



## The Indianapolis Times

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BOYD GURLEY, Editor ROT W. HOWARD, President FRANK G. MORRISON, Business Manager  
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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."

### Duval and Others

From sources which usually demand more and worse prisons for violators comes the suggestion that a pardon should be granted to former Mayor Duval, soon to begin his jail sentence after delaying that proper punishment for more than two years.

Putting him in a cell may not be important if the lesson of the inevitable result of hate and trickery be borne home to those who may be tempted to follow the methods of the school in which Duval obtained his political training.

Where are those who back in the year of '24 were riding the high waves of hate to political eminence?

Punishment has struck at each and all. With but one eminent exception, those who were highest have sunk to the lowest depths.

Duval went into office when a night-gown was the garb of the powerful. He signed away the powers of his office before he obtained it. A congressman who did the same thing is now under arrest for the same act.

The state chairman of the Republican party which was raped by this crew has served his stretch. Two successors of Stephenson, the political godfather of the crowd, have been in federal penitentiaries for auto theft. Others who held high positions have gone the same route and those whom the Old Man made greatest are now forgotten and ostracized—with one exception.

The appointment of Al Meloy as federal marshal recalls the fact that Arthur Robinson, senator from Indiana, was the political chick of that time, hatched by appointment and reared in the brooder of Stephensonism and Coffinism.

Putting Duval in jail at this time should be the signal to Republicans who revere Lincoln to make an effort on his birthday to rid their party of whatever remaining influence the forces of the Duval era may have upon its fate.

### The Right Way

Whatever good they may accomplish for themselves in the way of relief, the unemployed rendered a real service to the state when they demonstrated the Constitution still exists in Indiana.

In very recent years the answer to every protest of the poor has been the club of the policeman or the threat of jail as disturbers.

Free speech has been put upon the rack. Free press has occupied a cell. The right of assemblage and petition has been bludgeoned.

When several hundreds, representing the unemployed, marched upon the statehouse Monday with grievances and an appeal for legalized relief, a situation was created where suppression might have easily resulted in unfortunate consequences.

There have been officials whose only method of meeting such a situation and such an appeal would have been to send for more policemen.

Fortunately, the state has at present as Speaker of the house of representatives one who believes in the Constitution. When Walter Myers announced that the right of assemblage and of petition would be preserved at all hazards he merited not the thanks of the petitioners alone, but of every man who still believes in America and its traditional safeguards of liberty.

A righteous protest and appeal was never stifled by suppression. Unrighteous ones have succeeded in the name of martyrdom. In these troublous times, those Americans serve well who stand firmly for the ancient safeguards of freedom and self-government.

Progress, even in a fight against poverty and joblessness, can be made only when all the facts are dragged into the light and every problem of government settled by public opinion.

The Constitution, so often forgotten in this state, is still the foundation of liberty and of progress.

### Railroading the General

Railroading Smedley Butler isn't going to help the popularity of the Hoover administration a bit. Ever since Butler started earning congressional medals of honor for exceptional valor he has been popular with the marines and with the people.

The fact that he is a major-general getting a raw deal is only incidental. He was just as popular as a junior officer.

Of course he talked out of turn in that Philadelphia speech about Dictator Mussolini—at least he made the mistake of thinking an officer could repeat what was being said by American citizens.

And if Washington merely had expressed diplomatic regret to Italy and slapped Butler on the wrist with a reprimand the incident would have been closed and soon forgotten.

But such obvious course did not satisfy the powers. Apparently somebody, somewhere, pretty high, rooked Butler out of the job of commandant of marines, which rightfully was his by record and seniority. And apparently they now intend to go farther and rub his face in the dirt with this court-martial.

Our guess is that they are going to succeed—but not in the way they expect. They are going to make a martyr of him. And Butler is just young enough, and lusty enough, and popular enough, to be a very dangerous martyr politically to the administration.

How can a court-martial result in any other way? Certainly there is little chance that Butler can get a fair trial. By the nature of the apology to Mussolini, Hoover already has prejudged and condemned Butler. And Hoover is the commander-in-chief.

Thus a fair trial for Butler would mean, in effect, that the commander-in-chief also was being tried. A verdict clearing Butler would be a verdict condemning the commander-in-chief.

Maybe we are wrong, but we just can't see those naval and marine officers sitting as court-martial judges giving a verdict in favor of Major-General Butler and against Commander-in-Chief Hoover—no matter what the evidence is. Under military rules, subordinates can not try superiors; they can't pass judgment on Hoover.

That is why we believe we are within the limits of

accuracy in calling this court-martial an act of railroading Butler.

One thing about this case, however, mystifies us. What does the state department expect to gain by a court-martial?

If an obscure speech by Butler upset international relations, what will a full-fledged trial in the public spotlight do to international relations?

Since the state department obviously thinks that the less said about Mussolini the better, what is the sense in a court-martial which will force Butler and a great many others—including the press—say many more disagreeable things about the Fascist dictator?

Does the administration think it can get around this difficulty by holding the court-martial in secret? It can't. To appear to railroad Smedley Butler at all is bad enough, but to try to do it in the dark would multiply his martyrdom 100 per cent.

If the administration holds a secret court-martial neither Hoover nor Mussolini ever will hear the last of it.

### The Federal Deficit

Secretary Mellon originally estimated that the treasury deficit at the close of the current fiscal year next June 30 would be \$180,000,000.

Now he believes it will be double that.

"We will close the year with a deficit which, based on present indications, will not be less than \$375,000,000," he said in testimony before the senate.

