

# The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)  
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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."

## "Not Charity But Justice"

The idea that insurance must be provided for the growing army of workers made destitute by loss of jobs because of their age is gaining ground. In addition to the agitation for federal action, fourteen Governors have recommended old age security legislation to their legislatures now meeting, we are informed by the American Association for Old Age Security.

Nearly every legislature, it is said, will give serious thought to the problem, and at least half a dozen are expected to enact pension legislation.

The Delaware state legislature already has passed a liberal pension bill, following an inquiry into the needs of the aged of that state by a commission headed by Alfred I. Du Pont. The commission told the legislature that "opportunity presents itself to extend not charity, but justice."

Connecticut, Arizona, Delaware, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York Governors, among others, urged action. An old age pension bill has made progress in the Indiana legislature against strong opposition.

The present depression has shown beyond question that private charity is uncertain and inadequate to care for those who have been thrown out of their jobs because of advanced years.

We have an excess of workers of all ages, but it is those beyond the age of 40 who have been suffering most. The situation has been growing worse for several years.

Federal legislation is pending, among the bills being one for aid from the federal government to those states which pay pensions.

Meanwhile, it is gratifying to find that the states themselves are taking the problem in hand and that there is a growing realization that meeting it is a public duty.

## Drought Control

Although the drought has hit all parts of the country, there is one section from which no complaints are coming.

The far west has had less snow than usual this winter and it will have much less water next summer, but its fields will not parch and its people will not starve.

They learned long ago not to depend on nature for their necessary water supply. Men conquered the arid west by building reservoirs and irrigation ditches. They store the waters of flood years for the need of drought years, and they send down water to their lands as they see fit, not waiting for help from heaven or the witch doctors.

It was a long and expensive business, irrigating the west. Yet it freed that part of the country.

The rest of the country might study the possibility of likewise freeing itself from the future fear of drought—and of flood likewise, for that also is accomplished by the storage of freshet waters.

It may not be practicable for eastern, southern and middle western states to adopt the same methods the far west has adopted.

Yet engineers surely can discover a way to free these other parts of the country from fatalism and famine.

## A Little Figuring

Get out your pencil and paper for a little figuring. This is a problem in election votes and election victories.

Candidates A and B are running for the presidency.

In New York, Candidate A receives 2,005,000 votes and Candidate B received 2,000,000 votes.

In Nevada, Candidate A receives 15,000 votes and Candidate B receives 20,000 votes.

Candidate A carried New York by 5,000 majority. Candidate B carried Nevada by 5,000 majority.

In these two states each man received a total of 2,020,000 votes.

Yet when it came time to tally up the ballots in the electoral college, Candidate A was given 45 electoral votes for his 2,020,000 popular votes and Candidate B was given 3 electoral votes for his 2,020,000 votes.

It doesn't sound exactly right, and it isn't. The defects of our electoral college system have resulted three times in the election of minority Presidents, and many other times have reflected badly the division of popular sentiment between candidates.

No one knows when it will result in installation of a President having such a small percentage of popular support that the stability of the federal government will be shaken.

That's why Senator Norris announced a few weeks ago that the next major reform in governmental affairs which he will sponsor is abolition of the electoral college.

That is why Representative Lea of California has been at work for years on a practical election system to take the place of the electoral college, since the original plan of the Constitution writers has long since been abandoned in actual procedure.

Much will be heard of this matter before long. With an almanac full of election statistics and a pencil and paper, any one can find for himself a whole bookful of reasons why this is so.

## A Touch of Sanity

Out of what Senator Borah called "the saturnalia of recklessness and greed" in connection with the story of America's oil exploitation has come one glimmer of sanity. It is the signing of an agreement between Secretary of Interior Wilbur, in behalf of the government, and private oil operators for unit operation of North Dome of the famed Kettleman Hill oil and gas field in the San Joaquin valley of California.

At present market value Kettleman oil is said to be worth \$4,000,000,000, not counting the gas which until now has been escaping in quantities sufficient to supply the whole of San Francisco's needs. Dr. Wilbur thinks that this field may be the richest storehouse ever discovered.

Now, instead of wasting it in competitive drilling, frantic exploitation, and wasteful methods, it is to be worked intelligently.

