



The Indianapolis Times

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

Supreme Brazenness

Driven from the first campaign strategy of attempting to get back into office by raising the cry of "Help Hoover," state officials seeking re-election, and especially devious of avoiding what to them would be the calamity of legislative inquiry, now have the supreme brazenness to assert that their records entitle them to public confidence.

Some weeks ago the Governor of the state, to whom the thought of a Democratic majority in the house of representatives is a nightmare, tried to delude the voters by declaring that the tax rates under Ralston were higher than under his administration.

When the truth was told that the total state taxes are four times today what they were under Ralston, Leslie tried to placate the voters with the statement that the people receive more of government and more benefits.

This is true, but the changed positions should cause the voters to scrutinize carefully any statement he may make in the future for the hidden misrepresentation through half-statements or misstatements.

Administration of the office of secretary of state by Otto Fifield has been so far from ideal as to cause disgust and open denunciation by leading members of his own party.

His handling of auto drivers' licenses, with the payment of thousands of dollars for a copyright on an official form which it was the duty of Fifield to prepare, with the distribution of these licenses by favored politicians, who mulcted every driver of the state of a 25-cent notary fee, indicates his viewpoint on public office.

His blue-sky department leaves much to be desired.

His state police had been politicians first and policemen when the political interests of Fifield did not demand their time. The higher paid jobs have been given not to men of experience in any form of police work, but to machine politicians.

From the day Fifield was swept into office by the Hoover landslide he has had the illusion that his large patronage and political machine would make him Governor in 1932.

This, of course, is not an impossible prospect if the people of Indiana are so blind to their own interests as to re-elect him this fall.

As for State Auditor Bobbitt, his assertion that his office had detected and exposed gasoline bootlegging does not coincide with the facts.

The truth is that complaint was made to Bobbitt by Lenn J. Oare, former judge and leading attorney of St. Joseph county, a Republican never known to desert under any circumstances, on behalf of a client who objected to the unfair competition with a concern which had established a string of filling stations and was underselling him because it paid no tax to the state.

The further fact is that it took two weeks to get any action whatever. When a final settlement with the bootlegger was made, on a basis which certainly was not advantageous to the state, the more valuable filling stations of this tax dodger were owned and operated by the son of Otto Fifield's chief assistant and campaign manager.

The truth is that newspapers and interested competitors have furnished Bobbitt with information on which he has collected any tax from the bootleggers.

With Bobbitt and Fifield asking re-election on such records and with Governor Leslie frantically attempting to avoid a Democratic legislature which might examine his huge emergency fund, and his highway commission, the citizens of Indiana should have little difficulty in deciding how to vote.

None of Our Business

By selling the Brazilian federalists our own army materials and by prohibiting the private American sale of arms to the rebels, the Washington government has in effect intervened in the Brazilian civil war.

We believe such a policy is a grave blunder. It is not for a United States government, which was born of revolution, to deny similar rights to others. It is not just to help one side in a civil war at the expense of another—unless we are willing to accept responsibility for the foreign government we thus help to perpetuate.

It is not expedient to incur the enmity of a large revolutionary group, which tomorrow may assume control in Brazil, as similar revolutionary groups just have won power in Peru, Argentina and other Latin American countries.

A juster and wiser policy would embargo arms shipments to both sides. After all, the Brazilian civil war is none of our business.

Too Expensive

Another mine explosion... another dreadful tale of death.

It happened in Germany this time. It has happened here and it may again tomorrow, for there are no laws compelling mine owners to protect their men. Some mines are rock dusted, others are not. The bureau of mines has worked out this comparative safeguard, but can not force its adoption.

In Germany today there are probably a hundred men for every one who was killed waiting a chance to go to work in the mine, ready to risk the lives they otherwise might lose by starvation. In the United States as many men would wait, likewise, outside a deadly mine shaft.

But supply and demand should play no part in a matter of safety and lives.

It will do no good to feel sorry when headlines scream another story of disaster.

A Chicken for Every Pot

Only the meanest of Democrats would hold the Republican party entirely responsible for the present hard times. As Calvin Coolidge pointed out the other day, nobody can be blamed for the drought. And we know that the economic depression is world wide.

This being true, it may seem unfair to reprint at this unhappy moment some of the promises made by the Republican party management during the golden months of 1928. Nevertheless, we propose to do just that and then to explain why.

There appeared shortly before the 1928 election an advertisement entitled "A Chicken for Every Pot." Consider some of its phrases:

"The Republican party isn't a 'poor man's party'; Republican prosperity has erased that degrading phrase from our political vocabulary. The Republican party is equality's party—opportunity's party—democracy's party, the party of national development, not sectional interests—the impartial servant of every state and condition of the Union."

"Republican efficiency has filled the workingman's dinner pail—and his gasoline tank, besides—made telephones, radios and sanitary plumbing standard household equipment, and placed the whole nation in the silk stocking class."

"Republican prosperity is written on fuller wage envelopes, written in factory chimney smoke, written on the walls of new construction, written in savings bank books, written in mercantile balances, and written in the peak value of stocks and bonds."

