



# The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)  
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BOYD GURLEY, Editor ROY W. HOWARD, President FRANK G. MORRISON, Business Manager  
PHONE-R167 5551 THURSDAY, FEB. 26, 1931  
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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."

**Mussolini and Stimson**  
Secretary of State Stimson has given more ammunition to the group attacking the Hoover administration as pro-Fascist. He has refused to see a delegation of American citizens with documentary evidence of alleged subversive efforts of Mussolini's agents in this country.

This delegation of Americans of Italian origin charge that the Fascist League of North America, which Stimson ordered disbanded, has been revived under another name; that the Italian ambassador and certain consuls have attempted to exert improper propaganda influence here, and that agents of the Italian secret police are operating extensively in this country.

Whether these charges contain any parcel of truth, the public has no way of knowing. But they are too serious to ignore. In justice to the Italian ambassador and other Mussolini representatives here, as well as to the United States government, they should be proved or disproved.

Anyway, the right of petition is fundamental in a democracy. If a delegation of American citizens wants to petition the state department or any other government department, the door should not be slammed in its face.

If in this case Stimson had no time to listen to the delegation, he should have turned the job over to one of his numerous aids.

These charges can not be covered up so easily. Soon or late, they must be faced.

## Big Bill

To laugh or to cry? That is the question when the press announced the Republican primary victory of Mayor William Hale Thompson of Chicago.

We are inclined to do both. We laugh when we think how easily this clown beats other political demagogues at their own tricks. But it is not so funny when we remember that Bill beats the big bass drum to cover up such corruption and racketeering as few cities ever have suffered.

With one hand he "knocks the block off" an imaginary King George, and with the other grasps the friendly paw of Scarface Al Capone.

Perhaps Big Bill is not very important in himself. After all, he is only a symptom. It is the disease behind the symptom that counts. As long as the people of Chicago are content with crooked politics, it does not matter much whether the recipient of their votes is an amusing and open charlatan like Thompson or a more respectable hypocrite.

It is not the cheap politician, but the citizens who vote for the cheap politician, that imperil democracy. The people get what they want. Fortunately they usually want something better than Big Bill.

## A Government Diet

If a family of five chooses to follow the food guide recently developed by the bureau—a diet entirely adequate from the standpoint of vitamins, minerals and calories—the food allowance can be reduced to \$331.76 a year. This figure is an average, collected in fourteen leading cities.

We quote from a statement of the bureau of home economics of the department of agriculture, which is co-operating with the President's emergency committee for employment to relieve distress.

The cost for filling a market basket for five—a father, mother and three children—for a week ranges from \$5.88 in Pittsburgh to \$7.03 in New York, we are advised.

Perhaps this is true, and a family of five could save itself from starvation on that budget. But less than a dollar a day to provide meals for five persons seems a pitifully small amount, as any housewife would tell you.

The work of the bureau doubtless is helpful, but there is the added problem for some seven million persons as to where the \$331.76 a year is to come from.

## The Tariff Boomerang

January foreign trade declined to the lowest point in ten years, according to statistics from the department of commerce. Exports were 40 per cent below the same month of last year. Imports were 41 per cent less. Export trade had the lowest valuation of any month since December, 1914.

Other countries are suffering depression and that is a factor in curtailing trade.

But the main cause is the high rates of the Hawley-Smoot tariff. What was predicted has happened. The "safety margin" of export trade which absorbed our production surplus—and kept men at work—is being wiped out.

John McHugh, chairman of the executive committee of the Chase National bank of New York, is expressing the virtually unanimous opinion of economists and business experts, when he says:

"It is time to consider downward tariff adjustments, designed to permit the foreigner to sell enough goods in our market to put him in possession of dollars that in turn will enable him to carry the volume of exports necessary to keep a balanced situation in the United States."

## Income Taxes

Income taxes due in March will be higher this year, for the first time since the war.

There have been successive reductions since 1921. But the 1 per cent reduction to all classes of taxpayers, which applied to last year's payments, will not be effective this year. The reduction was temporary, and will not be extended by congress, because of the condition of federal finances.

