



## The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)  
Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-220 West Maryland Street, Indianapolis, Ind. Price in Marion County, 2 cents; elsewhere, 3 cents—delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week.  
BOYD GURLEY, ROY W. HOWARD, FRANK G. MORRISON.  
Editor President Business Manager  
PHONE—Riley 6551 SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 1931  
Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Newspaper Information Service and Audit Bureau of Circulations.

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

### What a Pity

Future generations will forget the name of Leslie, who is to be pitied rather than blamed.

Opportunity beckoned to him with an hour of greatness. He might have received the thanks of living men and women had he but chosen to offer them a faint ray of hope in bleak and dreary lives.

By accident of position, he had power. His was the chance to give expression to a new doctrine of humanity. He became, instead, the phonograph of privilege and greed and timidity and heartlessness.

The old age pension measure was more than a legislative act. It was fundamental in its significance in that it translated to a mechanical age some of the Sermon on the Mount.

The world would have known that Indiana is ready to face the modern problems of industry and commerce and of life itself in the spirit of Him who preached human brotherhood.

It was one more step away from the jungle and barbarism and the day when human beings ate the flesh of other human beings.

It had all these things and more—because it spelled hope to the hopeless, security to the frightened, freedom of a desperate age.

The Governor may have thought himself courageous and dramatic in daring to face a legislature with his veto message. Perhaps he did not know and never will know that he was sent—sent by the powerful, the greedy, the comfortable—to destroy even this small palliative to their present wants.

What a pity that a man who came from the people should, in his brief moment of power, borrowed power, turn from sympathy with the surroundings of youth and yield to the tempting whispers of those in the new and strange atmosphere which he now breathes.

That is the real pity. A man who might have been great becomes a cipher in history. He who might have won the unbounded thanks of thousands prefers the plaudits of those who will turn and rend him to bits at the moment he ceases to do their wishes.

A tragedy, but not for the eternal quest of justice and of human sympathy.

A tragedy for Leslie the Governor, who, if prophecy be permitted, will live many years to regret the false bravado which prompted him to become a lobbyist in an hour when he might, for once, have risen to the full stature of a Governor.

### Equality for Women

The President's signature written across a bill that passed during the closing days of congress will bring to a successful end the most important battle women have carried on since the suffrage campaign.

It is the Cable nationality bill, last of a long series which have granted women, in piecemeal fashion, equal nationality rights with men. It removes the last legal discrimination against American women who marry foreigners, by giving them the right to retain their citizenship, even if they marry aliens ineligible to citizenship.

The old idea that a woman must of necessity think her husband's thoughts, and feel his emotions, and share his loyalties, has been placed where it belongs, with the coal oil lamps and starched petticoats of another era. If this ever was true, it is not true today and it is time we recognized the fact.

Perhaps one of these days it will occur to us that a woman is a sufficiently responsible being to have legal rights to her own earnings, to will her own property, to establish her own residence, and to assert equal authority with her husband over her own children.

### Saint or Devil

Maybe Gandhi is the saint his people proclaim him. Maybe Gandhi is the half-naked fanatic and devil described by the British die-hards. But, saint or devil, he ranks among the greatest revolutionary leaders of all time.

A revolutionist is judged by his power to move mountains. Gandhi has done that, not by physical force, like Lenin and others, but by spiritual force. He fights as Jesus fought.

This method inaccurately is called nonresistance. It is in fact resistance of the most extreme and uncompromising sort, moral resistance. It is war—no less war because it is nonviolent war.

The weapon is civil disobedience. In this country Thoreau once preached it, without winning converts. Today it generally is practiced in the United States in two fields—and with success.

With this weapon the south has nullified the constitutional amendments giving black men paper equality with white men. With this weapon citizens virtually have destroyed prohibition.

But there is this difference. The American who evades the prohibition law, like the Frenchman who evades the tax collector, acts by stealth. Gandhi and his millions act openly, without fear. By that daring and faith, they achieve the terrible ecstasy and power of revolution which makes the impossible possible.

That Gandhi does make the seemingly impossible come true is clear from the terms of the truce which he has signed with the British viceroy. One year ago, when he marched to the seashore to make salt in defiance of all the might of the British empire, the wise men of the western world predicted that Britain could not and would not bow to the will of an unarmed brown man. Only a week ago this still seemed impossible.

But Gandhi has won this first great battle in the war for India's liberation from alien rule. His people will continue to make salt by the sea, breaking the British monopoly.

His 27,000 followers imprisoned for civil disobedience will walk free. He will dominate the negotiations for home rule, which were futile in London and Delhi without him.

Britain must deal with him, for he is India.

And if Britain in the end does not grant his demands, one gesture from his emaciated hand will unleash again the gigantic boycott which wipes out British trade at his command.

Saint or devil, Gandhi's personal power probably is unequalled in all the world today.

