

# The Indianapolis Times

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

## Hoover and Wage Cuts

President Hoover is muddled again. It took him a year and a half of the worst depression in our history to discover that unemployment had reached serious proportions, and then one of his own government departments had to make a special survey to show that unemployment was twice as high as the Hoover estimate.

It took him a year and a half to discover that wage cuts are prolonging the depression.

At least he appeared to have made that belated discovery on Thursday. But on Friday he denied the fact. What he thinks today, we don't know.

On Thursday various newspapers, including Republican organs especially close to the administration, published circumstantial stories quoting White House sources to the effect that the President was alarmed by the tendency to cut wages, that this trend jeopardized revival of prosperity, and that Hoover intended to do something about it.

On Friday the White House officially denied that there were disturbing wage reductions in important industries, and asserted that the President, on the contrary, was pleased greatly by the generally high wages being maintained.

Why did the President have this sudden change of mind?

Does he not know that the recently published report of the bureau of statistics of the United States department of labor states that, in the month ending Jan. 15, in fifty industries, 335 establishments made wage cuts averaging 10.2 per cent and affecting 80 per cent of all the employees in the establishments concerned?

Has the President forgotten his earlier efforts to prevent such wage cuts?

Immediately after the Wall Street panic, the President was smart enough to understand that maintenance of high wage levels should be the key to continued industrial prosperity. So his contribution in the emergency was the White House conference, which agreed to a capital-labor truce, in which labor would not strike and capital would not cut wages.

But many of the employers broke their pledge and cut wages. Increased depression was the result.

Last September the President made a second appeal to employers to keep up the wage level. When J. W. Barton, head of the national bank sections of the American Bankers' Association, advocated a lower living scale as a cure for depression, Hoover replied with last minute changes in his prepared address to that association.

"Any retreat from our American philosophy of constantly increasing standards of living because of a retreat into perpetual unemployment and the acceptance of a cesspool of poverty for the large part of our people," he said.

Headless of this warning certain bankers continued their drive for lower wages. Much of this has been under cover. But recently such leading bankers as Albert H. Wiggin, chairman of the Chase National Bank of Chicago, openly have justified wage cuts.

Colonel Arthur Woods, as chairman of the President's emergency employment commission, is in a position to see at first hand the ruinous results of this drive. Hence his statement that "it would be indeed unfortunate if employers generally took advantage of the present situation to engage in a wage-slashing movement."

Wage-slashing is no longer a threat, but an actuality—as proved by the latest report of the United States department of labor.

This must be stopped somehow, and quickly. It is destroying the little remaining purchasing power of the workers. That means suffering not only for the wage earners and their families, but for professional men, for merchants, for the entire country which is dependent upon the ability of consumers to buy goods.

If President Hoover can persuade short-sighted employers and bankers to stop these suicidal wage-cuttings it will be a great achievement.

But he can not accomplish anything by denying the facts.

## Impugning Our Sense of Humor

If you have any one grievance against France, it is that she constantly implies that we are a nation without humor. By clever propaganda she induced us to enter the World war to pull the French and British chestnuts out of the fire. We loaned her much money. After we had canceled 60.7 per cent of what she had borrowed from us to aid in her war to recover Alsace and Lorraine, she converted our Uncle Sam into Uncle Shlyock.

Now the press announces that M. Briand states that "It is evident that a halt has come in our relations with Germany." The German-Austrian customs treaty is held up as the most serious threat to European peace since the armistice and a revival of the horrible spirit of William II.

Without calling any names or expressing any preferences for Pölli or Boche, let us look into the background of this matter. France, with American aid, won the World war. She immediately recovered Alsace and Lorraine and executed great gobs of spoil from Germany in the way of coal, rolling stock, livestock and the like, even though German women and babies were starving like flies.

Next she helped to knock Wilson's Fourteen Points into a cocked hat and draft a vindictive treaty which will prevent European peace as long as it remains in operation.

She also secured heavy reparations payments from Germany for starting the World war, though the most moderate of historians concede that France was fully as guilty as Germany in 1914. She almost hooked the United States into signing a pact with Britain and France guaranteeing France perpetual possession of her spoils.