The man with a net income of \$4,000 or less will pay three times as much as he did last year, and the man with larger income will pay 1 per cent more in all brackets.

Meantime, federal expenditures are growing, and there are unusual demands on the treasury. Receipts from income taxes, corporation taxes, the tariff, and other sources, have been declining sharply. Secretary Mellon estimates a deficit of \$500,000,000 when the fiscal year ends next June 30. Originally he predicted a shortage of \$110,000,000.

The government may be able to meet its deficit this year through curtailment of loan retirement, use of its emergency balance, through a bond issue, or through short-time borrowing. But the problem of meeting expenses will remain.

Probably taxes must increase next year. Those with small incomes have suffered most from the depression. If there are to be further increases, they should be applied not to the lower brackets, but to the surtaxes of the rich.

## The "Chinese Crew"

New complaints from officials of the Mexican embassy as to treatment of Mexican workers in the Alaska salmon canneries recall a sensational expose of this amazing "Chinese contract system," published several years ago by Scripps-Howard newspapers.

Disguised as a salmon hand, Reporter Max Stern

shipped out of San Francisco on the old Emily Whitney, one of the notorious "hell ships" of the Pacific coast salmon canning fleet.

For thirty-three days he lived in the stinking fo'c'st of this old windjammer. For a month he worked in one of the worst of the Alaskan salmon canneries. Then he escaped from his Chinese boss and told the story.

What he found still exists. The old fleet of wind-jammers has been replaced largely by steam vessels and the sentence of misery has been cut down. But that strange anachronism, the Chinese contract system, persists.

A hangover from the California mining days this is, when Chinese did the rough work for the miners, it has no conceivable place in a modern world. Yet thousands of men each year hire out to Chinese bosses, are paid miserable wages, worked long hours, encouraged to spend their wages with Chinese and white outfitters, gamblers and other exploiters.

A system of fines agreed to in the contract further cuts down the net earnings for the five-month season. Often the salmon worker returns actually in debt to the Chinese contractor after slaving a whole season.

The remedy is simple. Abolish the Chinese contract system by having the company hire all their hands directly. Big improvements have been made by the salmon companies in housing and in transportation.

The fishermen, possibly because they have a strong union, are hired directly by the companies. The unskilled labor still is hired under a system that belongs to a past generation.

If the companies refuse to modernize their labor system, they should be forced to do so by law. The "Chinese crew" is a disgrace to American industry.

Andy Mellon, loathe to part with the cash voted for certain appropriations, might, of course, prevail upon congress to observe Thrift week.

It won't be long now before the first symptoms of love sickness will begin to show you know, those "dizzy" spells.

A professor asks why it is good times always approach when women's skirts grow shorter. Well, in the old times it meant more hustle and bustle.

A head lamp has been invited for pedestrian. Now when they violate a traffic rule they'll surely be accused of being lighted up.

Silver is said to be at its lowest value in years. This seems to be the right time to refine those clouds.

A professor in an Ohio university says potatoes may yet provide rubber. When the time arrives they'll probably be called inner tubers.

A group of physicians gave an annual art exhibition in New York recently. Did the admiring spectators open their mouths instinctively and say "Ah?"

A physicians' art exhibit is not to be taken too lightly. Some of the medics probably are famed for their iodine paintings.

The United States exported more than 27,000,000 artificial teeth last year. No wonder we are represented so falsely abroad.

Hot-headed members of the Austrian parliament threw ink pots at each other. The country may regard this as a blot on its legislative history.

Al Capone is insulted because General Smedley Butler said he ought to be deported. Now maybe Al expects an apology from the government.

"Let's hope there'll be no hard feelings," as the wary patient said to the chiropractor.

All writers who have had manuscripts rejected will envy the position of Erich Remarque, author of "All Quiet on the Western Front." With twenty-one publishers after his next book, he must reject twenty of them.

Had he been an ignorant man, a hod carrier and of no social prominence with the four hundred, and had he stolen just five dollars, the chances are that he would have stayed in Sing Sing for some time to come.

