

## The Indianapolis Times

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

### Free School Books

Readoption of the present list of school books by the state board of education serves to call attention to the failure of the legislature to provide free school books for all children.

That the same board refused to receive new bids means, "if at all significant, that many members of the board have a deeper regard for publishers than for parents."

Prices of nearly everything else have fallen in the past five years and it is conceivable that the publishers would be willing to reduce prices in order to get business.

The open charge by the head of a state institution that educators have been subjected to influences of book publishers is as humiliating to real teachers as it is true and it is dangerous to the whole school system.

Point was given to the charge by the fact that only two members of the board, President Hines of the state college at Terre Haute, and Superintendent Borden of South Bend, voted for advertisement for new bids.

The real solution, of course, is free school books printed by the state. As long as the law forces parents to send children to school the state should furnish all equipment. It is just as much a duty to give books as it is to furnish a building or a teacher or a bus.

Nor should the present system of giving books only to the needy be permitted to continue. Children are sensitive and brutal. The soul of a child can be easily bruised by taunts. When one child is branded as impoverished the state does a wrong much greater than when it brutalizes an adult by other customs.

The crusade for free books was lost in the legislative nightmare. Sentiment should be organized now for a new effort two years hence.

It might be made a major issue, not on the grounds of economy, but as a step toward the preservation of the democratic ideal.

### Speedy Justice

Presumably the courts will care for the legal question involved in the petition of D. C. Stephenson for a new trial and will dissent his startling charges of mob law and Klan history.

The significant feature of the new proceeding is the fact that his first appeal has been pending for five years and no decision rendered in the highest court.

From time to time the people have suspected that there might be political reasons for the lack of a decision. That is an unfortunate state of public mind toward the courts.

Unless there is strong confidence that the courts will always deliver the constitutional guarantee of speedy justice, the whole foundation of society suffers.

What happens to Stephenson is chiefly important to himself. What happens to the fundamental idea of speedy justice is important to all citizens.

It is possible that a delay of five years in a decision will meet with popular definition of what is speedy justice and what is a denial of speedy justice. It is possible that those who have no interest in the decision itself will reach the conclusion that he can not afford to deny any prisoner a review of his trial within such a period of time.

What is denied a Stephenson can be denied to every citizen. In these perilous days, that can reach very high or very low. Five years seems to be at least a reasonable period of deliberation for judges to decide on any legal question.

### What We Can Do

We have a national deficit of something like \$700,000,000. We have another deficit in prospect for 1932. As income tax returns drop lower and lower, the amounts of these deficits threaten to increase appallingly.

What are we going to do? It is not too soon to face that problem and start thinking about it, though congress probably will not meet until next December. For when action is taken it must be wise action. Unless we solve this problem intelligently, it will breed new evils and worse troubles.

There are three possible ways of balancing the national budget. The treasury can borrow on bonds to meet current obligations. It can, with legislative permission, suspend payments toward retirement of the national debt, thus temporarily saving some \$440,000,000, but increasing the amount that must be paid eventually. Or it can increase taxes.

One of these courses will be adopted during the next year. The optimistic utterances of Republican politicians in Washington, predicting that business will improve in time to save the situation, are misleading.

Business may improve in 1931. But 1931 incomes are not likely to amount so far above 1930 incomes that the taxes collected in 1932 to finance the fiscal year 1933 will be adequate.

The first two proposals are foolish, not to say immoral. To borrow extensively when repayment is not definitely in sight only postpones the day of reckoning, piles the burden higher, and meanwhile carries all the financial dangers that treasury officials predicted so freely in opposing loans to veterans.

Enthusiasm of certain Republicans in congress for suspension of war debt retirement merely indicates their fear that tax increases just before a presidential election will mean Republican defeat. But to suspend war debt payments is to shift the burden of a war for which we were responsible to future generations; and to make less stable and secure the financial structure of the government.

President Hoover recognized the inequities of this proposal in his last message to congress.

Possibly these fearful Republicans will discover before the next congress meets that business, upon whose generosity nominations and elections often depend, has diagnosed the situation soundly and is willing to put more money into taxes.

Or possibly they may find the people have made

this decision for business, if business has not made it for itself.