Next she built up a wall of steel about Germany. She entered into firm treaty engagements with Belgium and helped to finance the large Belgian army. She made similar arrangements with the little entente, composed of Czechoslovakia, Rumania and Yugoslavia.

Still closer relations exist between France and Poland, and French francs help support the gigantic Polish army. Even Italy has been rendered dependent by recent loans. A secret Anglo-French naval pact was rendered temporarily impotent only through its exposure by Mr. Hearst.

Today France is by far the most impressive military power in the world. She has a vast army, innumerable well-trained reserves, incomparably the greatest air force in the world, the most submarines, and three times as many tanks as the rest of the world combined.

Her own forces joined to those of her confederates outnumber those of Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and European Turkey by more than forty to one.

Never in European history has there been as one-sided a military dictatorship on that continent. Ger-

many was accused of being a military colossus sitting astride Europe in 1914, but on July 1, 1914, the German army fell short of the active French army by some 70,000 men. It has been for this that American money and blood was spent to aid Europe of dictatorship.

In the post-war settlement, all other nationalities save the Teutonic were allowed to join up politically—Poles, Czechoslovaks, Serbs, Rumanians, Greeks, Italians, Letts, Lithuanians, Finns and whatnot.

But the Germans of Germany and Austria were kept apart resolutely and ordered to remain apart. When Austria became bankrupt, she was compelled to renew her promise to rebuff Germany before she could contract loans.

Now Germany and Austria have perfected a little customs union. They carefully have safeguarded the commercial interests of the rest of the European states. The arrangement conforms perfectly to Briand's proposal of European economic union.

But the French papers, parliament, and publicists immediately assume apologetic symptoms, accuse Germany of being a violator of sacred treaties, and hint of war clouds.

Do Briand and his fellow-countrymen assume that we are absolutely humorless? Do they believe that we are incapable of laughing at anything French except "Fifty Million Frenchmen"?

## Another Einstein Discovery

People coming to these shores say so many things about us that what just another visitor says might be dismissed, were it not that he has pointed to a thing that both of the political parties apparently want to forget.

Albert Einstein, German scientist, writes:

"The prestige of the national government undoubtedly has fallen as a result of the 'prohibition law.' There is nothing more dangerous to the prestige of the nation and of the law than the making of laws the observance of which can not be enforced.

"It is a public secret that the menacing development of criminality in America is a direct consequence of this situation."

Yet, both Republicans and Democrats have been speaking of prohibition as a nonpolitical problem that must not be allowed to become an issue in the next campaign.

Fortunately, American voters are beginning to see what Einstein has discovered.

## Time to Go Slow

Secretary of Labor Doak, with \$500,000 to supplement his deportation funds, plans to ship out some 100,000 of the 400,000 estimated aliens here illegally. Doubtless the new labor secretary is sincere when he says he will administer the deportation law "humanely and as a liberal-minded man." Yet we fear it will not be done as he blandly suggests.

Dragnet drives inevitably result in brutality, the negation of fundamental human rights, anarchy under cloak of law. The recent raid upon a Finnish dance in New York City, in which Doak's men and police lined up 1,000 guests, demanding that they prove their citizenship and carted away to the police station eighteen who could not, indicates what may be expected if agents are turned loose on the country with blanket orders to get their men.

A law dealing with human relationships can not be enforced too delicately. Placed in the hands of raiders, it can become an instrument of the most shameful oppression. In the past such raids have resulted in denial of legal counsel, separation of families, arrests on suspicion, punishment of innocent men without redress, and other evil.

It is time to go slow.

Men who think, says a noted physician, are more likely to get sick than those who don't. We've noticed that motorists have been looking rather hearty of late.

"I beg your pardon," as the lifer wrote the Governor.

"At least," said the fellow with the mumps, "I'm having a gland time."

## REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

DURING these lean days it has been frequently remarked that the boys in jail are having a better time than those at large, but up against it inasmuch as those who are in are well fed, yet they toil not, neither do they spin.

You doubtless remember the days when jail birds were compelled to earn their keep by breaking stone, if no other activity presented itself.

Why not interrupt the ping pong game and once more call the boys to the nobility of toil?