And still some wonder why common folks do not worship constituted authority.

When you are young and listen to Fourth of July speeches and inhale the fragrance of the proposition that all men are equal before the law, you think a republican form of government is the last word in human justice, but as you go down through the years and see the hideous face of influence at every turn, you have your doubts.

We are not quite ready to trade off the establishment we have, but the fact does remain that monarchies, along with their defects and abuses, do have one great advantage and it is that the majesty of authority is accepted by high and low and respect for law is inborn.

And for their crimes the high suffer far more than in so-called popular government.

NOT so long ago, for instance, a very prominent member of the British parliament violated the law and he was sent to prison so swiftly that the wind blew through his whiskers.

Yet here where we boast of the equality of men before the law, ex-Secretary Fall still plays horse with the U. S. A. years and years after his indictment.

A day or so ago the supreme court of Illinois granted a new trial to "Baby Face Doody," a notorious killer of Chicago, who was captured and convicted after a very great effort on the part of the authorities.

If the machine doesn't break down in one place it does in another.

AND right here in Indiana, our supreme court twice saved from the chair a confessed killer of a policeman.

Finally he was tried and given a sentence for manslaughter, and no doubt after two or three years he will be let out.

Some day these chickens will come home to roost in America.

You and I may not be here to serve on the reception committee, but the chickens will come just the same.

# M. E. Tracy

SAYS:  
At Its Present Rate of Speed the Government Should Be Able to Distribute Its Relief Money in Time for the Next Drought.

F. T. WORTH, Tex., Feb. 26.—O. S. Fisher, extension agronomist in the department of agriculture, arrives in Ft. Worth to open headquarters for federal drought relief in Texas.

After he has found a suitable place and assembled twenty-five or thirty clerks and accountants to assist him, those farmers who still lack seed, tools or gasoline for their tractors can borrow a little money, provided they have been approved by the "county loan committee" and are willing to give a first mortgage on the forthcoming crop.

According to a statement just issued at Washington, nearly \$3,000,000 of the \$45,000,000 voted by congress has been loaned to farmers thus far—about 7 per cent. Some speed. The government should be able to distribute the remaining 93 per cent in time to take care of the next drought.

## The People Rebel

LAST month, the people of Ft. Worth went on record as favoring a municipal gas plant. Their action in this respect would not be important or interesting to outsiders but for the cause and setup which led them to take it.

Hundreds of communities, not only here in Texas, but in many other parts of the country, face a similar situation, however, and that makes it news.

Just another case of the local cow being milked by a holding company, with no adequate relief at law.

The Ft. Worth Gas Company, which sells to city consumers, and the Lone Star Gas Company, which brings the gas from the field through a pipeline and wholesales it at the city gate, belong to a Pittsburgh corporation.

The city has power to regulate rates charged by the distributing company within its limits, provided it does not make them confiscatory, but it has no power to regulate rates on the outside.

No matter how much the pipeline company charges the distributing company for its gas, the city must stand for it. Since both belong to a parent corporation, and since the parent corporation can arrange any kind of contract it wants between them, the city has no way of getting a decent rate for its consumers.

It is own by putting in a plant of its own and contracting for gas with some other pipeline company.

## Act to Curb 'Piracy'

THE same outfit that supplies Ft. Worth with gas also supplies it with other cities and towns in this section, at least seventy-five of which can be described as important.

Each and every one of these cities and towns has been stirred up by Ft. Worth's action, and it looks as though a large portion of them would pursue the same tactics.

There is plenty of gas and there are plenty of pipeline companies willing to furnish it at a reasonable wholesale rate, provided they can be assured the communities are in earnest.

Meanwhile, a bill has been introduced at Austin to separate the entire public utility situation, with a view to creating a form of state-wide regulation that would prevent a holding company from overcharging a town or city by arbitrarily hiking the price at the gate outside its limits.

