



The Indianapolis Times

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

Our New Officials

Today the state is served by two new officials.

The office of secretary of state passes into the hands of Frank May Jr. Mr. Williamson becomes state auditor.

Their predecessors paid the penalty of playing politics instead of giving service to the people.

Any other two citizens, fortunate or unfortunate enough to receive the Democratic nominations, would have been elected. They owe their prominence to the indignation of an outraged public which rebelled against the practices and policies of the old machine.

The Times had some small part in arousing that indignation, but it gives no bond for the new officials.

The Times believes that these offices and all offices should be conducted with no thought of partisan advantages. Because the outgoing officials held a different view, they now go.

It would be unfortunate if the new officials adopted any policy which duplicated that of their predecessors. That way leads to disaster.

The Times has no interest in a Republican party or in a Democratic party. It has a very great interest in Mr. Common Citizen of Indiana.

To the new officials, The Times offers its best wishes for a successful administration. It also offers to them the strict promise that any derelictions will be as faithfully reported as were those of the officials they succeed.

The sign boards are quite plain. Politics must be adjourned or the power will be brief.

Labor Secretary

President Hoover wanted to appoint William N. Doak secretary of labor. For two years he entertained the desire. The only thing that stood in the way was the fact that the greater part of organized labor seemed to have an active distaste for Doak.

The time was getting shorter and shorter. Jim Davis couldn't be kept in this anomalous position much longer; a ten-year anomaly is almost unique, even in American politics; and, in any case, Jim was due to take his seat as United States senator from the great and sovereign state of Pennsylvania.

Then on Thursday William Green stepped in and solved the President's problem. The President got one of those breaks that characterized the career of his careful predecessor. Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, announced publicly that he would oppose the appointment of anybody not a member of his organization.

Of course, Green had been telling the President this privately for some time, but that was just between the two of them. When he said it publicly, however, there wasn't anything for a President with a nickel's worth of political sense to do but assent his right to name anybody he pleased to his cabinet. So he named Doak.

Doak will take office with the knowledge that he is more acceptable to Republican politicians than to that part of the population he is supposed to represent. Inquiry reveals that the railroad brotherhoods, one of which he belongs, are little more enthusiastic over the appointment than are the A. F. of L. unions.

They regard him as a labor politician, if you know what that is; they think of him as a politician first and a labor leader second.

At that, Doak may not make the President a bad political advisor in the field of labor. He is shrewd and plausible. He may be able to persuade the President now and then that it is good politics, if nothing else, to meet the desires of labor in matters of legislation and administration. He can do this if he doesn't devote his whole time to persuading labor to meet the desires of the President.

This would be a wise way, incidentally, in which to start his career in high office. For obviously he already has the confidence of the President and it seems he has the confidence of labor yet to get.

Other labor leaders haven't forgotten that Doak ran out in 1924, when, led by his own railroad brotherhoods, organized labor declared for La Follette. Doak declared for Coolidge.

Doak may have only two years in which to work. He knows what labor wants—relief from labor injunctions, intelligent unemployment legislation, and so on. He seems to have the President's ear and he'll do well to start talking.

Utility Statistics

Just as debate starts on the need for more regulation of power companies, the census bureau says it will stop publishing the gross and net earnings of these and other utilities.

The industries publish their own figures, the bureau says, and government statistics are unnecessary.

Without impugning the honesty of the utility companies, we're not so sure of that. The federal trade commission's figures for interstate power movement in 1928 are very much larger than those of the National Electric Light Association. And the bureau of labor statistics figures for average cost of power per kilowatt hour in 1928 are larger than those of the National Electric Light Association.

The census bureau has not, apparently, been doing a very complete job on utility statistics in the past. But instead of doing less, it seems advisable that it should do more.

Congress Opens

Congress opens today in a haze of hot air about coalition, and attempts to force a special session next March. This hot air comes from leaders maneuvering for party advantage in the next presidential election. It should be discounted at the outset.

Behind the political barrage the facts of the situation are fairly clear. No one wants to jam this short session and force a special session. The Republicans want to escape as long as possible the new Congress in which their power will be reduced.

The Democrats are in no hurry to undertake the responsibilities and political perils involved in their increased strength. And politicians of both sides are smart enough to know that the public opposes an extra session and will make it unhealthy for any group which forces one.

Naturally, the conservatives of both parties are

trying to put the edict of obstruction upon the progressives. The public mind is being prepared by propaganda so that, in event of a bitter fight and a legislative jam, the public will blame the progressives.