For the facts are evident.

During the war we took 65 per cent of incomes greater than a million dollars in taxes. After the war, we cut our taxes sharply, to lure wealth from the tax-exempt securities in which it had hidden and put it to work again in productive enterprises. Wealth produced and multiplied until markets were glutted and such great profits had accrued to the men on top that the rest of the nation no longer had money enough with which to buy.

Millionaires increased in number 302 per cent in the last ten years and increased their incomes by 494 per cent.

That the tax burden should be shifted to the rich, who alone are able to carry the heavy load, is just. It also is expedient and practicable, as demonstrated today by Great Britain and other nations. The dangerous federal deficit must be paid off somehow.

It can not be paid by the six million unemployed and the additional millions of part-time workers. It can not be paid by the drought and farm depression victims. It can not be paid by the small merchants and business men.

To attempt to increase taxes on these small incomes not only would be unfair, but would postpone prosperity, by further destroying the country's purchasing power.

By raising the rate on large incomes, the federal budget can be balanced, government construction projects can be speeded up, and new money put in circulation for business revival.

### A Costly Experience

The federal farm board and its creature, the grain stabilization corporation, will not buy wheat of the 1931 crop to stabilize prices, the board announces.

Wheat prices tumble, and are expected to go to the world level, which is 15 or 20 cents below present American prices.

Farmers now are getting the lowest prices for their products in twenty years, and the decline in wheat prices is expected still further to depress the price of other things.

The farm board's half-billion-dollar experiment, palpably, is a failure. Price stabilization, after fourteen months, is proved to be an economic fallacy, as many believed it to be at the outset. Meantime, the country will pay.

The government finds itself with 275,000,000 bushels on hand and nothing to do with it. The wheat was purchased originally at an average price of 92 cents. At present prices, the loss to the treasury will be close to a hundred million dollars. There will be as well a large loss in cotton, in which the board has speculated heavily.

Naturally, the farm issue again comes to the forefront. Senators Borah, Watson, McNary and others are talking about the equalization fee and the debenture plan.

The simple fact is that the country produces more wheat than it can consume. The farm board has had small success in persuading farmers to reduce acreage. Elevators are bulging and there are large reserves on the farms.

And as long as that vast surplus held by the farm board exists to depress the market, the situation is apt to grow worse instead of better.

Costly as this experience of the last two years has been, it should have taught us at least two things:

Neither price control through government speculation, nor high tariff on export farm products subject to world market prices can be made effective.

What the complete answer is we do not pretend to know. Perhaps there is no complete answer to the American farm problem, short of a basic change in the economic system.

But there are a few fundamentals which must be part of any real solution. One is that farmers must reduce their production to a point consistent with world consumers' purchasing power.

Chinese millions are starving for lack of wheat, but that does not help the American farmer who needs money in exchange for his wheat. The other fundamental is that the gap between the prices of things the farmer buys and sells can not be spanned until industrial commodity prices are reduced through lowering tariffs.

So long as the American farmer permits politicians to sell him gold bricks like government price-control and high farm tariffs, effective farm relief is not in sight.

### REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

WELL, if here isn't a picture of our old college friend, Mahatma Gandhi! He's a little bit of a fellow.

He looks like he ought to be put back into the incubator.

But he's fashionably dressed.

He hasn't enough on to flag a train!

He can't weigh more than seventy-five pounds.

Up to him some 300,000,000 Indians, and that makes him the spideweight champion of the world.

He has great possibilities for roughhouse! He can make those 300,000,000 sit up, lie down and roll over.

BUT he's an agreeable hombre. His most violent outburst is to make a little salt, which is a violation of British law, for John Bull has given a monopoly of the salt right to do that.

Mr. Bull laughs at us, you know, because we won't let everybody make booze, but he won't even let a poor Hindu make enough salt for one radish.

John Bull is a warm baby.

He treated our folks the same way before the Revolutionary war.

He wouldn't let them make anything that he wanted to sell them.

Kipling called this colonial business "the white man's burden," but it's the white man's bunco game.

Some day the brown boys and the yellow boys may start after Mr. Bull and if they do, traffic will be terribly congested on the main road, leading to the tall timber, for the whole Bull family will step on the gas, as no one ever did before.

