



The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

Owned and published daily (except Sundays) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-220 West Maryland Street, Indianapolis, Ind. Price in Marion County, 2 cents; a copy elsewhere, 3 cents—delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week.

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MONDAY, MARCH 23, 1931

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Member of United Press. Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance. Newspaper Information Service and Audit Bureau of Circulations.

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

Bully for Butler

More important, in the long stretch of years, than any other bit of news is the announcement that Butler university is once more upon the accredited list of colleges.

This institution inevitably is destined to play a larger part in the future of this city than any mercantile, financial or industrial enterprise.

From it will come many of the young men and women who will decide important questions, not only of government, but of industry and, perhaps, of character, of our future.

From it will come young men and women who will be equipped to think. The future demands young men and women who have been trained to think. The future requires thought and it requires, as well as thought, the ability to think in terms of unselfish service to mankind.

The location of Butler insures to many who otherwise would be unable to pursue their processes of education an opportunity for cultural development. Culture spells the difference between savagery and civilization.

Facilities are ample for development of material things. Today, machines furnish luxuries of unparalleled abundance and variety. Properly distributed, there are resources that defy famine, defy privation, defy the fundamental requirements of food, shelter and clothing.

But there never will be a surfeit of culture or of character. Any obstacle in the way of the highest development of Butler is a blow at both.

That one has been removed, even though it never was really important, is a victory. Not only Butler, but Indianapolis, has reason for congratulation.

Family Tree of the Racketeer

The "racket" and the "racketeer" rarely are absent from the front pages of our newspapers, but in the last weeks they have bobbed up with more than usual force and frequency. Mayor Walker has been "shocked" into his customary inactivity. Governor Roosevelt, supreme knight of the future peripatetic, has retained his recent characteristic pose of being about to intervene forcefully and behave as he did nearly twenty years ago as an independent Democratic senator at Albany.

The question of "Why the racketeer?" has agitated many writers and lecturers of late, but the explanations usually are single track and inadequate. The racketeer is the composite product of a complex set of forces in American economic, social and psychological evolution. The notion that he has been produced by recent immigration from southern Europe or by the prohibition orgy is not broad enough to cover the case.

First strains in the parentage of the American racketeer antedate the settlement of America. They were born with the desire of the explorers to get great riches with small effort. The hopeful search for mountains of gold runs from the prophets of Eldorado in the sixteenth century to Rothstein and Capone.

This getting something-for-nothing psychology has permeated our history in speculation in federal securities and federal lands, in profiteering in war, in wildcat mining and oil enterprises, in stock gambling, bucket shop swindles and the like.

The frontier made its contribution in the spirit of lawless bravery and optimism. The tradition and romance of gunplay and gunmen born here never has lost its grip upon the American imagination. The frontier likewise engendered grandiose hopes of rapid and enormous enrichment with slight delay and a minimum of manual effort.

The great buccaneers of American business had their powerful hand in the procreative efforts which have produced the moguls of modern gangland. Astor and the monopolists of the early fur trade set the pace, to be followed by the searchers for great and sudden wealth in the gold and silver mines of the west.

Jay Gould, Daniel Drew, and Commodore Vanderbilt were as ruthless in exploiting early railroad development for private gain as any Capone or Moran in utilizing the opportunities which prohibition has offered. Morgan and the great banking syndicates followed in their trail.

Rockefeller and his associates in the great struggle for oil control "muscled" out competitors as unceremoniously as Capone applies strong-arm methods to an independent brewer in Cicero. Carnegie and Frick used private gunmen in stripes as freely and with as deadly effect as any gangster of today employs squads of machine-gum choppers.

If capital is the grandparent of the racket, labor is at least its uncle. Forced into violence to secure a bare existence from capital, labor gave birth to the "pineapple" technique back in the days of the Haymarket bombing of 1886.

Americans are human beings, and hence addicted to games of chance, love, and alcoholic stimulation. But they also have a tradition of moral purity, solemnity and earnestness, born of puritanism and the exacting struggles of a pioneer society. Therefore, we are in the moral dilemma of wanting to be both happy and pure.

This leads us to pass laws to give us moral respectability, but we have no wish or serious intention to obey them. As Lippmann sums the matter up in The Forum: "The high level of lawlessness is maintained by the fact that Americans desire to do so many things which they also desire to prohibit."

Six Million and More

Now that the federal government belatedly has discovered that the number of totally unemployed exceeds six million, what can be done about it? With congress sent home and Hoover unwilling to call a special session, there is no chance of immediate federal appropriation needed to meet the emergency.

The Hoover administration refused during the winter to admit the seriousness of the situation. When Hoover at the opening of congress in December placed the total unemployed figure at about two and a half million, and his aids later raised the figure to four million, we pointed out that the best available estimates to economists put the total above six million.

