



The Indianapolis Times

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

Three Days More

Three legislative days remain for the present session to do something for the people of the state.

Thus far the record is discouraging. Aside from the passage of the Old Age Pension bill, the credit side of the ledger is somewhat barren. There are many debits in the way of good measures killed.

The jobless asked for bread. The legislators were apparently afraid to hand them even the proverbial stone. They gave nothing at all.

The farmers pleaded for tax relief. The few who remain in that industry will still be taxed in the same old way.

The people as a whole rebelled against utility greed, but the holding company trick will still hide the plunder of these greedy corporations.

Stupidity, if not worse, will continue to handle the twenty millions of dollars raised by auto owners for good roads.

The legislature is, apparently, ruled by the bureaus it created in the past. The members bargain for favors. Others shrink before the power of the utility and highway boards.

The fathers of children are still in the grip of the school book trust.

As a matter of fact, the legislator who goes home can report to his little political group that nothing has been done to interfere with the small machines or to disturb ancient greed and graft. Of course, there are three days left.

Still Pulling the Old Gags

The debate recently before the League for Industrial Democracy in New York City brought forth once more the moldy demand that industry be left free to work out its own solution of the unemployment problem.

Debating Professor Maynard Krueger of the Wharton school of Philadelphia, Noel Sargent, manager of the industrial relations department of the National Association of Manufacturers, denounced compulsory unemployment insurance.

He demanded that employers be left to their own devices in this matter. According to Sargent, public unemployment insurance means "putting an economic question under political control."

This objection to subjecting economic problems to political control is not particularly impressive. When have manufacturers objected on this ground to the protective tariff? Have the railroads protested against legislation forwarding mergers and other policies which the railroads favor?

What type of question is more legitimately subject to political control than an economic question?

Nor can one be bowled over by the proposition that industry should be left free to provide its own unemployment insurance and other measures of relief. It has been given a hundred years to do this, but the opportunity never has been exploited.

Such employer schemes as exist are inadequate in nature and microscopic in volume. They are not a drop in the bucket of what is required.

Serious warnings in 1921, 1924, and 1927 brought no effective results. Nor has the present devastating depression produced any general effort of employers to handle the relief problem.

If employers want to be left free to work out their own schemes, then their best argument would be the production of such plans, adequate in conception and impressive in number. If some employers are serious in this connection, they will help themselves.

This depression will be their last opportunity for independent action.

Looking Ahead to 1950

Americans will do well to remember the admonition of John Moody, president of a financial and business service, that more people should plan their business and investments for 1950, rather than an expected boom a year or two hence.

Moody points out, as every one has suspected, that in the natural course of events prosperity will return, but that after the recovery we will experience undue speculation and another slump, just as we have in the past.

"The trouble with us is that we haven't the needed long perspective," he said. "When we buy we should invest our money sanely in sound things and stick to them with a long view ahead—not an overnight turn."

All that sounds rather like a schoolboy's thrift lesson. But every one will have to admit that the "get-rich-quick" urge is responsible for most of our troubles. Time was when the average young man planned on making his fortune over a period of twenty or thirty years. Then came the stock market boom of 1928 and 1929. Investors expected 10 to 100 per cent returns almost overnight.

The bubble finally burst and, as the current story goes, those who picked lemons in 1929 are selling apples today.

Moody reminds us that the great business and investments fortunes have been made by companies that have grown steadily over a long period.

When America is plunged into the throes of another boom, Mr. and Mrs. Average Citizen will do well to follow big business' example.

What About Congress?

"Thank the Lord," is the grateful sigh of many whenever congress adjourns. There is a growing feeling that congress is a necessary evil, and the less it is in session the better.

We can understand this attitude, but we do not share it.

Of course, congress talks too much and does too little; and the little it does often is wrong. All of which is very discouraging to believers in efficient, smooth-running government.

That lack of efficiency, however, is not the fault of congress. It is the fault of democracy. Democracy is the most cumbersome method of government ever devised. Democracy is government by discussion.

We have had that kind of government in this country from the beginning. This is rather late in the day to make the discovery that it is a very roundabout and slow method.

The idea of our fathers—and of most Americans until recently—was that, although cumbersome, democracy was the surest, and therefore the quickest, method in the long run.

It was believed that the people could be trusted

to make fewer mistakes concerning their own interest than any small privileged class running the government.

Since the war, democracy has been unpopular, especially in Europe. In many countries democracy has been pushed aside in favor of dictatorship. Dictatorship does things without debate; it is swift.