A lot of them arrange to be locked up in order to be cushioned against the toil and stress of the world. Particularly is this true when the weather is cold. A charming picture of this strategy was presented down in Missouri the other day.

A SHERIFF went away and left the jail door wide open, but on his return found all of the prisoners in their places.

He asked them why they didn't get away, and they replied:

"Leave our happy home? Not on your life!"

Fellow taxpayers, it's time to make them work!

Mahatma Gandhi is having trouble with his folks because they think he made too easy a bargain with John Bull.

They are trying to scalp him whenever he appears in public.

This is the way our ancestors attacked John Jay when he made the treaty with England after the revolution.

The burned him in effigy all over the country.

WE hear a lot about the "Red Menace," but there's no danger from the reds now in this country. They are voracious and spectacular, but there are fifty-seven varieties of them and they can't get together.

But there is a real "Red Menace" and it is what Russia will do in the markets of the world when she gets to going with her vast hive of prison labor, for Russia is a prison, you know—the largest the world ever saw.

AND our American business men have been doing all in their power to equip Russia for her deadly foray into world commerce.

They have sent to Moscow their best experts and in addition they have sold the Soviet the endless machinery with which she will operate.

We do not believe that Mayor Walker is guilty of corruption in this Tammany mess, but we do believe that he has not been qualified for his great responsibility.

He has not known what was going on; he has been glad-handing visiting whale at the front door while rats have been taking the place.

## M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Peace Officers Who Can't Tell the Difference Between the Victim of Thugs and the Victim of Hooch Are Unfit to Make Accurate Reports.

NEW YORK, April 3.—Frank B. Gorman, master-at-arms and clerk in the United States senate for more than forty years, died in Chicago Wednesday morning under circumstances which leave a bad taste in the mouth.

He was visiting a brother in Chicago. Last Monday afternoon he went out for a walk. At 10 o'clock that night, passersby found him unconscious on the sidewalk. When summoned to the scene, police took him to the station and locked him up as a common drunk.

A little while afterward, he regained sufficient consciousness to say that he had been assaulted and robbed. Later investigations disclosed that his skull had been fractured.

It might have happened in any American city. As a matter of fact, it has happened in several.

## Unfit Peace Officers

IT is said on good authority that the next report issued by the Wickersham commission will emphasize the inadequacy and unreliability of crime statistics in this country.

As long as men with fractured skulls are booked as common drunks, how can we expect anything else?

Peace officers who can't tell the difference between the victim of thugs and the victim of poison hooch obviously are unfit to make accurate reports.

Arrest may mean anything, while lack of it may mean far more.

There is no way one can find out what the police have accomplished, much less what the community has suffered.

The number of crimes committed is not reflected by the number of criminals caught, and the number of criminals caught is not reflected by the number convicted.

## Who Framed Who?

HUNDREDS of Chicago women having gone out on their own account and discovered how gloriously the people were being short-weighted, the state's attorney makes a spectacular raid on city hall, picking up twenty-eight men, says that most of the records in the office of the sealers of weights and measures.

Big Bill Thompson, who just has been renominated for mayor and who represents a different faction of the Republican party from that of the state's attorney, says that it is all a political trick to help his Democratic opponent.

Just another illustration of how partisan politics enter into every character of law enforcement.

Let a man in public office be charged with anything the next day, and his first alibi is to yell "Frame-up!" at the opposition. The people can't tell who or what to believe.

The only thing they are sure of is lying, or cheating, somewhere. When a man in public office is charged with anything the next day, and his first alibi is to yell "Frame-up!" at the opposition. The people can't tell who or what to believe.

U. S. Is Haven No Longer

IN February, 1913, 176,000 aliens were admitted to the United States. In February, 1931, the number was little more than 3,000.

That speaks of a profound change in our policy; also, in our future development from a social, industrial, and political standpoint. This nation will not grow as fast during the next twenty-five years as it has during the last twenty-five. It will not be able to build cities with such rapidity, or stage such stupendous shifts in its population.

Neither will it be regarded in the same light by people of foreign lands, especially oppressed people. Until the great war this country was looked upon universally as the world's one haven of refuge. Now it is looked upon universally as the world's Croesus, rich, powerful, threatening.