Had the administration, while congress still was in session, given out the facts which it now publishes, doubtless congress would have made the emergency relief appropriations demanded by economists, social workers and liberal Democrats and Republicans.

For it would have been clear to congress that the situation is worse even than indicated by the six million figure. That figure does not include the part-time employed, which was shown by the Metropolitan company insurance survey made for the government in December to be higher than 20 per cent.

Suffering of families of part-time employed was one reason given by mayors in reply to the senate questionnaires for the need of direct federal relief.

The idea that this emergency can be met by voluntary private relief funds has been disproved. Con-

trary to the general belief, the National Red Cross is not distributing unemployment relief and does not plan to do so. Private relief funds in most cities will be exhausted by April 1.

Those private funds, according to Allen T. Burns, director of the National Association of Community Chests and Councils, have amounted to less than 25 per cent of total relief extended. The remaining 75 per cent has come from public treasures, chiefly city treasuries. And the cities, for legal or financial reasons, are about at the end of their rope.

Then, unless there is an unexpectedly rapid increase in employment this spring, it appears that only direct federal aid, through private and municipal relief agencies, can prevent serious suffering and unrest.

Now that the government has revised its facts as to the emergency, President Hoover should stand ready to revise his policy for meeting that emergency by a special session of congress and necessary relief appropriations.

German-Austrian Union?

Germany and Austria have been driven into an agreement for a customs union. This certainly is one of the most important developments of the post-war era. It will change the economic map of Europe. It may change the political map of Europe.

That, of course, is what France fears.

France expects too much. Thanks to the World war, and its cost to victors and vanquished, France became military dictator of Europe. By the unjust peace treaties, by the ring of military allies which she forced around Germany, and by her own military superiority over a disarmed Germany, France hopes to perpetuate her European hegemony.

It can not be done.

Economic facts are stronger in the long run than political treaties and armed force. Thus economic facts defeated the French occupation of the Ruhr. And now economic facts are forcing a commercial merger of Germany and Austria.

When France crippled Germany by taking away her colonies and ships, when France and the allies disbanded Austria and set up new nationalistic states with trade barriers, Germany and Austria were drawn together by the prime urge of self-preservation.

Under the circumstances, a German-Austrian customs union—if not actual political union—was inevitable from the beginning. The only question was time.

Germany and Austria have chosen the right time. To French and little entente objections, they can reply that they are acting on the inalienable right of every sovereign nation to protect its existence—now jeopardized by debts and economic disintegration leading to a Fascist or Communist dictatorship, unless checked.

A customs union to destroy the artificial and costly trade barriers between Austria and Germany is the first obvious step to check their economic disintegration, they can argue with truth.

Moreover, they can point to their invitation to other nations to join their customs union as proof that they are not trying to form a German bloc for economic or military war against others.

Briand, French foreign minister, for more than a year, has been working formally for a Pan-European customs union—if not actual political union—has failed at Geneva. France and her little entente allies refused to join the tariff truce.

Who can blame Germany and Austria for taking the Briand French plan and applying it to themselves as a step toward the eventual European customs union to which they invite others?

Whether this German-Austrian movement toward union becomes a threat instead of an aid to European peace depends on France. Extreme nationalist and militaristic groups will capture power in Berlin and Vienna only if France defeats the present German-Austrian policy of peace.

Illinois farmers are to conduct a campaign to make the public "milk conscious." Isn't that what the milk man does when he rouses us in the morning?

Dorothy thinks that "plug" tobacco is the kind an old horse chews on.

The butcher wouldn't complain if the average customer came in like a lion and went out out with some lamb.

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

PRESIDENT HOOVER will have a fine vacation.

It is not as bad as Ruthless. Forced into violence to secure a bare existence from capital, labor gave birth to the "pineapple" technique back in the days of the Haymarket bombing of 1886.

Americans are human beings, and hence addicted to games of chance, love, and alcoholic stimulation.

But they also have a tradition of moral purity, solemnity and earnestness, born of puritanism and the exacting struggles of a pioneer society. Therefore, we are in the moral dilemma of wanting to be both happy and pure.

This leads us to pass laws to give us moral respectability, but we have no wish or serious intention to obey them. As Lippmann sums the matter up in The Forum: "The high level of lawlessness is maintained by the fact that Americans desire to do so many things which they also desire to prohibit."

We are glad to have him make the trip on a bat-tleship, since this is all bat-tleships are good for now.

Avgation has put them out of business.

Should we have another war, we will have to cover them with greens, bunkers and holes and try to make the enemy think they are miniature golf courses.

We are making little headway.

Men who think are alarmed. As they see the situation, it represents nothing less than a most dangerous collapse not only of our political structure, but of the moral and social order.