But the fact is that the chief danger of effective obstruction is from the G. O. P. old guard and Democratic conservatives. The major pending issues, in addition to the annual appropriation bills, still are in the legislative mill solely because of conservative obstruction in the past.

The Wagner unemployment relief bills have been blocked for two years by the administration. Muscle Shoals was blocked for years by the old guard, then pocket-vetoed by Coolidge, and then delayed again last spring by the Republican dictatorship in the house after the senate had acted.

Likewise, the conservatives long have prevented a fair hearing for the anti-injunction measure. The Norris amendment, eliminating lame-duck sessions of congress, of which the present is a sorry example, has passed the senate several times, only to be killed by house reactionaries.

That leaves only the world court—another matter which would have been disposed of last year had it not been buried by the administration. If the administration will co-operate in passing the long overdue unemployment, Muscle Shoals, anti-injunction and lame duck legislation, plenty of time will be left for the world court.

Not much time is needed, for here is another issue which has been debated for years. The minority can be given the necessary time to restate its opposition—and no time need be wasted advocating court membership, to which a large majority of the country and the senate already are committed thoroughly. Then the vote can be taken.

There will be no special session of the new congress unless the administration makes one necessary. It is up to the administration, which was ordered in the November election to reverse its legislative policies.

Advertising Policies

"The firm which eliminates or radically curtails its advertising at this time in the interest of economy is pursuing a short-sighted policy," says Dr. Julius Klein, assistant secretary of commerce, in a statement to Sturges Dorrance, prominent New York advertising expert.

"Advertising," explains Dr. Klein, "is to national business at the present moment just what initiative, courage and resourcefulness are to an individual. All signs indicate that we have reached the bottom of the decline and indeed in some places we are gradually moving upward."

"Never was there a better opportunity for sound management, coupled with advertising having a real message, to help the business of the country get started on its climb back to prosperity."

There is a good deal of sound sense in that. The business man who cuts down his advertising in time of stress hardly can have any call for complaint if his sales fall off.

Inherited Wealth

A writer in the current North American Review points out that the United States, while it produces the world's wealthiest men, does not seem to produce enduring dynasties of wealth that last generation after generation. He remarks that even the great Astor fortune, handed down from John Jacob himself, is now only about a third as large as it was a generation ago. The Carnegie and Frick fortunes pledges in good faith, which is where plain people were fooled

gloriously and was left that way on purpose.

Of all the contracting parties, Germany alone made specific promises and put herself in a position where their fulfillment could be forced. The others were left free to quibble, sidestep, and evade, yet plain people, especially in America, accepted their ambiguous pledges in good faith, which is where plain people were fooled

gloriously and was left that way on purpose.

This condition, preventing the formation of a solidified "upper class" maintained by inheritance of great wealth, probably has had a lot to do with keeping our traditional democracy alive.

One would like to be able to look into the future and see if it will continue. Will it? Or are the Fords, the Rockefellers and the Mellons founding families that will hold their enormous riches through generation after generation?

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There have been 640 different makes of automobiles since the birth of the auto industry, says a statistic. And most of them, of course, since have been re-tired.

Today's worst pun: Russia should be able to get credit among other nations because it has so much ready money.

Many a judge thinks that because staccato writing is the rage nowadays, he, too, can make his sentences short.

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

SOME of those who are sufficiently innocent to persist in the belief that world peace can be attained by passing a law against war urge President Hoover to call the nations together and get them to grind out the necessary legislation.

But trouble with this proposition is that the law against war will be a joke unless there is a prayer, somewhere, able to punish the nation or nations that violate the law by going to war, and the only power that could do this would be an international army.

And this brings us back to the same old idea of having Uncle Sam go into partnership with other nations to police the planet, to send money, men and armament whenever and wherever a majority of the nations belonging to the outfit shall decree.

Course, without a club behind such an enactment, it would have no more power than a bay rum advertisement painted on the Alps.

There are any force in agreements the world already is amply taken care of, for the nations solemnly have signed the Kellogg treaty, agreeing to abstain from war.

Of course, the average man puts little stock in the preventive value of this parchment, since all the nations that signed it are grinding out guns and training soldiers as if the actual date of the opening of hostilities were fixed for January, 1931.

If they must fight, let them go to it, and if moral suasion can't make them be good, then we are done, for we certainly will not put Uncle Sam into a permanent coat of mail and take off his white beaver and hand him a steel helmet.

We wish they might cease being outlaws and become civilized; we wish they might be given a sense of humor, sufficient to realize the pathos of struggle among a bunch of midgets, infinitesimally small, in the light of time and eternity. But if they just can't keep their fists out of other people's faces, then all we can do is to sit tight and mind our own business.