## No Drain on Treasury

THE United States is rich, in spite of a public debt six times as large as it ever owed before the World war, and in spite of a probable deficit of \$700,000,000 this year.

As a matter of fact, that deficit means less than the figures would seem to indicate. All the treasury needs to do is hold down a little on paying off the public debt to balance the budget.

As a matter of fact, the amount advanced veterans as loans doesn't mean an added obligation. When the government issued veteran certificates six years ago, it immediately began to accumulate a sinking fund to provide for redeeming them twenty years hence.

That sinking fund now contains about \$800,000,000 and will be added to regularly each year until the certificates mature.

Whatever the government advances by way of loans, it will not have to pay in the end. In other words, the veterans are getting nothing that they weren't promised originally. They merely are getting it a little sooner.



## E. E. Hale's BIRTH

April 3

ON April 3, 1822, Edward Everett Hale, famous American author, philanthropist and Unitarian clergyman, was born in Boston.

He was graduated from Harvard at the age of 17 and then studied for the ministry. In 1856 he became pastor of the South Congregational church of Boston and took an active interest in all the philanthropic movements of his city and time.

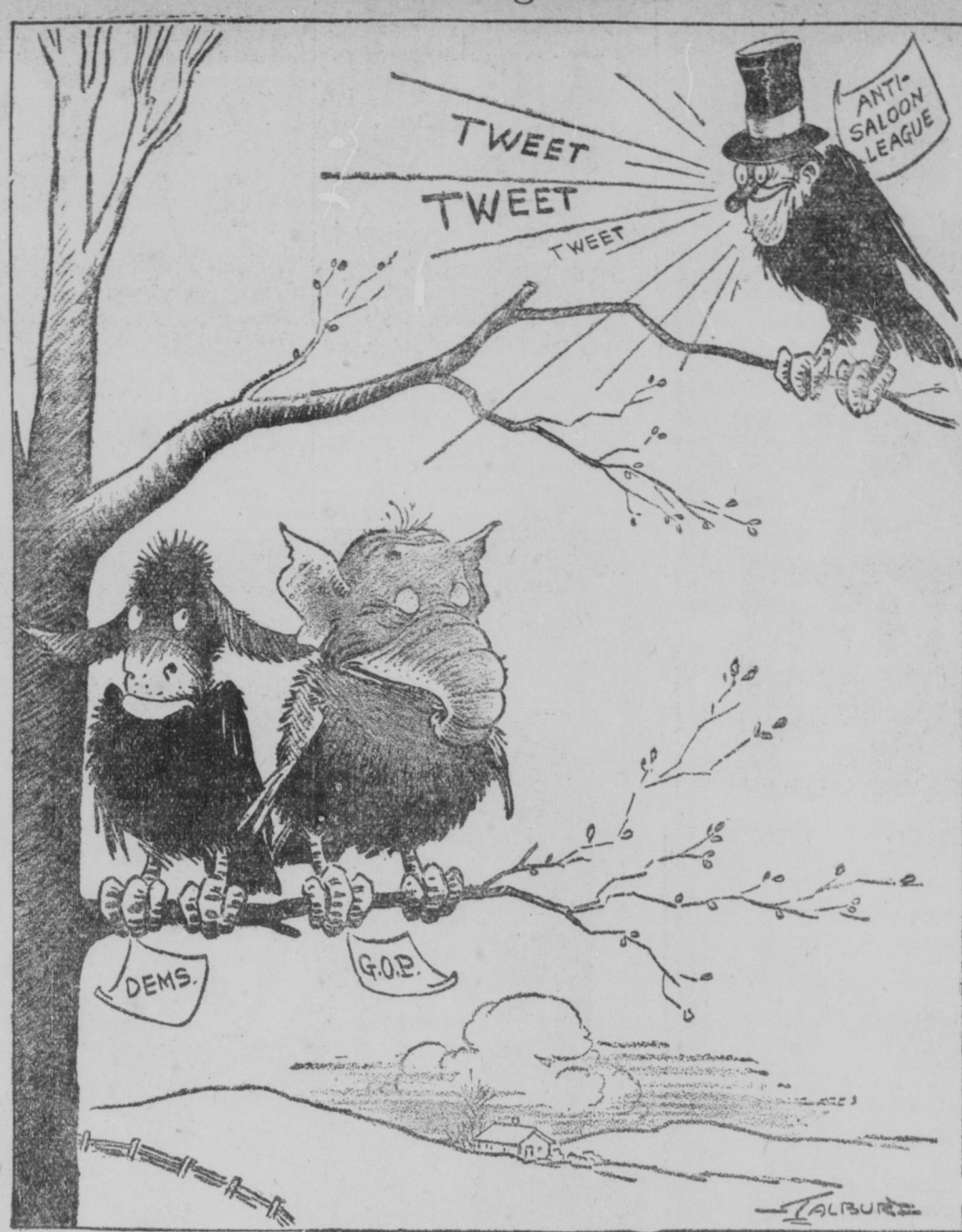
In 1901 he became pastor emeritus of the church and two years later was appointed chaplain of the United States senate.

