



The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)
Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-220 West Maryland Street, Indianapolis, Ind. Price in Marion County, 2 cents a copy; elsewhere, 3 cents—delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week.

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TUESDAY, OCT. 28, 1930.

Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Newspaper Information Service and Audit Bureau of Circulations.

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

A Little Too Quick

Once more the mask is off the Republican state committee and it stands revealed as unpatriotic, un-American, destructive of every American tradition, by the injection of religion into politics.

The committee, heirs of Stephensonism, who first won power by his appeals to race and religious prejudice now have the brazen temerity to appeal to the very races and religions which, for a number of years, they placed under humiliations, denied normal social and political and business rights, and in every way treated with contempt and brutality.

If there be any who doubt that the state committee of the so-called Republican party—but which really represents what is left of the Stephenson plunderbund—is responsible for an appeal to religious prejudices in this campaign, the evidence is to be found in the paid advertisements circulated in publications going to the Catholic, the Jew and the negro.

The paid advertisement carries the signature of the Republican state committee and appeals to Catholics, as Catholics, not as American citizens, to vote against Democratic congressional candidates because of the fear of Heflin influence in Congress, the same Heflin who so often came as the paid speaker for the same men who control the state committee and its policies, to arouse hate against the Catholic.

Such appeal should be resented by every decent citizen who has any regard whatsoever for the fundamental policy of this country, that there must be a separation of church and state, and that religion has no place in politics.

The Times and this editor have an unbroken record of denouncing any attempt to inject religion into politics. It has at times been a costly policy to defend this American tradition.

It was The Times which stamped out the organized Klan in this state. It was The Times which protested, two years ago, when a bold "back to your pulpits" appeal was made by Mabel Willebrandt to Methodist ministers to defeat Al Smith, although this newspaper was the first paper in the state to support Herbert Hoover—before the regular party organs which now use his name as a cloak for local malefactors on their ticket.

The mingling of religion and politics means the end of every tradition of the founders of this nation. It is treason to real Americanism.

The state committee has forfeited every right to respect or confidence. Its religious appeal should be resented at the polls by all citizens of every religion and every creed.

The quick change from a nightgown to a cassock should fool no one.

This Is the Limit

Coffinism prefers a weak prosecutor to a strong one, if it fails to name its own man. That is why it now supports Judson Stark for re-election.

But it hardly was to be expected that a bold and open appeal that amounts to coercion would be made to families of convicts in Michigan City, the penal farm and Pendleton, most of whom pleaded guilty.

Such appeal was made in the Sunday Star, which showed Stark with his little black book, in which was written the record of every man in prison.

Then it was announced, "The prosecutor calls it his pardon and parole book." The signature of the prosecutor is necessary on every application for pardon, parole or commutation. The implication is plain. It will be understood thoroughly by those seeking clemency for their relatives in jail. You may be sure that they are not vocally opposing Stark.

London Pact Not Enough

President Hoover did well yesterday, in his world broadcast on the deposit of ratifications of the London naval treaty, in suggesting that the nations proceed to further limitations of armament.

Premier Hamaguchi of Japan, in the same broadcast, did even better by stating that now is the time to begin. "The moment is favorable for a wide extension of the policy of disarmament embodied in this treaty," he said.

All the rejoicing over the London pact is worse than futile unless France and Italy reach a separate limitation agreement, by which they will join in the only effective provisions of the London treaty.

That treaty, it will be recalled, is not even binding in its tonnage limitations on the United States, Great Britain and Japan if France and Italy proceed with unrestricted naval building.

Therefore, one of the most serious of many disquieting factors in the present dark international situation is the complete breakdown of the long Franco-Italian naval negotiations.

It no longer is a secret that most of the European governments today are preparing with increased military expenditures for another great war. The nations meeting at Geneva last month refused to call a 1931 disarmament conference, to which they previously had agreed tentatively.

Premiers and foreign ministers at that Geneva meeting admitted that the European situation was more critical than at any other time since the World War. And this is true despite the Kellogg and Locarno pacts and the London naval treaty.