The conviction is growing that we can't hope to correct much of anything until we work improvement has been shown in the administration of public affairs, particularly as that administration has to do with law enforcement.

We are arresting larger numbers of people than ever before, and are finding it necessary to enlarge our penal institutions on a scale and with a rapidity which is little less than startling.

We are making little headway, however, against the insidious misconception of loyalty and patriotism which makes it all so futile.

Machine politics and gang rule have developed a power not only in back alleys and dark streets, but in the very highest places of political authority, with which the law is finding it more and more difficult to cope.

In Porto Rico the president will find a beautiful land, where nature is rich and the people poor.

He will see flying fish, sudden showers that wet only one side of the street, natives walking long distances to carry a small mess of vegetables to market and he also may see other natives carrying umbrellas on moonlight nights to keep the moon's rays off their faces, so they will not go "looney."

The President may also visit the grave of Ponce de Leon, who crossed the Atlantic to find Florida the fountain of eternal youth.

That was long before the ladies found it in the drug store.

Speaking of bat-tleships being out of date, we read in today's paper that the government just has ordered the building of twelve bombing airplanes.

These airplanes will have a speed of 300 miles an hour, they can carry a 1,000-pound bomb, and can dive vertically 10,000 feet.

Good-by, bat-tleships!

X-GOVERNOR Davis of Idaho may have received \$8,000 for praising a twelve-volume life of Lincoln as he told the United States attorneys at New York, but we should think he would feel like 30 cents.

In Madras, India, two prominent Indian society women staged a public prize fight, one of them knocking the other out with a terrific uppercut, the audience being immensely gratified.

Great Britain no longer can say that India is not capable of self-government.

According to General Pershing's memoirs, one is forced to the conclusion that while our soldiers fought the Germans, our commander-in-chief fought Gen. Foch.

Bill Thompson is not having much success in appealing to party loyalty in Chicago, which is only natural, as Bill fed the elephant a bushel of thistles in the last election.

The idea that this emergency can be met by voluntary private relief funds has been disproved. Con-

M. E. Tracy SAYS:

Crime and Its Alleged Activities Have Come to Cost More Than Our Entire Operation of Government.

CINCINNATI, March 23—Chaplains of the Illinois state prison—one Catholic and one Protestant—agree that recent riots, involving the loss of three lives and a million dollars' worth of property, were due largely to methods pursued by the parole board.

They charge that while the board was considerate toward prisoners with influential connections, it had scant courtesy for the poor and friendless.

Well-dressed relatives of prisoners, they say, always could depend on a cordial reception, while those shabbily clothed were treated with the utmost indifference.

They declare that the board favored politicians, not only in the matter of granting requests, but in that of refusing to do so, that efforts were continually being made, either with the board's assistance or its knowledge, to obtain evidence from prisoners regarding the Chicago situation.

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Fleeced for "Pardon"

A WOMAN in Kentucky just has sworn out warrants against three men—one of them a court clerk—to whom she says she paid nearly \$1,000 to get her husband a pardon.

She says that, at the outset, an attorney promised to get it for \$500, but then he kept coming back for more, on the ground that someone in authority demanded it.

Along this same line, Robert Elliott Burns, who returned voluntarily to Georgia to work out an unexpected term of the chain gang, from which he escaped several times previously, declares that he paid out \$700 to lawyers supposed to be working for his release, that they did nothing to earn it, and quit pretending to work as soon as his bank roll gave out.

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Cover Up Evidence

GOING back to the Chicago situation, the grand jury just has come into possession of some valuable records and reports compiled by a former woman spy in the police department.

This woman was so determined not to produce them that she fled the city when summoned to testify and now is serving a four-month sentence for contempt of court.

But for her former chauffeur, they might never have been found. He told the authorities where some of them were hidden in a Negro's house, and when these were brought to light, the woman not only produced the rest, but agreed to tell everything.

The big point is, however, that she did not want to tried her best not to, and consented to perform what was her plain duty all along, only when forced to it.

In this connection, the New York policeman who arrested Vivian Gordon eight years ago, on what her diary reveals as a frameup, has been dismissed, not because of that, but for refusing to give evidence before an official investigation.

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Moral Cost Is High

IF WE had only crime to deal with, the problem would be far simpler, but we have all kinds of crookedness and corruption right inside the very system which was created to deal with crime. As a matter of ordinary common sense, crime could not flourish as it does in this country without such crookedness and corruption, and the people know it.

The big point is, however, that she did not want to tried her best not to, and consented to perform what was her plain duty all along, only when forced to it.

Both for her former chauffeur, they might never have been found. He told the authorities where some of them were hidden in a Negro's house, and when these were brought to light, the woman not only produced the rest, but agreed to tell everything.