## Capone Takes Spotlight

SENATOR DAVIS of Pennsylvania appears before the senate lobby committee to deny that he ever took anything from anybody in connection with the sugar tariff. His action is all the more surprising because no one can be found to accuse him of doing so.

Equally unexpected and spectacular was the voluntary appearance of "Scarface" Al Capone before a federal court in Chicago to answer a two-year-old contempt charge and his arrest by Chicago police as he was leaving the courtroom.

No doubt, Mr. Capone regarded the morning of his triumph in renouncing "Big Bill" Thompson as an auspicious moment in which to clean things up, but better men than he have made mistakes, and who knows?

At all events, the generalissimo of Chicago's racket must prove that he is not a "public enemy" within the strictest meaning of the word, and though he apparently has been vindicated by the Republican party, the city at large remains to be heard from.

If Chicago does not go Democratic this trip, repudiating not only the Thompson regime, but the gangs that are back of it, outsiders will be pardoned for suspecting that the man really enjoys its bad reputation and that his sympathy has been wasted.

But James Hamilton Lewis won, and there is hope.

# Questions and Answers

What is the address of Irving Berlin?  
1607 Broadway, New York.

How may sex be distinguished in a pigeon?  
The following differences are apparent: Males are usually larger than females, coarser in appearance, and noisier. They are generally on the nest during the day, and the females during the night. Males are more pugnacious, and may be seen driving their mates to the nest. The male breast bone is longer than the female's. If you seize a bird by the back and legs and draw them apart, the female throws its tail up, but the male hangs it close to the body.

Who holds the world record for deep-sea diving?  
William Beebe and Otis Barton, in a steel ball with fused quartz windows descended to a depth of 1,425 feet off Nonesuch Island, Bermuda. Their object was to study marine life. This record was made in June, 1930.

What is the name of the signature music played by the Coca-Cola radio orchestra?  
It has no title and was composed especially for the program by Leonard Joy, leader of the orchestra.

Why shouldn't a lad have the

# Aha! You've Been Keeping Something From Us!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

# Metallurgic Industry Perils Eyes

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

AMONG all the industries in eye accidents, the metallurgic industries stand well at the head.

The figure for these industries varies between 25 and 35 per cent, according to Professor Dr. Laperouse, president of the International Association for the Prevention of Blindness, and the figure is even higher if related industries, such as railway, motor, and airplane works, are included.

The nature of the accident usually is a foreign body in the eye, such as a piece of metal, or a penetrating wound, such as is caused when some flying particle penetrates the tissue.

A penetrating wound is always serious, causing blindness in the eye.

that is injured about fifty times in every 100 cases.

It also has been found that a previous infection or unhealthy condition of the eye before an accident is far more likely to result in permanent blindness than an accident happening to a sound eye.

This was found to be particularly the case among workmen in northern Africa, many of whom suffer with old infections of the eye, including trachoma or conjunctivitis.

Of the greatest importance is immediate treatment of the eye at the time of the accident. Delay always is certain to result in infection and infection means greatly added danger of blindness.

For this reason, it is believed that workmen in all factories in which accidents to the eye are fairly frequent should be given information to the following effect:

1. Under no circumstances should

an untrained or inexperienced employee attempt to remove any foreign body from the eye.

2. Immediately after an accident, the eye may be bathed with suitable mild aseptic solutions, preferably weak solutions of boric acid made with sterilized water.

3. The eye should be covered with a sterile bandage moistened with this solution.

4. The person whose eye is involved should be sent immediately to the physician, who is in charge of such cases.

If the factory or workshop does not have a first aid department, arrangements should be made with some nearby hospital or medical institution to give prompt attention to such cases. This will mean the avoidance of a great deal of unnecessary blindness and furthermore a much shorter period of disability than otherwise is the case.

1. Under no circumstances should

# IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

WEST OF THE HUDSON.—Although the columns of the last few days may have suggested that the conductor of this strip was a fellow traveler in search of recreation, that is not the case. I am attending to parental duty and supervising my son through a school vacation.