There have been indications that such would be the situation, but this is the first official treasury admission to that effect.

"The present condition of the public finances is far from satisfactory," said Mellon.

Mellon went on to point out the difficulty of making "any accurate prophecy" because of the uncertainty surrounding income tax payments for this calendar year. This was perhaps a wise precaution, because heretofore some of the treasury's estimates have been far wide of the mark.

The deficit estimate may be conservative, as a matter of fact. The supply bills are not through congress and added demands are being made for funds for drought relief, public construction to relieve unemployment, for naval building and for other purposes.

Even if budget estimates were met, receipts would be \$400,000,000 less than last year and expenditures more than \$200,000,000 greater. But income tax receipts are down, and customs collections are materially below what was anticipated. The deficit easily could amount to half a billion or more.

It is assumed that the income tax reduction of 1 per cent on payments this year will not be continued in accordance with recommendations of the administration. Whether reviving business will obviate the need for further tax increases remains to be seen.

The deficit this year could be met in part by a reduction of the \$300,000,000 emergency balance maintained in the treasury; by temporary borrowing; by a bond issue; by curtailment of public debt retirement.

Or, income tax rates could be raised, a thing which no one wants to see done at a time of depression. But if it is found necessary to raise rates, there is no question where the increase should be applied.

The lower brackets should be left alone, and surtaxes be made to carry the burden. It is those small and moderate incomes who have suffered most from hard times.

### Giving Up Billboards

We are all pretty well convinced nowadays that the individual or his lot can be improved by social action. But we often forget that social good also can be achieved by individual action.

J. Tennyson Seller, proprietor of the Hotel Welden, at Greenfield, Mass., did not wait to have a law passed. He has ordered all billboards advertising his hotel removed as a "protest against the ever-growing menace to roadside beautification."

There is no protest against the billboard nuisance more effective than that of the advertiser who declines to be a party to it.

A Boston professor says that poetry is a spontaneous achievement. There are many editors who wish it were capable of spontaneous combustion.

As fleet as a runner may be, opines the office sage, he usually has someone close to his heels.

One commission President Hoover is probably glad he didn't appoint the New York boxing commission.

### REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

YOU have read of the reduced prices of automobile bibles, but they are nothing alongside the way Jack Dempsey has slashed prize fighting rates.

Heretofore in the million-dollar class, he now offers to meet anybody in the ring for \$500.00.

This should send a thrill of joy throughout the land.

The fact that Dempsey is willing to take a night off and maul and be mauled for the paltry sum of half a million dollars should bring the American people to their feet, singing the "Star-Spangled Banner."

Speaking of Dempsey, it now appears that he had nothing to do with the getting up of an article, bearing his name, which appeared in a recent magazine, he having explained that while he gave or rather sold to the magazine the right to use his name, he didn't see the article to which it was appended.

The predominating thought appears to include anything and everything except the production of self-sufficient, self-supporting men and women. Maybe the machine age, as we call it, has made them unnecessary.

Maybe we have come to a point where no one needs to think of more than getting a job and staying on a pay roll, but, if so, what's the answer to Communism?

Communism gives every one a job and keeps every one on a pay roll. No unemployment in Russia, yet who would swap it for America, even in these hard times?

### Questions and Answers

Why is it necessary to obtain permission of the copyright owner to broadcast music over the radio?

Because the courts have ruled that under the copyright act of 1909 broadcasting is a public performance for profit.

What does a rose symbolize? Love, grace and beauty.

How old is Edna Wallace Hopper? She was born Jan. 17, 1874.

Who is Floyd Collins of Sand Cave fame?

His body was removed from the cave in April, 1925, and is buried on a small hill overlooking Crystal Cave, Ky.

How long do canaries live? Sometimes for fifteen or sixteen years.

Jane Addams has done a wonderful work for the human uplift, but there are millions of unknown women in America, whose lives have been the family doom of sixty years, who have brought into the world and scrubbed and raised and civilized a bunch of kids.

It takes a good deal of assurance to say that any woman of fame has these unknown sisters backed off the boards.

That is why we believe we are within the limits of

### M. E. Tracy SAYS:

*The Essence of America's Task Is Not Free Meals or Free Beds, but Increased Opportunity.*

**SACRAMENTO, Cal., Feb. 3.**—An increased loan allowance seems the most sensible way of solving the bonus problem.

Some of the boys are in dire need of cash, while others are not. If relief is the object, why put up a proposition that would make all of them tools not to take it and raise everybody's tax bill?

We're going to have trouble enough working out of this depression, without any one making it an excuse for financial nonsense, or misdirected charity.

That agitator who mounted a soap box in front of San Francisco's soup kitchen, demanding beefsteak instead of stew, should be taken seriously.

If it is our duty to prevent actual want, it is also our duty to preserve sound social principles.

E. W. Scripps, who founded these newspapers, said that it was an economic crime to give something for nothing, or get something for nothing.

The essence of America's task is not free meals, or free beds, but an increased opportunity to earn them.

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### A Tariff Error

**P**ROVIDING increased opportunity, without lowering the living standard to which we Americans have grown accustomed, is no simple problem.

Ever since the World War, many years before, for that matter, we have been obsessed with the idea that we could preserve our prosperity by keeping foreign goods out of this country with a tariff wall.

We can, but we can't keep them out of other countries, where we have developed and need an ever-growing trade.

The Grundy bill may prevent less German steel from coming to New York, but what about Buenos Aires?

The time has come for us to realize that American prosperity is no longer a purely American product, that the trade which made it and which alone can preserve it has been far wide of the mark.

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