GANDHI is well educated. He could turn his hand to a few millions, if he wanted to cash in his brethren, but "business," the big idea in our part of the patch, doesn't appeal to him.

He could cash in his present day publicity and grab a treasure chest, but none of this for the Mahatma.

He could write a testimonial for one little liver pill and get enough to buy a grand estate with swans in the pools, peacocks on the lawn and iron dogs by the front door, but this doesn't impress him.

He's interested in just one thing—the right of his own people to live their own lives in their own country in their own way, and as this always has been our own line of merchandise, we can't find any fault with it.

And some day Gandhi or another little brown man will put that very thing over—and with a bang!

## M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

The Development and Preservation of Normal Minds Represents Our Next Great Task.

COLUMBUS, O., March 25.—Vital statistics, hospital records and life insurance reports indicate that the American people enjoyed remarkably good health last year. However, poor we may have handed the depression in other respects, we prevented it from creating an unusual amount of disease and death.

In some places like New York, the death rate was the lowest on record.

There were no epidemics, while most of the commoner maladies failed to increase. Even cancer lost some of its momentum.

Suicide alone took a big jump upward, but many of its victims suffered more from wounded pride than from real calamity.

And that brings us to another set of statistics which is not so encouraging. Wonderful as is the progress we have made in overcoming physical ills, those of psychological nature appear to be gaining, says an editorial in the current issue of Woman's Home Companion.

"All forms of instability, from actual insanity down to plain and simple nerves, are increasing. There are today more hospital beds occupied by mental patients than by all those suffering from physical ills and accidents combined."

Self destruction and crimes of violence, especially, as practiced by young people, bear out the statement. So, too, does the utter state of confusion regarding politics and morality.

### Whine Without Cause

ONE of the most astonishing phases of the tragic months through which we just have passed is that the bulk of the whining about economic life has come, not from those actually hurt, but from those merely pinched.

If you would hear the loudest groaning over what has occurred, or the bluest wailing over what may occur, don't go to the bread line, but to some living room, or hotel lobby, where people of certain bent still find it possible to eat nine-course dinners and occupy overstuffed furniture.

Evidently the development and preservation of normal minds represents our next great task.

Quite as evidently there is something about our present day life which makes that task peculiarly difficult. No doubt we are paying more attention to mental ailments or defects than ever before. No doubt we are sending people to asylums or sanatoriums whom our grandfathers would have kept at home. No doubt we are trying to cure many afflictions which previous generations regarded as mere eccentricities.

But, making full allowance for all that, it hardly accounts for the enormous increase of psychopathic cases among us.

According to the best information obtainable, the real malady of the brain, or nervous system, is growing.

### Situation Alarming

THE situation is all the more alarming because of scientific progress.

The very powers and instrumentalities we are creating call for a greater degree of poise, judgment, and self control than ever before.

The question of what we ought to do grows bigger and more complicated with every added capacity. Emotionally, we admit that obligation goes with privilege, but intellectually we overlook the problem.

We have grown feverish over the idea of mechanism, speed, efficiency, and volume, and the fever is manifesting itself in a lot of psychological ills.

One need not quarrel with the idea to realize that it can be overdone; that a sense of values is necessary as a sense of power; that mentality can not be driven in one direction, or devoted to one particular purpose, without becoming warped.

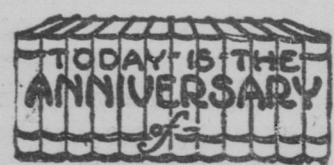
### We're Bewildered

WE are, perhaps, the most brilliant people on earth when it comes to inventions, finance, salesmanship, or exploitation, but when it comes to such things as a moral code, ethical conceptions, or even the maintenance of justice, we still are in the twilight zone of bewilderment.

Such a condition not only disturbs our social, political, and economic order, but involves a constantly increasing amount of mental breakdown.

Like all other conditions which center around human ills, it calls for prevention, rather than cure. Indeed, there is little hope through cure, as the records of our huge asylums, epileptic homes and psychopathic wards plainly reveal.

We must go back to the child for the improvement of mental health, just as we did for the improvement of physical health, and not only that, but back to the parents of the child.