In this country we had a faintly disguised dictatorship during the war. We still have it as a hangover. The President and the supreme court have usurped many powers of the representative branch of the government.

On top of that, when the country is in economic danger, the cry goes up that congress should be sent home, that it must not be allowed to meet in special session. This obviously is a reversal of the whole theory of government on which this democracy was founded.

That in itself is not bad. There is no reason why we should not depart from democratic methods if they have failed and if we have found a better method. But have we found a better method?

The record demonstrates the opposite to be true. The record shows that congress, with all its faults, has been the chief guardian of the people's liberties and chief protector of the people's interests.

The record shows that the executive more often has been lacking in wisdom, in initiative, and in courage in meeting national crises.

Take the last year. The disastrous higher tariff, which destroyed our export trade and prolonged the business depression, was forced upon an unwilling congress by the President.

Before the depression, congress tried to check the speculative market and to plan against unemployment but was blocked by the President.

When congress was out of session and there was no one to prod him, the President did nothing effective through last summer and fall to cope with the drought or unemployment. This winter congress has tried repeatedly to provide direct relief for drought and unemployment sufferers, and to set up advance machinery and planning to handle future emergencies—only to be thwarted in most cases by the President.

On most issues, from Muscle Shoals and power to maternity and infancy aid, congress was on the side of the people and the President was not. That has been true this year, and most other years.

To usurp the powers of congress or to destroy the public confidence in congress is to undermine representative government.

Plenty of Law

Once more our existing immigration laws have been searched, and this time they are found to contain a provision described by the labor department as "little known and seldom used."

By enforcing this provision, aliens who have arrived within the last three years, and who are in need, can be sent home with their own consent at government expense.

Some months ago it was discovered that the immigration laws contained a proviso touching Mexican immigration. This has been ordered strictly enforced, and the tide of immigration from that country has lessened tremendously.

Later, the so-called "public charge" clause was discovered in the same laws, and its strict enforcement has curbed immigration from European countries.

Now comes discovery of this "new" provision which should help clear up the unemployment situation in some of our cities by deportation of indigent aliens.

Might not it be a good idea to have a thorough study of the statutes affecting immigration? It might be discovered that we have laws enough, and need no new ones at all.

The boy whose proud mother said, "You'll hear from him some day," now is crooning ballads over the radio.

"Science Seeks to Find Out What Makes Singers Sing." Headline. A tub of warm water, usually.

Snoring, says an eminent psychologist, is a saxonomic type of noise. And sometimes saxophoning is a snoring type of noise.

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

IT took a sham battle at Panama to convince the officials of the navy that airplanes are needed to defend the canal against attack, but the average man has known it ever since the World War, during which different nations had to hide their navies to protect them from the sky.

Aside from submarines, destroyers and airplane carriers we don't need a navy department except to furnish a football team to play the army eleven every Thanksgiving.

The title of the secretary of the navy should be changed; he should be called the secretary of the obsolete.

ONE of the saddest things of modern times occurred up at Montreal the other day when a hotel guest grabbed a biscuit and threw it at a waiter, and struck him on the jaw and broke it—not the biscuit, but the jaw.

An ancient landmark is passing. Colored porters who carried the universal name, "George," are passing before the Filipinos who have been adopted by the Pullman company.

The Filipinos are very alert mentally; they hold their hands out on the first trip.

Bills have been introduced in the New York legislature to prevent judges from being directors of corporations or being in business of any kind. This would seem to be the proper caper.

WE were informed the other day that General Smedley Butler now charges \$1,000 a speech, and if this is so, it proves once more that nothing pays like advertising.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once upon a time delivered lectures for \$5 a night, but in his day there was no Mussolini to go after.

It is said there will be a revolution in Nicaragua immediately after our marines get out, but this will not be anything new for Nicaragua and besides it's none of our business, and the President is right to bring the boys back home.

THE raiding of this aristocratic club in Philadelphia and the seizure of 600 cases of rare joy water suggests the idea that if this kind of enforcement had been carried out on a nation-wide scale immediately after the adoption of the eighteenth amendment, prohibition now would be enforced as well as any other law.

The trouble has been that the poor man has known that the rich man was getting just about all he wanted and taking no pains to conceal the fact.

M. E. Tracy SAYS:

The Railroads Have Made a Mistake in Trying to Block Competition by Arbitrary Means.