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M. E. Tracy SAYS:

It Is Poor Politics and Worse Statesmanship to Put the World Court Matter Before Congress at This Time.

DESIRABLE as our entry into the world court may be, and needless as our daily dallying may have been, it is poor politics and worse statesmanship to put the matter before congress at this time. The regular session is too short, the necessity for dealing with domestic problems too urgent, and the political situation too precarious. We have no time to waste on avoidable or doubtful issues.

With three or four million people still out of work, and with business still in a slump, it is our own house that calls for attention. The world court has done very well without us thus far. There is no reason to suppose that it could not worry along for a year or two more.

Let's Tend Own Business

If Europe were not facing a multitude of troubles which are distinctly European, and if we were not facing a multitude of troubles distinctly American, the case would be different.

There has been no time since the war, however, when both Europe and America better could afford to mind their own business and give each other a rest.

We can do little, if anything, to clear up the hopeless snarl caused by Mussolini, Bolshevism, the treaty of Versailles, and its hangover of backstairs diplomacy. Europe can do even less toward curing our ills.

Whether the European situation is full of dynamite, as some people seem to think, it certainly is full of hokum. Outside of Germany, which was forced to scrap her military stores and reduce her military establishment to 100,000 men, the disarmament program has run to battleships, with France promising not to build too many if she is permitted to maintain the largest land force in Europe.

Twelve years have not given us time enough to get over the largely manufactured emotions of 1917. We still are inclined to regard everything France does with sympathy, and everything Germany does with suspicion, and even so, Dr. Groener, the German defense minister, has not made a wholly unfavorable impression here by his bitter attack on the disarmament program and the way it is working out.

Advertising Policies

WHEN Germany was compelled to disarm at the point of a gun, the civilized world was led to look upon it as a step toward general disarmament. Once the threat of her military machine had been removed, people were told, and once France had been made to feel secure, humanity would convert its swords into plowshares.

The point was of course that adjacent countries could believe they were threatened by Germany just as long as they wanted to, and France could remain soared just as long as she felt like it. It was all a matter of pure imagination, and was left that way on purpose.

Of all the contracting parties, Germany alone made specific promises and put herself in a position where their fulfillment could be forced. The others were left free to quibble, sidestep, and evade, yet plain people, especially in America, accepted their ambiguous pledges in good faith, which is where plain people were fooled

gloriously and was left that way on purpose.

Since iron is necessary for the building of red coloring matter of the blood, it may be necessary in some instances to give iron in the form of a prescription.

AMONG the most important considerations is the requirement of the infant for water. The child usually gets enough water in the milk, but in view of the overheated temperature zone should receive Vitamins A and B regularly.

This may be supplied in the form of one-half to one and one-half teaspoons of cod liver oil three times each day. Vitamin D may be given in the form of viosterol, but cod liver oil, as such, is prefer-

able in the majority of cases. This opinion is based on recent re-

searches.

The infant who suffers with rickets or who seems to have a tendency in that direction may receive special quantities of viosterol, as the physician may prescribe.

Milk is one of the most perfect of foods, but it lacks particularly in vitamin C. Hence, all babies fed artificially should be given from one to two tablespoons of orange juice or tomato juice each day to provide this vitamin.

Apparently both human milk and cow's milk contain sufficient amounts of vitamin B to prevent any shortage of this vitamin, as infants ordinarily are fed.

The child that is undernourished and lacks appetite, may require vitamin B feeding as the physician will determine.

IT SEEMS TO ME

BY HEYWOOD BROUN

"I HAD hoped," writes R. L. T., "that the recent election might put you in your place, but I find you just as conceited as ever. Is there no hope?"

"I'm afraid not. On Dec. 7 I will attain the ripe age of 42, and in these advanced stages of life it is much too late to expect any great amount of change in an individual. If I can't be taught new tricks, I can only say that it required a great deal of practice for me to reach this stage of seeming self-sufficiency. Of course, it's a device. There is no closed season for the protection of columnists, and since we are always exposed to attack, it is necessary to keep the head up constantly."

To lower your guard for even an instant is to invite a snake on the jaw.

DEPRESSED HEAD

I DON'T think I'm really what you might call enthusiastic about myself, but I'm not antagonistic, either. I assert that this is not a fault, or, at least, not the worst sort of fault. Swelled head may be bad, but it isn't as harmful all around as depressed head.

I mean that people who don't think very much of themselves generally aren't much good. The man who gets to feeling that he's just a poor worm will function in the world as a poor worm.