### MARYLAND DAY

March 25

ON March 25, 1634, the first Roman Catholic mass was celebrated in Maryland.

Two years before, Cecilus Calvert, second Lord of Baltimore, received a charter from Charles I. conferring on him possession of the territory now forming the states of Maryland and Delaware.

One of the chief causes that led to the settlement of Maryland was the desire of Lord Baltimore, a Catholic, to found a colony where his fellow believers might profess their religion openly without incurring the penalties to which they were subjected in England.

Other denominations, however, were to be on equal footing with the Catholics, and of the 300 or more who arrived at Point Comfort, Va., in February, 1634, it is probable that half of them were Protestants.

On March 25, mass was celebrated on St. Clement's island, in the Potomac, and shortly after the site of the city of St. Mary's was traced on land bought from the Indians, near the banks of the river.

## The Strain Is Beginning to Tell!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## Gunshot Wounds Tell Clear Story

BY DR. MORRIS FISHEEN

Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, The Health Magazine.

THE modern scientific investigator can find out a great deal more from gunshot wounds today than was possible twenty years ago.

The investigations made in such cases include co-operation between the physician who examines the case and makes the post-mortem examination, the laboratory investigator who examines the traces of the bullets in the clothes, and the expert in firearms who identifies the weapons and the bullets.

Previously all that the experts could say was whether a certain type of weapon had been used; in other words, they could state whether the revolver was of a certain caliber.

Nowadays they can identify the weapon used on the basis of certain special examinations. Studies of wounds in the body indicate exactly

the angle at which the bullet entered.

Studies of the effects of shots at various distances indicate the momentum with which the spot was struck, and thus the distance from which the bullet was fired.

Furthermore, there is the possibility of powder marks of the depth at which the projectile penetrates. The amount of destruction of the tissue will indicate whether the bullet was pointed or soft and flat.

Smoke from firearms causes blackening of the surface which can be wiped off, but unburned particles of powder will travel into the skin and can not be washed off.

In a typical discharge of a gun, not only the wound from the projectile, but the effects of the gas, the powder, the wad, the smoke and the flame are to be examined.

In a typical entrance wound from a revolver at very close range, according to Dr. Sidney Smith and

John Glaister, there is usually a cross-shaped wound of the skin with breaking up and blackening of the tissues underneath the skin, singeing of the hair and blackening and tattooing of the skin in a ring around the wound.

The investigator also must determine whether the wound is examining is a wound of entrance or exit. Naturally there are differences in character.

An exit wound usually is torn or puckered and the edges are turned out instead of in. There is entire absence of any blackening, tattooing or burning.

The examiner has to determine whether a wound is made by a projectile coming from a distance, or whether it is made by a knife, sword, stiletto or other instrument held in the hands of the murderer. Sometimes such wounds will resemble very closely wounds made by bullets.

Ideals and opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and are not necessarily those of the editorial staff of this paper.—The Editor.

## IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

LOOK into the political pool this morning and you will see two fish—Jimmy-the-Jelly and Kerrigan-the-Jimmy.

Before the interesting invalid scuttled away to do cowboy poses for news reels men in wild west frocks, some of his well wishers urged him to stay and battle for the salvation of the city.

By now it is quite evident that Mayor Walker did not have the fortitude to fight for New York. He hasn't even the courage to fight for himself. That task has been turned over to Charles F. Kerrigan, assistant to the mayor.

Mr. Kerrigan seeks to anticipate the question, "Why don't you speak for yourself, Jimmy?" with the explanation that the mayor is ill. But just how sick is Jimmy?

### Into the Muzzle

HE clambered down the railroad embankment, heedless of sand and gravel, which worked its way into his tan oxfords, and marched straight up to the muzzle of the camera.

Every citizen of New York must thrill with pride as he reads of the intrepid way in which James Joseph Walker faced the motion picture desperadoes.

That's our Jimmy, our fighting mayor, always where the flashlight powder booms the thickest.

And here again is occasion for dancing in the streets and the tossing of hats upon the part of us, his subjects.

Our mayor may not be able to clear up the police department or do much to help raggedy men in unemployment queues, but at least we can rejoice that he can keep his trousers pressed in the face of any circumstances.