Although he wrote prolifically, Hale is best remembered for that classic of patriotic fiction, "The Man Without a Country."

His most influential book is "Ten Times One Is Ten." This book led to the formation of Lend-a-Hand clubs, King's Daughters and many similar charitable organizations.

He died in 1909, at the age of 87, and was elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

## The Mating Season



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## 100,000 Drug Addicts in the U. S.

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

REPETITION of the use of opium, cocaine, and their derivatives results in addiction to these drugs. Apparently the addiction is the result of the will of the individual to find in the effect of the drug a release from his worries and pains, because the drug produces a condition called euphoria, a sense of well being and happiness.

Withdrawal of the drug is associated with pain of an intense character, which the individual attempts to relieve by the taking of more narcotics.

When a person has reached this stage in the use of the narcotic, he is described by addicts as having the habit, the colloquial term being that he is "hooked."

Dr. W. L. Treadway of the United States public health service is convinced that the chief factor in drug

addiction is ease of access to the drug.

The causes of addiction are divided into: First, previous use of drugs in medical treatment; second, self-treatment for relief of pain; third, recourse during emotional strain; fourth, influence of other addicts, both in the community and in prison; fifth, for the sake of curiosity, thrill, or bravado.

Addiction is more readily induced in some people than in others. In general, it is believed that the most important predisposing cause is an inherent mental or nervous instability.

Addiction may be induced, however, by injudicious use of drugs in people apparently free from any nervous or mental instability.

Conversely, such people may be freed of their addiction by proper treatment without likelihood of relapse, whereas those with nervous instability are likely to relapse promptly when under stress.

Recent estimates indicate approximately 100,000 drug addicts in the

United States. The United States uses more narcotics for medicinal purposes than any other country, the figures being approximately 245 milligrams of morphine per capita as compared with 152 milligrams per capita for Europe; 8 for Asia, and 24 for Africa.

It has been suggested that Americans are more sensitive to pain than people of other countries, or else that American physicians are more inclined to prescribe narcotics.

Much of the drug addiction seems to be associated with the smuggling of drugs in the United States, which has extensive borders difficult to patrol.

The symptoms following withdrawal of drugs from addicts include usually abdominal pain, twitching, difficulty in breathing, and in sleeping, and mental depression.

The height of the withdrawal symptoms is between 48 and 72 hours following the last dose of the drug taken.

## IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

PRESIDENT HOOVER has not carried with him into office the same sensitivity for small peoples which inspired him while he still was a private citizen. It is difficult to get any great number of Americans excited about the Virgin Islands.

They're a long way off. They're tiny. They do not enter into the life of very many of us. And yet our administration of this far-flung group constitutes one of our greatest and one of our cruelest failures.

The President himself seems disposed to talk of our possessions as if the only problem were one of national finance. He is quoted as saying: "We required an effective poorhouse, comprising 90 per cent of the population."

And he added, "Viewed from every point except remote naval contingencies, it was unfortunate that we ever acquired these islands."

It may have been unfortunate for us. It was might be less unfortunate for the Virgin Islanders.

They did not ask to be taken over into our empire. As Mr. Hoover suggests, the purchase largely was dictated by naval utility.