## A New Birth Control Bill

A new birth control bill is before congress. It was introduced by Senator Gillett of Massachusetts. It would remove the Comstock laws which make it a crime for even licensed physicians to give out information on methods of birth control.

It would legalize birth control information and preparations when administered under direction of reputable physicians and druggists, and allow reprinting of such information which has a thoroughly sound medical origin.

Those who favor birth control can write to their senators and congressmen urging favorable and prompt action on this legislation. It need give no offense to any church, for it does not make birth control in any way compulsory. It simply makes birth control legal for those who want to employ it.

## Sea Dirigibles

Postmaster-General Brown has made an amazing statement in discussing the McNary-Parker bill, which would set up a "merchant marine of the air," giving air mail contracts to trans-oceanic dirigible lines.

Brown said that trans-oceanic mail flights of the near future will be by airplane rather than dirigible.

He said dirigibles have not proved themselves as speedy, as manageable, or as capable of keeping to schedule as planes. He suggests that the "dirigible prove its worth as the airplane did."

Postmaster-General Brown is taking a bold responsibility when he boosts the airplane and damns the dirigible for ocean flying. For the actual records of the two point to the exact opposite of his stand.

Dirigibles, carrying real loads, have flown splendidly across all oceans.

The dirigible is fast enough to cross the ocean in three days, which is the time proposed for the post-office forthcoming airplane service. The dirigible is safe enough to avoid having boats strung out beneath it every 150 miles, as they propose to do on the new ocean airplane route.

The dirigible can carry tons of mail and scores of passengers across without refueling, while 500 pounds is now about the airplane's limit on an ocean trip.

And yet the postoffice insists that the dirigible prove itself.

## It Would Cost More

If King Canute had left a will bequeathing \$25,000 to any university which would combat the rising of tides, a taker probably would have been found somewhere.

And a taker probably will be found for Albert E. Pillsbury's bequest of \$25,000 to any university that will combat feminism.

Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and Columbia have refused the money with its strange terms. Howard University, for Negroes, is considering it now. If Howard turns it down, there are hundreds of other institutions, great and small, and to many of them \$25,000 probably will be a tempting sum.

But just how is such a college going to do the job if it does take the money?

Will it start a crusade for repealing the nineteenth amendment? Will it drop all courses for women except home economics? Or will it perhaps drop all courses for women? Will it teach its men to shun all girls who are proficient at anything more advanced than baking a pie?

Will it refuse to employ girl secretaries, girl stenographers, girl librarians? Will its professors all refuse to let their wives study or work at anything outside the home?

Pillsbury might have left his money to be used for blinding and crippling the feet of all girl babies, at birth. Even then it probably wouldn't have proved a permanent handicap to the girl of today.

## History Repeats

"Many of the failures, defalcations, and disasters of the business world today which discourage enterprise and leave labor unemployed come from the habits of speculation which always attend and follow a great war."

"A few years since, half the world was trying to become rich, not by industry and economy in one's own regular business, but by speculation. But the man who speculates is a gambler, and a gambler is one who wishes to make money without paying the price; to accumulate by luck, not by industry."

"To marry commerce to speculation is a misalliance which leads to no good. It has plunged the nation into untold suffering and disaster."

The above was not written today or yesterday. It was written several years after the Civil war by James Freeman Clarke, a noted Unitarian minister of that day, and is to be found in a collection of his sermons, entitled "Every-Day Religion," copyrighted in 1886 and published by Houghton & Mifflin in 1892.

Charlie Chaplin is to act pantomime in his new sound picture. In the opinion, of course, that actions speak louder than words.

With proper connections, says the office sage, a live wire has a swell chance to shine brightly.

## REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

THE government has made a mistake in ordering the court-martial of the effect of Butler for having repeated a story to the effect that Mussolini was once a hit and run driver, and before the trial it is over it is just barely possible the government will regret it.

Mussolini has sent word to us that he already has forgotten the Butler incident, but our government seems unable to do likewise. In making a mammoth mountain of such an ordinary moral hill, it is opening the way for even greater complications, that is, if it should let young Cornelius Vanderbilt testify for Butler.

VANDERBILT is supposed to have told Butler the story about Mussolini, and it is supposed he would, if permitted, take the stand and swear that he was riding with Mussolini when the alleged accident occurred to the child and Mussolini dismissed it as a mere trifle.