FT. SMITH, Ark., March 5.—Coal miners of western Arkansas are in bad shape. Ordinarily they get from three to five months' work a year. Last year they worked a maximum of two months. On top of four straight crop failures, as occurred in one county, that makes their situation pretty tough.

Mild weather has lowered the consumption of coal this winter, but that's incidental. What ails the industry, and what promises to go right on ailing it, is the amazing rapidity with which oil and gas are being substituted.

Oil and gas represent as violent a revolution in our economic life as did the railroad or the automobile. Only to cite one example a 24-inch pipeline, more than 900 miles long, is being laid from the Panhandle of Texas to Chicago.

Hits Other Industries

ALL told, this country now has 90,000 miles of pipeline carrying oil or gas.

Not only the coal industry, but the railroads have been hard hit.

Driven to desperation by an unexpected slump in freight, and encouraged by a more indulgent attitude toward mergers on the part of the federal government, the railroads, or some of their officials, at least, have fallen for the idea of attempting to block competition by arbitrary means.

They are doing what they can to have trucks unreasonably taxed and regulated, to block the improvement of inland waterways, and to obtain laws whereby pipe lines not only would be classified as common carriers, but be barred from conveying oil or gas which belonged to the company owning them.

That's all a mistake. Railroad officials who endorse such tactics only are creating unnecessary antagonism.

Going Backward

MAHATMA GANDHI appears to be the only man alive who can get away with the idea that progress lies in getting the clock back, and he couldn't in any other land but India.

Even with India back of him, he has had to be content with a compromise which does not amount to much, and for perfectly obvious reasons.

From a political standpoint, Gandhi and his associates are right in asking for more freedom, but freedom means nothing unless it includes the right to think and to translate thought into improvements.

There is no salvation for the people of India, or any other land, in reverting to the customs of a thousand years ago. Their only hope of work and prosperity lies in taking advantage of human knowledge.

Instead of telling them to go back to the hand loom and the spinning wheel, Gandhi should be encouraging his followers to kill the snakes and other deadly animals, clear the jungle, build roads, and open up the country.

Same in U. S.

BUT Gandhi is not the only leader who believes that prosperity and happiness can be obtained through boycotts, the refusal to co-operate, and other arbitrary interferences with the natural development of industry and commerce.

We have a lot of the same bunk right here in these United States, and we have seen it at work in the session of congress just finished.

It was only through the unlooked-for mishaps of logging that we escaped some ridiculous embargoes and restrictions. As it was, we came out with the tariff a little higher and, consequently, a little worse.

Still there are those who think we should have gone much farther in making ourselves disagreeable in the face of an already irritated world.

We are carrying the big stick all right, but we are not treading softly, which was the better part of Mr. Roosevelt's advice.

Wasted Energy

GANDHI retires after promising Lord Irwin that he will quit the nonsense in exchange for a plan of autonomy which leaves England in control of India's military and financial affairs, and congress adjourns after having spent three months making things as tough as possible for President Hoover.

It looks like considerable amount of wasted energy in both cases. If either Gandhi or congress has accomplished anything that couldn't have been accomplished with half the balderdash, there is something wrong with the multiplication table. All winter long congress has acted just like the Irishman who told his wife, "I do not hate you because I hate you; I hate you to show my authority."

The most constructive job congress might have done after the relief program was out of the way—appointing our entrance into the world court—it wouldn't even take time to discuss.

Questions and Answers

Does the temperature of a whole body of water have to reach a certain degree before it freezes?

When a body of water freezes the surface layers are first cooled and condensed, and being heavier than the lower layers, they sink and are replaced by the warmer water from beneath. This process of cooling at the surface, and sinking, goes on until the whole body of water has reached a temperature of 4 degrees centigrade. When this condition has been reached, further cooling of the surface layers makes them lighter than the water below, and they now remain on top until they freeze. Therefore, before any ice can form, the whole mass of water must be cooled to 4 degrees centigrade.

What was the first railroad bridge across the Mississippi river, and when was it built?