## In Rebuttal

FROM the Rev. Ignatius W. Cox

Of Fordham university I have received a protest against my column in which I contended that Catholic clergy should not undertake to exercise a veto against the decision of Protestant churches to endorse the principle of birth control.

He writes, in part: "Don't you think that in your article the attitude you took against the utterances of Fr. Sheen, Fr. Coughlin and myself was most illiberal?"

Is it not bigoted in you to deny us the right to express our convictions on a question of tremendous moment for the boon or doom of humanity, when you daily assume the same right for yourself?

"Is it not fundamental to the liberal position that it expresses without let or fear what it honestly believes to be the truth with regard to situations deeply affecting the well-being of mankind? The use of contraceptives involves more than economics or medicine."

"It involves the natural moral law. What is contrary to the natural law can be neither good economics nor good morals. Neither can it be even for the temporal good and happiness of human kind."

"Feeling keenly and sincerely, as I do after much study, that the use of contraceptives is a deadly menace to the health and happiness, as well as to the holiness, of mankind, I said, speaking with love of my fellow man, what you called 'a tasteless thing.'"

I am willing to withdraw the charge that Fr. Cox was guilty of "a tasteless thing." The matter of fact in dealing with public questions seems to me comparatively unimportant.

Readily enough I will grant his complete sincerity. But here is the

point at issue. It is a futile thing to debate birth control with a Catholic priest, because even if the non-Catholic wins the argument as to the secular utility of contraceptive measures, the priest retains the buried ace.

## Secular Happiness

I THINK that if the problem could be confined to the immediate welfare of man, no argument against contraception could stand up. It has been, and is being, supported by men just as sincere as Father Cox.

The medical arguments are based upon an existing condition. If birth control were a field wholly free to the investigators, I ventured the guess that much might be discovered by research men.

I even will make this concession: In a world of more equitable distribution of the world's goods, the problem of contraception would be less pressing. But I question the secular logic of any one who says "You must be content with that estate to which it has pleased God to call you."

And you must be content not only

to anchor yourself, but to go down under the very surface of sustenance by imposing no limit on the number of unwanted children whom you bring into the world.

And when I say "unwanted" I mean not only unwanted by the community, but unwanted by the pitifully harassed parents, who must face a responsibility which they can not conceivably endure.

Some little time ago I undertook to write a column on the complex question of papal infallibility. Naturally I did not trust my own limited knowledge in the field, but consulted one of the most expert theologians of the Catholic church.

What he told me can be summed up in an old anecdote which was revived to my memory the other evening when a priest told me of Cardinal Gibbons, one of the great minds of the church.

When he returned from Rome a newspaper friend asked him, "Now that you have been to the Vatican, do you still believe in the infallibility of the Pope?" And Cardinal Gibbons smiled and said, "Well, he called me Gibbons."

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## Questions and Answers

Where did corn originate?

Corn or maize originated in America, probably in Peru, where fossil remains show it was in existence for many hundreds of years. Some early writers maintained that it came from Asia and others say Africa, but the theory of American origin is now generally accepted by scholars. The so-called corn of the ancients of the old world represents other forms of grain.

What is education?

In a general sense it is the development of the whole nature of mankind, physical, intellectual and moral, through interaction with every phase of his environment; in a narrower and more usual sense, it is the development of the powers and capacities of the mind through special processes of training.

Are the Filipinos American citizens?

Pilipinos are not American citizens. They are citizens of the Philippine islands and have the status in international law of "American nationals."

Who was Helen of Troy?

She is the heroine of Homer's "Iliad," who eloped with Athens with a Trojan named Paris, and the Greeks followed in ships and laid siege to Troy, which was finally destroyed.

What fruits and vegetables contain vitamin B?

Among the fruits are oranges, grapefruit and prunes, and among the vegetables, beets, cabbage, carrots, lettuce, peas, potatoes, spinach and tomatoes. Milk and buttermilk, whole wheat bread and rice also contain vitamin B.

Can the age of lobsters be told by their size?

The United States bureau of fisheries says that lobsters weighing from 25 to 35 pounds are estimated to have reached an age of 50 years or more; when 9 inches long they should be from 5 to 6 years old; at 14 inches, 9 to 14 years, and 17 inches, 14 to 20 years old