By now I have begun to wonder whether Agaa Caliente is precisely the place for an impressionable lad. He runs the risk of gaining the suspicion that his father is an inveterate gambler.

Fortunately the rules forbid all minors from entering the Casino, but I am afraid that Heywood Brown is skeptical at such times as I tell him that I am going to wash under to take a hot sulphur bath for purposes of reduction.

If I had truly spent all these hours under steam and massage there would be little left of me. But, for that matter, roulette takes a lot of time.

"How much did you lose?" asked the slightly younger Brown the last time I spoke of heating waters and ventured out. "About 65," I said, and I am afraid that even a minor would catch the slip and realize that I couldn't have been in pounds of fatty tissue.

No, not even in my case, but there is more about which I must worry than the mere matter of setting a bad example. There is no age limit at the race track, and the Brown heir is having his first encounter with the spoils of kings. Worst of all, he is winning.

## A Lesson

FOR all I know, he may believe that picking winners is a likely and a suitable profession. Although his true I've gambled here, I've done my very best to make my own participation in a vice point out a moral lesson.

With that end in view I have endeavored sedulously to select losers, and I have succeeded very prettily.

The plan was simple. It was my notion that if I lost my shirt here in a few days the lad would get a first-hand laboratory demonstration of the evils of gambling and would become convinced that it is a snare and a delusion.

But even in a sinister situation some facts of good may yet be found. I am delighted to find myself the father of a studious son.

His school reports have been good, but I doubt that he ever went over to the racetrack or his Latin with the same zest with which he digs into the dope sheet.

Over past performances he burns the midnight oil, and when we reach the track the following day he can name not only the father and mother of every horse, but the grand sire as well.

He knows the leading jockeys and whether the track was fast or slow the last time out.

## An Experiment

IN the beginning I tried to keep the dope sheet out of Woodie's hands, and, failing that, I now am intent on pointing out to him that this is his first experiment in scientific research.

I am hoping that his present course of training in obtaining and correlating all the known facts on a particular problem may come in time to help him in his chemistry and physics.

Why shouldn't a lad have the

## Milkweed Butterfly

WITHIN the last few years, Clark has made extensive observations of butterflies in the general region of Washington and the District of Columbia.

"The milkweed butterfly normally is not very common in this region, six or eight, perhaps as many as a dozen, but seldom more, being seen in large flocks at the end of the season."

"It was unusually scarce in the dry summer of 1930. On Sept. 15 in the extensive meadows west of Cabin John only four or five were to be found."

"On Sept. 16 there was a heavy shower in the afternoon. On Sept. 17, these butterflies had increased enormously in numbers, and those present in the meadows were without exception quite fresh; furthermore, by far the greater part of those captured were females."

A visit on the following day showed this insect to be still more numerous, out-numbering all the other kinds of butterflies combined, while of those captured a slight majority were females."

"On the next day conditions were about the same, but sometimes as many as four or five would be seen on a single thistle."

"On the succeeding day it was noticed that the butterflies had to a certain extent become gregarious. Evenly over the field but were to be found in more or less widely separated areas, when, for instance, from half a dozen to a dozen would be feeding on the goldenrod in a space ten or fifteen feet square."

On which finger should class rings be worn?  
Either on the little or the third finger. It is a matter of personal taste.

and down-trodden, with treacherous intrigues, devious tyranny and the most diabolical horrors, and revive again the divine right of kings to rule, the identical things that brought about the birth of America.

In other words, it is tantamount to saying he thinks it would have been better had America never been born. Perhaps in his ardor to the powers that be, if he dared, he would say that free America ought to commit suicide and return to the old regime of rule by divine right.

WILLIAM MARSHALL SR.  
1401 Hoyt avenue.

# Seafood for Lent

You will be surprised at the many ways and the attractive dishes that can be prepared from various kinds of fish and seafood. Our Washington Bureau has ready for you in this Lenten season a new bulletin on fish and seafood cookery with a collection of recipes on the subject that you will want to have in your cook book for future reference. Fill out the coupon below and send for it:

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He died in Paris at the age of 63.