We don't believe Vanderbilt ever rode in Mussolini's rumble seat, much less beside him as his guest in a cross-country automobile tour, but it would be a thrill to see a Vanderbilt testify in something besides a divorce suit.

For this reason alone we should like to see him on the witness stand.

SHOULD Vanderbilt testify and then should the court-martial find for Butler, that, by inference, would be a judicial determination by this country that Mussolini was guilty of having run down the child, and that would be a situation, far from desirable.

But it is likely the court-martial will refuse to let Vanderbilt testify as to the truth of the Mussolini incident, on the ground that it does not matter whether the story be true or false, that Butler was guilty of an offense by telling the story, even if it be true, because it was calculated to involve his country in trouble.

The deplorable thing is that Butler put his country in a position where it felt it necessary to apologize to one man in Europe who is supposed to thrive on such nourishment.

It would not have been so bad to apologize to the sultan of Turkey, or to Mahatma Gandhi, but to Mussolini—that's different.

THE best thing to do with such a case is to forget it, and the government should have censored Butler and let it go at that, but now it has lugged up the elaborate paraphernalia of a court-martial and this means weeks of rag chewing about a matter we all should dismiss from our minds.

President Hoover needs a good, level-headed adviser.

He should get a good cornfield lawyer, or a good, sensible farmer, merchant or bricklayer, for none of them would have let him get into this grotesque court-martial mess.

## M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

We Can Not Get Too Far Away From Little Things Without Becoming Inhuman or Losing Our Perspective.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 6.—Of course, people are interested in little things, as George B. Parker told a nation-wide audience over the radio Wednesday afternoon, and, of course, newspapers would be false to the trade if they ignored that interest.

Thursday papers were black with headlines telling how Buster Keaton had been clawed by an excited actress, how a sailor had died trying to save trapped passengers from an overturned bus, and how Max Schmeling had been arrested on the charge of throwing a process server downstairs.

Plenty of bigger news available, such as Stalin's latest call for world revolution, the compromise relief bill, or Einstein's admission that the universe may not be a walled-in affair, but how could editors give it all the spotlight, without isolating journalism from life?

Life is just one little thing after another to most people, and most people have sense enough to know it.

## Little Things Count

BIG enterprises, big movements, and big ideas have a place in the scheme of progress. Though a place of every growing importance, it is still subject to the rules of relatively, still subordinate to those intractable laws which compel us poor mortals to be born alone, die alone and suffer our little aches and pains alone much of the time between whiles.

Necessary as it may be for us to mass and mobilize to accomplish specific ends, we never should forget that those ends are worthwhile only in so far as they make life a little happier and a little more comfortable for ordinary men and women.

Nothing counts very much, unless it can be translated into practical value by individuals, unless it can be made small enough to serve us in a personal way.

## Man Still on Pedestal

PUNY man still is the most important creature in our sphere of operations, the most essential product of our toil and struggles. Leave him out of the picture and what remains? What profit in all the educating, or organizing, or mechanizing, unless it serves to breed a better, stronger, healthier type of the human biped?

Take this depression, for instance, and why does it worry us? Are we really alarmed because some big industrial machine has broken down, or some big enterprise have been delayed? Indirectly, yes, but directly, no.

What hurts is the hunger and suffering involved; the fact that some people are not getting enough to eat, or can't keep warm.

Time after time, the world has been so infatuated with some big idea as to forget that side of it.

Time after time it has grown so obsessed with some illusionism as to crush human beings beneath the juggernaut of its dreams, without conscience or compunction.

## Courting Disaster

WE so are constituted that we can not get too far away from little things, without becoming inhuman, or losing our perspective.

No matter how high the wind, stars will show which way is blowing. No matter how terrible the fire, a mere spark may have started it.

Seventeen years ago, a misguided Serbian student dynamited civilization with a revolver butt. That was one of the little things in which it is natural for people to be interested.

Some weeks later, three kings stamped their subjects into war. That was one of the big things in which we should have done better not to be interested.

Whenever we get to thinking that the beliefs of man, the discoveries of man, or even the achievements of man, are more important than man himself, we are traveling a road toward disaster.