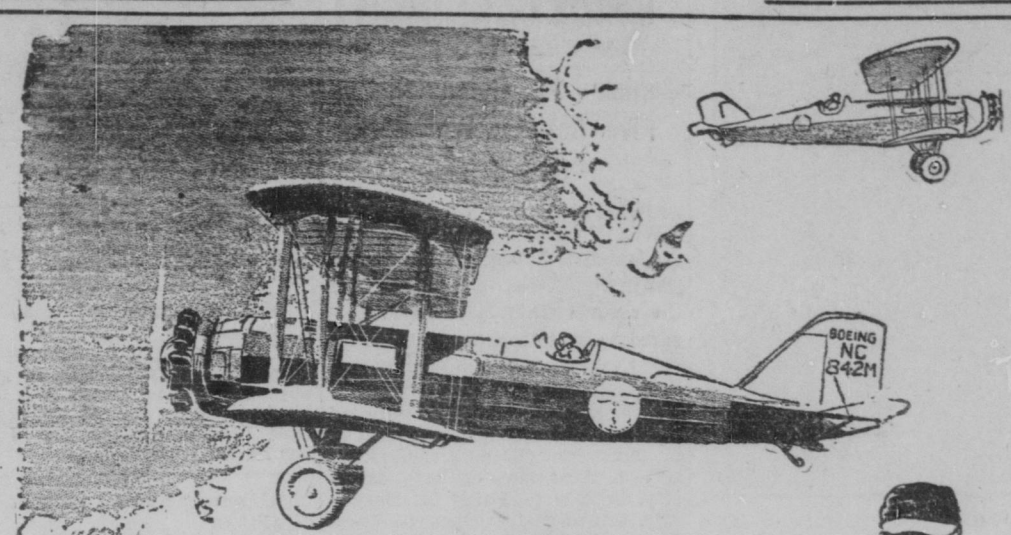
The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad bridge between Davenport, Ia., and Rock Island, Ill., which was completed April 21, 1856.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

On request, sent with stamped addressed envelope, Mr. Ripley will furnish proof of anything depicted by him.

By RIPLEY

Registered U. S. Patent Office



TWO AIRPLANES - FLYING IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS BOTH HAD TAIL WINDS OF EQUAL VELOCITY! Near Eugene, Oregon.



THE LOUISA & F. GAY BRIDGE - VA. VIRGINIA CROSSES 2 RIVERS AND CONNECTS 2 STATES, 2 TOWNS, 2 COUNTIES, A DISTRICT AND A PRECINCT.

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Following is the explanation of Ripley's "Believe It or Not," which appeared in Wednesday's Times: William May Wright Can Tear a Deck of Cards Into Eight—A few days ago I saw Mr. Wright take a new, full deck of cards and tear it into eight equal parts with his bare hands. Mr. Wright, a broker with offices at 71 Broadway, New York City, performed this trick the first time he ever tried it. He attributes this ability to the concentration and coordination of the mind and the hand muscles, and not to any unusual strength.

Madame Clotilla—the Bearded Lady—Madame Josephine Clotilla, the Bearded Lady (nee Bolesdeschene) was a native of Geneva, Switzerland. When she arrived in America in 1853 she was about 24 years old, and the mother of two children, one of whom had a beard an inch long at the age of 1 year. She was a member of Barnum's American museum, and her exhibition created a sensation.

Friday—"The Woman Who Can Lift An Elephant."

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Patients Have Faith in Prescriptions

This is the first of three articles by Dr. Fishbein on prescriptions.

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

PATIENTS' always have attached to the prescription of a physician in time of disease a special significance, because it meant to them the endorsement of the remedies which he felt on the basis of his experience, necessary to secure improvement.

Few people realize that the very sign at the top of the prescription is associated with the idea of magic, constituting an insignia of an appeal to higher powers that the prescription may have the effect that is desired.

However, if a prescription is written scientifically by a man who understands the art of choosing drugs properly, it is never quite the same for a patient, but is adapted particularly to his symptoms that exist in that particular patient at the special time.

Whereas the scientific physician of half a century past had but few drugs of established virtue from

which to choose, the modern physician has thousands of drugs and preparations from which he may make a choice.

These are divided into classes depending upon effects which they have, as proved in most instances, by careful tests on animals.

Thus some remedies are specific and suited only to a single disease. Of this nature, are diphtheria antitoxin, scarlet fever antitoxin, and similar preparations called biologic preparations made by causing animals to develop in their blood substances specifically designed to attack the disease concerned.

Another type of drug is a drug of chemical nature which has been proved to have the special virtue of attacking certain germs.

Of this character is quinine used in malaria, and arsenamine or salvarsan as used in syphilis.

However, in the latter condition the physician is not limited to any one preparation, since it has also been shown that preparations of mercury and of bismuth have the special power of attacking the or-

ganism responsible, and that iodine may be of value in attacking the lesions of the disease.