"Republican prosperity has reduced hours and increased earning capacity, silenced discontent, put the proverbial 'chicken in every pot.' And a car in every back yard to boot."

Which ought to be about enough of that already. You are asking:

Why bring that up?

Not because of a desire to point out that little or any of it is true now or was at the time it was printed. Not to point out that the Republican party was claiming credit in 1928 for good times that it hadn't invented or manufactured or even intelligently promoted. Any party in power would have made the same claim.

Nor is it because we wish to remind the Republican management that the party actually is responsible for some of our present hard times. The erection of a tariff that already has cut seriously into our foreign trade, for instance. The refusal to put through a program to forestall widespread unemployment, on the one hand, and the unemployed on the other.

No, it has nothing to do with the party's sins in the past. It has to do with the present and future.

For the Republican party is on the stump in the present congressional campaign, not promising to undo the damage done through the tariff, but defending its suicidal action. Not promising to expedite measures to safeguard against future unemployment, but preserving a clammy silence on this all-important subject.

While this is the attitude of the party's responsible spokesmen in 1930, we feel a reminder of the platinum promises of 1928 is not out of place.

The stock market is in the doldrums this year; some one says, because the numerals of 1930 add up to 13. The only significance many will see in this explanation is the connection between their resources and the zero.

A North Carolina bootlegger who asked for a year at Atlanta rather than eight months at a local jail showed qualities of good salesmanship. He tried to sell himself.

John Doe, United States tennis champ, is selling advertising space for a New Jersey newspaper. It should be easy work for a fellow who so often has cried on the courts, "My Ad!"

A steamship line reports that 75 per cent of the reservations are made by women. Is this what is meant by birth control?

A jazz band, a news items says, plays daily in a London railway station. And maybe the fellow with the megaphone croons the train announcements.

A riot ensued in the German reichstag when Fasces appeared in khaki shirts and Communists in red ones. The colors clashed.

A New Jersey dentist advertises to exchange dental bill.

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

OUR old friend, Senator Hiram Johnson of California, spoke disapprovingly the other day of the "blowing" of millions of dollars to help the price of farm products, which is a surprise, since Johnson always has been for anything calculated to help the country as a whole.

Of course, if California produced corn and wheat, the senator would look at it differently and he doubtless would endorse it if the money were spent in buying grapes, figs, almonds and other products of the sunstate.

We always have gone on the broad idea that what helped or promised to help any great section of the country was the concern of everybody and when we stop looking at it in this light we might as well shut up shop, for the general welfare is the supreme law.

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M. E. Tracy SAYS:

Political Progress Rests
Largely on the Overthrow
of Despotic Governments.

PRESIDENT HOOVER puts an embargo on arms for the Brazilian revolutionists.

Many people will applaud his action as in line with the peace movement and as indicating this government's intentions to discourage war.

Others will prefer to think it over before committing themselves.

Let's not be too impatient with the latter.

Not only the specific case on which President Hoover is acting, but the general policy his action represents, merit careful consideration.

Peace as an ideal condition is one thing. Peace at the price of entrenched tyranny is quite another.

Sometimes revolution is both necessary and deserving of support. We Americans are lucky that France felt that way about it in 1789.

The idea of backing up every government we recognize has its risks.

Give Credit to Revolution

POLITICAL progress rests largely on the overthrow of despotic governments.

More often than not, the overthrow has been accomplished by revolution.

As a matter of record, revolution is the one form of violence which can show much to its credit.

International strife, as made possible by huge military establishments, represents a problem different from the uprisings of people who seek relief from oppression.

If the peace movement ignores this difference, it may do more harm than good.

Before we line up too irrevocably against revolution, regardless of its cause or circumstances, we should remember that our own government

is the one that is most to blame.

It is quite possible to get along without the thyroid gland, since some of the other glands of the body will take up the functions, and since thyroid can be given in tablet form.

The chief functions of the gland seems to be to control and stimulate the growth of tissues in general; to control and stimulate the various changes that go on in the human body; to neutralize poisonous substances produced in the body chemistry; and to assist the tissues in their defense against the poison created by bacteria.

In these instances shall fail to grow, they develop a stupid appearance, the skin is dry, the tongue projects and the mentality is inhibited. These stages represent the most severe forms of lack of action of the thyroid gland.

It was thought for long that only these severe stages required attention. More recently, since the glands of internal secretion have been subjected to extended investigations, it has been found that there are many instances in which the thyroid gland is deficient to a lesser degree, still producing symptoms, but not to the point of deformity and abnormality that has been mentioned.

Fathers Did Pretty Well

THE fathers of this public seem to have regarded recognition as little more than a necessary business arrangement, and as carrying no implication whatever with respect to their attitude.

If they felt a revolution was justified, they did not let a little thing like diplomacy stand in the way of their outspoken approval.

They found it possible to harbor refugees without breaking off relations and to denounce tyranny without recalling diplomatic representations.

Maybe they are wrong, but it is only fair to say that they not only got along pretty well, but contributed quite a bit toward modernizing and improving government throughout the civilized world.

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Every one now knows that there are some districts in this country, particularly in the Great Lakes region, in which a deficiency of iodine results in changes in the thyroid gland.

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