No matter how much we can do, or how much we know, we must stay rather close to the ground and to each other, to retain that degree of sympathy necessary to a well-adjusted understanding of human destiny and its limitations.

## People's Voice

Editor Times—I wish to relate an amusing (?) incident that happened recently.

After driving around a certain block several times in search of a parking space, we observed a car vacating a space right off the alley. We were going south and the space was the first south of the alley. We had stopped to let the car out, and then we pulled right into the space.

At the time a car was double-parked a couple of spaces ahead, but we took no special notice of it. Then Mr. Officer 652 came up and demanded to know why we pulled into the space the way we did. He informed us that the city ordinance requires that you back into a space. He also said that the man in the car parked double had been waiting half an hour and should have had the space.

My! He certainly was hard boiled. In the first place, I would consider any one feeble-minded who would run forward and then back into a space such as that. Second, the officer was not attending strictly to duty, or he would not have allowed the other car to have parked double the half hour he said it had, apparently he was stationed there for that purpose.

It seems we should have approached the gentleman in the other car, informed him of the space, and gone merrily on our way to find another.

I would like to suggest that a few lessons in courtesy would greatly improve some of our police officers.

MRS. MYRTLE CRAWL.

How long are short waves, intermediate waves and long waves in radio?

Short waves are below 300 meters; intermediate waves are between 300 and 550 meters and long waves, used in ship and commercial radio telegraphy, range up to 30,000 meters.

## Apologies Seem to Be in Order!



## DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## Improper Home Heating Causes Colds

With influenza already reported in many cities and threatening others, The Times herewith begins a series of three articles by Dr. Fishbein on how to avoid this deadly and its greatest contributory cause, the common cold. The articles were written by Dr. Fishbein, specialist for this newspaper and NEA Service.

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

THE most favorable temperature for health for the average man varies apparently with the climate to which he has been accustomed. In the temperate zone, we seem to do exceedingly well with fairly moderate temperatures, such as 65° in spring and fall, but must adjust ourselves to other seasons conditions that develop in the summer and in the winter.

Winter requires more adjustment than summer. Professor Huntington of Yale believes that the weather is responsible for from 75,000 to 100,000 deaths every year. The most severe months appear to be February, March and early April, the period in which pneumonia following colds is most prevalent. Furthermore, the winter months seem to deprive the human body of many of the healthful factors available in other seasons.

The normal human being has a temperature of 98.6° and his body seems to function best in a temperature of from 65° to 70° degrees Fahrenheit. It is difficult to maintain this temperature in rooms during the winter months. Overheating dries out the body and puts the mucous membranes in a condition in which it is difficult for them to resist the onslaught of infection.

Unfortunately, few homes are regulated properly so far as concerns moisture. The average humidity in most homes during the

winter months is about 25 per cent. That is to say, at 70° degrees the air contains only about 25 per cent of the water it could contain. To have the maximum of health and comfort, the air should contain about twice this amount.

To get a relative humidity of 50 per cent, rooms heated to 70° degrees will require the daily evaporation of from five to thirty gallons of water.

All sorts of methods have been devised for getting this amount of water into the air. The simplest method, of course, is the pan of water with a wick, which may be placed on the radiator.

It is also possible to evaporate the water without the wick, but it does not evaporate so rapidly. Several humidifiers are manufactured which may be placed on the radiators and which contain cloth layers along the sides which serve the purpose of aiding the evaporation of the water.

In addition to having moisture outside the body, it is desirable to have sufficient moisture inside the body to respond to the dryness.

If the human being will drink eight glasses of water each day he will have a sufficient amount of water to take care of the functions of the kidney and to provide for evaporation from the skin.

It is particularly important for the infant and the child to be surrounded with proper temperature and humidity during the winter months.

During these months, children suffer more with coughs, colds, pneumonia, bronchitis and other respiratory diseases than do adults.

In many cases the adult suffers from a cold in the head. A severe case of this is called the grip; if many people have it at the same time, the condition is known as epidemic influenza.

In addition to keeping the air at a proper temperature and moisture, it is desirable to get a certain amount of fresh air into the home regularly.

Most people have become accustomed to sleeping with windows open widely during the summer months. It is not necessary, however, to open the windows so widely during the winter months, but free circulation of a certain amount of fresh air is healthful.