Other drugs which have specific virtues include the anesthetics which bring about unconsciousness; digitalis, which slows and enforces the beat of the heart; caffeine, which stimulates the higher centers of the brain; iron, which increases the hemoglobin or red coloring matter of the blood, and the newer dye substances, which, when injected, tend to localize invariably in certain organs.

Thus it may be seen that the specific effect of a drug may be in its tendency to attack only a certain type of organism, or in its effect to bring about a certain definite function, or in its effect to go to a certain part of the body every time.

There used to be a joke about the doctor who had a pill for every organ in the body and the colored boy who wanted to know how the pill always found the particular organ for which it was intended.

Modern science has turned this joke into a fact.

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

IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

I SAT and watched a paper die.

We waited in the home of a man who once had run it. A flash came over the phone. The World was ended.

F. A. looked eagerly at a bowl of fruit upon the table and said: "Mr. Swope, where have you been buying your apples?"

The World fired me, and the Telegram gave me a job. Now, the Telegram owns the World. This is a fantastic set of chances almost like those which might appear in somebody's dream of revenge.

But I never thought much of revenge. I wouldn't give a nickel for this one. If I could, by raising my hand, bring dead papers back to life I'd do so.

Sometimes in this column I've opposed the theories of those who would break up mergers and chain stores and try the trick of unscrambling large-scale production.

I've said that this could not be done—that it wasn't even expedient. In the long run the happiness of all of us depends upon increased efficiency and a shorter sum of toil.

That's true. I still believe it. I wouldn't weep about a shoe factory or a branch line railroad shutting down.

Millions for a Soul

BUT newspapers are different. I'm a newspaper man. There are many things to be said for this new combination.

It is my sincere belief that the Scripps-Howard chain is qualified by its record and its potentialities to carry on the Pulitzer tradition of liberal journalism. In fact, I'll go further and say that, as far as my personal experience goes, the Telegram has been more alert and valiant in its independent attitude than the World papers.

Yet I hope, at least, that this may be the end of mergers. The economic pressure for consolidation still continues. A newspaper is, among other things, a business. A newspaper is a rule unto itself.

It has a soul for salvation or damnation. I was pleased to hear much said about intangibles in all the accounts of the preliminary negotiations leading up to the present merger.

I was glad that for once the emphasis was taken away from

mere machinery. The fact of presses and linotype equipment never was stressed in the proceedings. This didn't count.

The intangibles of a newspaper are the men and the women who make it.

First in America, and now in a frenzied form in Russia, there grows a cult which bows and bangs its head upon the floor in worship of the machine.

In some calculations man is no more than a device to pull upon a gadget. But here, at last, there was talk of millions, and checks in huge amounts were passed—not for apparatus, moving belts and intricate mechanism. This was a deal for a name.

A Long Shot

SINCE my feeling is strong that a newspaper neither can rise nor fall beyond or below its staff, I was stirred by the notion—the dream—that World men might take over the World.

I realize, as they do now, the difficulties which lay in the path of any such plan. I'll readily admit that 1,000 to 1 would be a generous price against any such undertaking.

But we are, or ought to be, lovers of long shots. There's nothing particularly stirring when the favorite

coasts home in front. Although the newspaper crowd didn't put its project over, it isn't fair to call this miss plain failure.

The night I died I went late to see the men I knew and had worked with long ago—that is, two years, or maybe three, which is a long span in the life of any roving and rebellious columnist.

I never found the paper pounding and pulsing quite so much as it did now—when it was dead.

For almost the first time in my life I watched reporters animated by a group consciousness. Newspaper men are blandly and, I think, blindly individualistic. Once I was president of a press writers' union. There were four members.

Nobody would join us, because the average reporter carried in his knapsack the baton of a managing editor, or even the dim hope of being some day a dramatic critic. What did he want with organi-

zation? He stood on two feet—a single unit.

But as the World passed, we sat together in a very vigorous sort of democracy. At first I felt I might be out of place as I was an ex-World man. But by 4 in the morning we were all "ex." We had ex-managing editor, ex-city editor and dozens of ex-reporters.

Naturally, I have both hope and confidence in the new paper. Like John Brown's body, the World goes marching on. To heights, I hope.

But something is gone. They aren't all marching. Men have dropped out.

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Daily Thought

Many waters can not quench love; neither can the floods drown it: If a man would give all the substance of his house for love, it would utterly be contemned.—Solomon's Song 8:7.

Love is the road to God; for love, endless love, is Himself.—Sonnensberg.

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