But while Jimmy is adjusting his tie in far-off California, let us consider the statements made by the official spokesman. First of all I would like to get a little natural history on the record. I quote from Stokes' encyclopedia upon the cuttlefish, or, if you must have it, cephalopoda:

"Worthy of mention also is a peculiar rectal gland—the ink-sac—containing dense inky coloring matter, which the creature ejects in order to conceal its retreat in a cloud of darkness."

### The Cephalopoda

AND so, upon mature consideration I think it just to classify Charles F. Kerrigan among the cephalopoda.

He asserts, or rather he insinuates, that the fight on Crain and on Walker is being conducted by men eager to prevent an orderly disclosure of the causes of the failure of the Bank of United States.

the pockets of depositors of the Bank of United States?"

Kerrigan does not answer one of these questions. They constitute sheer bluff and glandular ink. He offers no names and not even a shred of evidence to support his intimations.

If he knows anything, why doesn't he spill it? Put up or shut up is a good rule for politics as well as poker.

And Charles F. Kerrigan will not name any names, because he does not dare. But I will answer his question as to "Who is responsible for it all?"

He knows as well as I do that the pioneer leadership behind which the city has enlisted consists of Rabbi Wise, Norman Thomas, John Haynes Holmes, and the World Telegram.

Does Charles F. Kerrigan, assistant mayor of New York, dare to say that any one within this group is actuated by an interest or a desire to protect fortunes of the Bank of United States?

### Process of Law

THE power of the Governor of the state of New York to appoint a commissioner to hear charges against the district attorney is definitely established by constitutional precept and by precedent.

"We have heard during recent

years much of courts-martial, but I challenge any one to give a better example of a drumhead court-martial than now is being attempted in the effort at once to remove one of the most scholarly and high-minded district attorneys that New York has had and to strike terror into public officials generally."

If this is the best example of a drumhead court-martial which Cuttle Kerrigan can find, I think he would better go back to research work before he issues his next statement.

The hearing was ordered by Franklin Roosevelt, Governor of New York state, and leader of his party. Mr. Crain can not be removed by the City Club, by clamor, or by Seabury.

He will be retained or removed in accord with the carefully formulated opinion of Franklin Roosevelt. The final decision rests with him alone. That is the law.

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## Daily Thought

Be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.—Matthew 10:16.

He is oft the wisest man who is not wise at all.—Wordsworth.

## Views of Times Readers

Editor Times—W. G. summarized the situation very correctly. A third party is an urgent need, but to get it going the people must have a leader, a modern Moses to lead them out of the wilderness in which they are floundering.

United we can get somewhere, as individuals Wall Street has us by the coat tails. To get the third party started, local independence league clubs should be organized in every city, town, and village to fight the present trend of conditions and to get a suitable candidate for President in 1932.

But I doubt if such will come to pass. The people had a chance to elect La Follette in 1924. There was a man and of the mass of the people.

A citizenry that will allow Mellon to rule for ten years is not apt to wake up in a hurry, especially with neither press nor leaders to prod them. Many dare not rebel for fear of losing their jobs. What a lot of toady nonentities many of us have become. Wake up!

E. D. QUINLEY.

Editor Times—Through the press, I wish to thank the women and men who have come to my defense when I have been unjustly attacked. They are civic and patriotic leaders whose interest in my work has been an inspiration to me.

It is interesting to note that when a principle is at stake that women soon become nonpartisan, for

as many Republicans as Democrats are outspoken in their disapproval of the attack on the only place in this administration that touched the interests of the women and children directly.

I am sorry that Mayor Sullivan could not see Mrs. Edna Christian and the presidents of the Women's Community clubs when they called on him last Friday. These women have worked with me in building up new recreational projects for the women and girls, and they desired to inform him concerning my work and to ask that I be made supervisor of the activities of women and girls.

Mr. Kilgore, smarting under his dismissal and forced resignation, has misrepresented me and my work. Fortunately, I have lived in this city all my life, and my standing and reputation are too well known to be easily upset. He simply rushed friends to my defense.

This park board seems to be overlooking the value and necessity for the development of recreational activities for women and girls on a scale equal to the opportunities now afforded the men.

I have pioneered in the interest