### Wagner and Hoover

Senator Robert F. Wagner of New York is a clear-headed gentleman with an excellent legislative and judicial public record. He has a winning personality and the backing of a strong political machine.

He has struggled without abuse or partisanship to shape three effective laws for combating in the future the unemployment suffering of today.

Wagner never will threaten Herbert Hoover's political ambitions. He was born in Nastatten, province Hessen Nassau, Germany, and, although he came to this country as a small boy, he is not eligible for the presidency.

So there can be no personal political reason why President Hoover should not sign the third of the

## M. E. Tracy SAYS:

Feeling in Tennessee Grows  
More Bitter Daily Over the  
Gigantic Lea-Caldwell Bank  
Crash.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., March 7.—The Lea-Caldwell crash still represents the biggest piece of unfinished business on Tennessee's calendar, and probably will for some time to come.

Although it has been four months since the storm broke, no one pretends to know the amount of money lost, much less the amount of carelessness or corruption involved.

A district attorney of New York once told this writer that a case lost half its value from the prosecution standpoint in six months, but that does not hold good with regard to the Lea-Caldwell crash.

Feeling is much more bitter than it was four, or even two, months ago. The cry for punishment has grown much louder. The demand for indictments and trials is increasing every day.

The people just are beginning to realize how completely they were taken in, not only by promoters and stock salesmen, but by the public officials whom they selected and paid to know better.

Idaho is reported to be following closely on the heels of Arkansas, with another quick divorce law. We never have heard of Idaho as the home of higher criticism or the new sexology.

But conditions are desperate in both states. The drought, like politics, creates strange bedfellows. Arkansas is one of the few states which has joined Tennessee in anti-evolution laws. The credibility of the creation tales in Genesis now is supported by statute.

Yet we learn that Arkansas also just has placed on her statute books a ninety-day divorce law. The injunction contained in Holy Writ that what God has joined together no man shall put asunder does not appear to have the same validity as the story of creation.

Idaho is reported to be following closely on the

heels of Arkansas, with another quick divorce law.

We never have heard of Idaho as the home of higher

criticism or the new sexology.

Meanwhile, a legislative committee has been digging up a lot of ugly evidence, the first result of which is the arrest of J. B. Ramsey, president of the now defunct Holston Union National bank and Holston Trust Company of Knoxville.

In Asheville, N. C., where all the

banks were wiped out, they are calling for the indictment of every one concerned, and in Kentucky the stockholders of a big bank which went down in the crash are being sued for \$60,000,000.

Receipts are becoming so numer

ous and interlocked that the

lawyers hardly can keep track of them.

\*\*

Bankers Saw It

A N astonishing phase of the dis

aster, and one which has come

more than all else to open the public's eyes, is the fact that some bankers saw it coming.

No big Memphis institution was

hooked, though every one of them

appears to have been approached

and subjected to all kinds of in

trigue and pressure.

A few level-headed financiers

saw the storm coming and not only

sidestepped it, but built up the

necessary cash reserves with which

to protect themselves and their

customers when it struck.

If they could be so wise, how

could bank examiners and other

public officials be so ignorant?

Not only that, but why were

state and county funds permitted

to remain in those institutions?

\*\*

Wrong State of Mind

T HE people of Tennessee are be

ginning to realize that this was

not just a case of misdirected ambi

tion on the part of swollen-headed

promoters, or innocent gullibility on

the part of those who thought they

saw a chance to make some easy

money.

It goes without saying that the

skyrocket was not set off with the

idea it would blow up so soon, if

at all. When things became de

teriorate, however, some of those in

involved appear to have taken queer

ways to prevent the explosion.

In essentials, it is no different

from the cases of gambling with

other people's money, or doctoring

books, such as we read about every

day in the week. It is just a little

bigger.

The tragedy of it lies in the state

of mind it reveals—a state of mind

which is becoming much too com

mon.

\*\*

Efforts Not Honest

T ENNESSEE is not the only place

where "Get-Rich-Quick" Wal-

lengards have operated success-

fully, where investors have been

duped by their own greed for easy

money, where politicians have been

hypnotized in the presence of rich

rich backers, where public officials

have fallen for the same kind of

bunk, and where the whole miser-

able set-up has been defined by

some as an "honest effort" to boost

to prosperity, or save the party.

The idea back of it all has be-

come too common for comfort—the

idea that "the end justifies the

means" that it is all right to toler-

ate a crooked administration if it

paves streets and provides play-

grounds, or that there is no call

to speak harshly of a racketeer if

he finances soup kitchens.

\*\*

IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD

BRON

WHILE indictments are going

round in Gotham, one cul-

prit has not been mentioned. I re-

fer to the citizens of the City of

New York.

You and I are tolerably honest

men and women. A great many of

us violate the prohibition law with

our compunction. We don't think it's

wrong to gamble. And under pres-

sure we are not unwilling to ask a

friend about fixing up some minor

traffic violation.

In other