, and if they are obliged to go into workshops operated exclusively for blind men and women, in almost every case the heads of various departments are ignorant and have not been trained to superintend those who do not see.

These sighted foremen or foreladies, whichever the case may be, should be just as thoroughly trained to oversee as the blind workers are to work. There is a great deal more of vital importance to being head of a department of blind workers than drawing a salary.

It is then any wonder that the progressive blind men and women of the state are asking the public to help them to help themselves?

MORRIS B. FIELD,  
Chairman legal affairs and publicity committee, Welfare League for the Blind.

Editor Times—Referring to your editorial in the issue of March 13 quoting from George Bernard Shaw on the liquor and labor problems in your comment you say, let Ford, Edison and Rockefeller & Co. devise some economic and social system that will make the existence of the laboring man endurable without resorting to an alcoholic debauch.

Those you mention are all excellent men, but are engaged in other work. They are hardly qualified for

the job. They have money enough to hire some one to devise the system, but the chances are they would hire a man who would use a system for the exclusive benefit of his employers.

On the other hand, if they hired a man full of the spirit of truth, and he should devise a workable system that would be fair to all, there are many who would call him a "bolshevik" and other hard names.

He might be sent to prison. If the wage earner in these days of machinery and mass production ever gets out of his poverty and its attendant evils, he will get himself out, or hire a manager to manage him out.

It is a fact that the unorganized wage earner can not help himself. He has no resources left after he gives to his employer during his nine or ten-hour day, his time, his physical strength, his mind, skill, initiative, and whatever else is required to keep him going strong.

At the end of the day he is tired "all over."

Day after day, year after year, except for periods when he is laid off on account of "over-production," this daily routine goes on. Thinking of the work he is doing for his employer becomes a fixed habit; crowds out everything else; gets into his subconsciousness. He has become a near robot.

In this condition he is the victim of every kind of poison propaganda. As an individual, acting alone, he can not hire a manager or any one else to work for him, but by co-operating with twenty million other workers, they can hire a manager and thousands of assistants, the very ablest men and women in the United States, to give their entire time and abilities to looking after his welfare, always on the job at a cost to each worker of less than 5 cents a day.

There would be results. The existing organizations of workers publish many high-class newspapers and magazines, which, unfortunately, are not read by the workers. The existing organizations must furnish the recruiting agents for the organizations—to be men and women full of the Holy Ghost. Their mission shall be to spread the truth and "the truth shall set them free." The half has not been told.

EUGENE C. BUTLER,  
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# SCIENCE

—BY DAVID DIETZ—

Eclipses Roused Fear and Stirred Superstition When They Occurred in Ancient Times.

ECLIPSES of the sun, because of their dramatic and startling appearance, always have attracted the attention of mankind.

The solar eclipse of April 28 was a matter of scientific study for the astronomer and of popular interest for the layman. But there was a time when eclipses were greeted with fear and superstition.

It is not surprising, therefore, that ancient literature should contain many references to eclipses of the sun.

These have proved of great value to the historian. For the astronomer can calculate when eclipses occurred in the past as well as calculate when they will occur in the future.

"The Canon of Eclipses," for example, prepared by Professor T. R. Oppolzer in 1887 for the Vienna Academy of Sciences, contains the dates of all eclipses from 1207 B. C. to 2162 A. D.

Among the most famous students of ancient eclipses is Dr. J. K. Fotheringham, reader in ancient astronomy and chronology at the University of Oxford, England.

Dr. Fotheringham considers a reference in the Chinese annals as that of the oldest eclipse on record. The exact date of the eclipse is difficult to calculate because of the lack of data. It was either in the neighborhood of 2159 B. C. or 1592 B. C. Dr. Fotheringham favors the latter date.

## Drink

THE story of this ancient eclipse is an interesting one. In the "Documents," it is stated that Hsi "Shu King" or "Book of Historical and Ho, the hereditary astronomer, were neglecting their duties and abandoning themselves to drink in their private cities. (Alas, there seems to have been a liquor problem even in 2000 B. C.)

The king, Chung K'ang, sent the Marquis of Yin with an army to punish them. Before starting on the expedition, the marquis made a long speech to his troops in which he said that the two astronomers were so lax in their duties that they had not even been aware of a recent occasion on which "the sun and moon did not meet harmoniously."

This phrase, as Dr. Fotheringham points out, is accepted by all students of Chinese literature to mean an eclipse of the sun.

Unfortunately, the part of the "Shu King" in which the passage quoted occurs is believed to be a literary restoration made to replace books which were burned by imperial order in 213 B. C. There are other records, however, which lead authorities to accept the reference to the eclipse as an authentic one.

Two other eclipses, one of the moon and one of the sun, mentioned in Chinese records, have been definitely identified as those which occurred on Aug. 21 and Sept. 6, 776 B. C.

These eclipses are mentioned in a lamentation which occurs in the "Shih King" or "Book of Poetry."

## Greek

AN eclipse of the sun is mentioned in the "Odyssey," the famous poem in which the Greek poet, Homer, told of the wanderings of Ulysses I, or Odysseus, to give him his Greek name, after the Trojan war.

Ulysses, it will be recalled, finally reached his home after many exciting adventures. He came home in disguise and found his wife besieged by a group of suitors who demanded that she choose one among them.

On the day that Ulysses is to make his presence known and kill the suitors, Theoclymenus, the seer, notes many portents of the coming event. Among others, he notes that "the sun has perished out of heaven and an evil mist has spread over all."

Some authorities have suggested that this was the eclipse of April 16, 1178 B. C., which was total in or near Ithaca, the home of Ulysses. Most authorities, however, are inclined to feel that the reference is merely literary and does not necessarily represent an actual eclipse.

A solar eclipse of April 6, 648 B. C., is thought to be the one meant in a poem by Archilochus, which says:

"Nothing there is beyond