It is well to remember that a person can stand a great deal of bad weather provided he is properly protected against it. Hence the covers should be definitely related to the amount of cold that is likely to be present before morning.

One of the dangers is that a person will go to bed at night rather lightly covered because of the fact that the room is warm, and that as it gets colder toward morning the covers are not easily available.

Then he will lie and shiver rather than get additional covers to supply suitable warmth.

The best advice that a physician can give when one gets a bad cold or influenza is to go to bed as soon as possible and stay in bed as long as the symptoms are acute.

This certainly helps shorten and make him much more comfortable by use of remedies which will make him feel warm, quiet, the pains, control the fever and help the discomfort of the nose and throat.

The danger of a cold is not so much in the cold itself as in the complications which affect the bones, joints, lungs, ears, and other parts of the body.

Next: What to eat to avoid colds and flu.

## IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

I WAS a broadcaster once myself, and even though "ex" has crept into my life, I retain an interest in radio. Call it as you please, art, industry or racket.

Currently my attention has been called by an act of self-volition to a controversy which is raging in Louisiana concerning the license of a station controlled by one W. K. Henderson of Shreveport.

I am not familiar with the themes which Mr. Henderson desires to propagate. The report drawn up by a federal examiner in regard to his application for more power and unlimited time of operation is unfavorable.

And one strong point is scored against him. It was brought out in hearing before the radio commission that Mr. Henderson, personally, spends between five and six

hours a day in front of the microphone.

Interest and Abuse

BUT Elmer W. Pratt does not stop here. He goes on to raise a still more contentious point in regard to government supervision and acceptable radio manners.

In his report to his chiefs he is quoted as saying: "Much of the language used by Mr. Henderson on the air is inimical to the moral and esthetic development of the youth of America and is inconsistent with the proverbial standard of southern culture."

While the commission has no power of censorship, it certainly may consider the broadcasting of abusive and undignified language as contrary to public interest.

Well, I want to know may it do just that thing? Furthermore, I ask to be informed whether abusive and undignified language is contrary either to public interest or southern culture.

Surely it is not false to the political traditions of a section of the country which has produced a Pitchfork Ben Tillman, a Tom Heflin, a Vardaman and a Huey Long.

And if I am told that none of these men is truly representative of the south, I straightway will bring in the name of the widely and deservedly applauded Carter Glass, who can wag a mean phrase when irritated.

Marse Henry

I CAN hark back to the great tradition of Henry Waterson, who wrote cadenced and mellow prose, but for all that violently about men and institutions which seemed to him evil.

It seems to me fitting that abusive language should be trained at any time and in any part of the country upon an abuse.

And what is this curious notion that the federal government should assume the obligation to preserve "Southern culture" as it stands? Or any other sectional culture for that matter?

Culture is as culture does. It is a live and fluent organism. Today's culture may be tomorrow's blab and babble. Are we to have no radio Merrick or Lewises (Sinclair)?

I do not think that the power of

ideas and opinions expressed in this column are those of one of America's most interesting writers and are presented without regard to the editorial attitude of this paper.—The Editor.

This great democracy was meant to be applied to a standpoint in favor of Longfellow and Whittier. W. K. Henderson may be a terrible broadcaster. I wouldn't be in the least surprised. Lots of broadcasters are terrible.

But surely it is not enough to bar him on the ground that his phraseology is not precisely according to the polite standards of the community in which he lives. Tarnation—that's not fair nor right.

What Profanity?

AND so I stand aghast at the mere suggestion of a daily stint totaling five or six hours. But some of the points brought up against W. K. Henderson of Shreveport, La., transcend the problem as to the worth of the KWVK.

I am puzzled to know whether this complaint rests upon "drat it," "son of a gun," "fliminy crickets" or the like, or does it refer merely to a vocal tone?

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## SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Engineers Must Eliminate Hardship the Machine Age Has Wrought, Doctor Declares.

A NEW branch of research, for which the name "humanics" is suggested, is urged by Dr. Alfred D. Flinn, director of the Engineering Foundation. Dr. Flinn feels that the hardships which have been incidental to scientific progress make this necessary.

He feels that development of the machine must be made an unmitigated blessing, and not