Unless the nations are willing to put teeth into the Kellogg pact outlawing war, and to stop their armament race soon, another war is highly probable.

Not a Best Seller

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Football's Pull Lies Largely in the Fact That It Is a Revenue Producer for Other Sports.

RICHLAND, Va., Oct. 28.—Since leaving New York five weeks ago, I have traveled 2,500 miles by auto through six states, stopping at innumerable filling stations for luncheons and passing one night or more in fifteen cities.

Thus far not a single man or woman has introduced the subject of politics. In each and every instance I have had to start the conversation, and with the exception of a few professional interviews it seldom has lasted more than a few minutes.

Even that good old stand-by, prohibition, can't be depended on. After just enough has been said to show whether those present are sailing under wet or dry colors, the talk usually degenerates into a discussion of local price, quality and service.

A School Tragedy

AT this precise moment, the people of Richmond appear more interested in a strike just staged by the John Marshall high school football squad than in how the next congress will line up.

The principal suspended five players because they were more than 23 years old, which is against the rules of the Virginia Literary and Athletic Association. The remaining twenty-nine voted to strike, unless these five were reinstated, and appointed a committee so to inform the principal.

The principal received the committee, listened to its ultimatum and then called the season off, just like that. Unless he relents, or is overruled, John Marshall will play no more football this year. What is equally tragic, will experience great difficulty in finding the needed cash to support its track, basketball and baseball teams.

Football has been woven into our educational system, not only as a sport, but as a revenue producer for other sports. In that, more than in anything else, lies its pull.

A Wasted Diary

EDWARD V. VALENTINE, the great sculptor, who died in Richmond Oct. 19, kept a diary for more than seventy years. His will, just published, provides not only that it shall be burned, but that no one shall be allowed to read it. What a pity; what a waste of time!

No doubt that diary contained some very intimate things, and no doubt Mr. Valentine shrank at the thought of others reading them, but they are the things which hold the real story for future generations.

Formal history never has, and never will give us much but the tinsel, bench side show of life. It takes a Pepys, a John Evelyn, or an Ezra Stiles, to paint the true picture.

Mussolini Roars Again

SPAKING of Rome, Mussolini is at it again, scolding the world for not getting down on its knees to Fascism, and pretending to hear war music in every wind that blows.

While England, Japan, and our own country are exchanging felicitations on the naval pact, he beats the drum. The inopportune of his noise is about as disagreeable as its character, yet Il Duce couldn't be himself and do otherwise. Mussolini is evidently a tyrant and disturber.

Certainly it is important that Wilbur and others should not be victimized by hasty critics who pre-judge the case. But it is equally important that the charges be proved or disproved definitely, and the government's oil shale land policy be shaped accordingly.

Milwaukee brewers, anticipating the return of beer, already have installed manufacturing apparatus. Just to get the hop on the next fellow.

Four colleges in the Western Conference have eliminated football captains this year. It will be encouraging if the movement spreads to cheer leaders.

Judging from the time they had at the Boston convention, the Legionnaires are apparently able to distinguish now between revile and revelry.

It is said that the broadcasting company which engaged Bernard Shaw, dramatist, for his radio talk, expected him to give a play-by-play description.

"Bargain Sales Banned by Chinese Merchants." Headline. Probably by the peace-loving type, determined to stop counter-attacks.

"A surprising proportion of young men today," says an English writer, "are actually incapable of raising mustaches." So it looks like they'll have to take it on the chin.

Certain meat packers in Chicago are reported putting out sausages in tins to match your breakfast rooms. Has the worst come to worst?

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REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

GREAT BRITAIN bitterly is criticised for alleged omission in her government of Palestine, but Mr. Bull probably thinks that when millions of Englishmen are hungry, the people of Palestine will have to put their troubles on ice for the time being.

Men simply couldn't conceive of such a thing 100 years ago, much less admit the possibility of carrying it out.

Unlucky is the nation on whose flag the sun never sets and lucky the nation that can stay at home and mind its own business.

Uncle Sam can do this, except for occasional eruptions in the West Indies and Central America.

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