

The Indianapolis Times

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

The March of Progress

Abandonment of the system of interurban electric lines in this state as now proposed by a receiver should have been expected.

The lines are no longer profitable. They do not pay because they are no longer necessary. Their usefulness has been ended by the cement highway, the truck and bus.

One of the short lines a decade ago had receipts of more than \$200,000 a year. Last year the total intake was but \$25,000. More people traveled between the towns it connects than journeyed a decade ago. More goods were transported. But the people went in automobiles and the goods were carried on trucks.

What is happening to the interurban lines will very soon come inside the cities. The time is not far distant when street cars will disappear from city streets. In the march of progress the machine which furnishes the most comfort and speed wins. Transportation on rails seems to be doomed.

In this city, the problem of transportation is an acute one. Something must be done soon with the present system now in the hands of a receiver.

A short time ago George Marott, able citizen, suggested an elaborate system of publicly owned busses as a solution. That suggestion should be studied by city officials and public-spirited citizens.

Privately owned lines are bankrupt. Public systems must succeed them. The time seems propitious to get in step with the inevitable march of progress. Indianapolis could be first if it chooses.

Kid McCoy and Tom Mooney

Norman Selby, known to the prize ring as "Kid McCoy," is serving twenty years in California's San Quentin penitentiary for alleged manslaughter and assault to murder his sweetheart.

He says he is innocent and has filed with Governor Rolph a pardon petition, backed by the Governors of four states, ex-Governor Al Smith, Mayor Jimmy Walker and Senators Copeland and Wagner of New York.

Tom Mooney, one-time labor leader, is Kid McCoy's fellow prisoner, and is doing life for alleged planting of a bomb beside a parade in San Francisco years ago. Mooney says he is innocent.

So Judge Griffin, who tried and sentenced him; former Captain of Detectives Matheson, who arrested him; the jurymen who found him guilty, the bulk of the witnesses against him, the chief among whom are proved perjurers; the present district attorney; many newspapers of the nation; Catholic, Protestant and Jewish church leaders and organizations; the American Federation of Labor; United States senators, Governors, authors; virtually every one who has taken the time to study the evidence, say his trial was unfair.

This month Mooney's volunteer attorney, Frank P. Walsh of New York, will plead with Governor Rolph to pardon Mooney. Again he will present evidence of Mooney's perfect alibi, the venality of the witnesses, the rock-ribbed proof that Mooney could not have committed the crime for which he has served the best one-fifth of his life.

With no desire to prejudice the plea of McCoy, the people of America will fail to see the justice of considering his petition before that of Mooney. McCoy may be innocent. Mooney is innocent.

Perhaps McCoy should be pardoned. But certainly Mooney should be.

A Decalog of Commercial Common Sense

In the age of the Smoot-Hawley tariff, a free trade league seems as much out of place as a whisky merchant at a W. C. T. U. convention. But while there is life there is hope. The league is reviving activity.

It was organized by those eminent liberals, William Cullen Bryant and David A. Wells, back in 1866, and kept alive by George Haven Putnam and his fellow free traders. The league announces the following decalog of commercial common sense:

"1. Freedom of trade is an essential factor in securing and maintaining the peace of the world.
"2. The people of the world are entitled to obtain, free from any needless charges or burdens, the materials of production required for their livelihood and their work."

"3. The devastations of the war and the depressions that have followed have made it more evident that the imposition of tariff charges upon food, clothing and equipment for the millions of people who have suffered therefrom is little short of crime. It is equally true at all times that to increase the cost of the means of livelihood to peoples in need is likewise, if not a crime, at least an economic blunder.
"4. First steps toward freedom of trade should provide for removal of duties on food of the people and materials of industry, simplification of administrative methods, and repeal of obsolete navigation laws, a repeal necessary to enable our country to uphold freedom of the seas."

"5. The claim that tariffs assist industry and foster production proves delusive in the long run, for, on the contrary, tariff taxes constitute a burden on productive industry and, by reducing available markets, lessen the demand for labor and capital.
"6. Trade being essentially an exchange of goods, to buy we must sell, and to sell we must buy; thus imports and exports involve each other and the prohibition or discouragement of purchases from other nations prevents export of our products, thus forcing labor from natural channels, through which production and trade are increased, into artificial channels, which misdirect production and are wasteful of labor."

"7. Lower wage scales and lower standards of living in other countries do not justify high tariffs for the United States; experience has shown that labor efficiency is promoted and labor cost reduced by the higher wage scale and higher standard of living which are the bases of the most successful American industries.
"8. Freedom of trade among countries gives the best assurance of peace on earth and good will among nations. The economic peace and political security thus assured will prove the best safeguard for the permanency of a league of free nations.
"9. We welcome the co-operation of all opposed

to tariff protection and to other forms of indirect taxation, which tend to favor the few at the expense of the many, to make the rich richer and the poor poorer.
"10. We also invite the co-operation of all Americans who, though not prepared to favor for the United States entire freedom of trade, such as that between our forty-eight states on which American prosperity has been built, are ready to join with us in working for tariff reduction in the interest of our 120,000,000 people as consumers and, by thus widening the home market, in the interest also of American producers."

During the last generation free traders have been viewed by the "right thinkers" as cranks, dreamers and visionaries. But the anthology of supporting opinion which the league published along with its decalog indicates that many of our greatest bankers and industrialists are coming to doubt the superstition that the protective tariff system is a divinely revealed dogma, comparable to the Virgin birth or the immortality of the soul.

Tweedledum?

Chicago has another colorful mayor in the person of Tony Cermak. In some ways Cermak is more colorful even than the unlamented Big Bill Thompson, whom he ousted. But as Chicago has discovered in the past to its sorrow—not to mention the experiences of New York and other cities—color is no substitute for courage in a mayor.

Cermak may keep his pledge to clean out the racketeers and municipal corruption. The record in the past does not leave one completely hopeful. Usually it has been a case of tweedledum ousting tweedledee.

In Chicago it happened to be a Republican ring which was rotten. In New York it is a Democratic ring. But in Chicago the Democratic outs have been fairly thick with the Republican ins, as in New York the Republican outs have shared the spoils with the Democratic ins.

Big Bill was not defeated by the Democrats, but by his Republican followers, who deserted him. Instead of dividing the Democrats, as in earlier battles, he found his own forces divided.

The reason for this internal Republican revolt we do not pretend to know, but we have an idea that it will be the key to future reform—or lack of reform. Was the reason a genuine Republican revision against graft and crime? Or was it merely that the Republican politicians discovered that Big Bill had become too odorous for their purpose, and therefore put him on the spot?

If time proves that the only thing changed at city hall is the party label, doubtless then it will occur to Chicago that there is no reason for Democratic and Republican parties in municipal affairs, that honest and efficient municipal administration is a job for nonpartisan and scientific managers, rather than for ward heelers.

"Ominous"

"Ominous, formidable, challenging" are the adjectives applied by Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur, secretary of the interior, to the black density of America's illiteracy.

The 1920 figures of 5,000,000 illiterates, all but 500,000 of whom were over 20, are being reduced somewhat, but all too slowly. Late census returns so far show a 12.6 per cent reduction in sixteen states, or a total of 147,158 persons who learned to read and write in these states in ten years.

At this rate it would take seventy years to eradicate illiteracy in the United States.

A drive is on, however, by the national advisory committee on illiteracy, of which Wilbur is chairman, and its effects do not show in the census count to date.

All honor to the men and women in this movement! They are striking at the root of our evils. When ignorance vanishes democracy can enter, and not until then.

Does the Democratic candidate for mayor in Chicago, who appeals to the common sense of the voters, want to make of the election an intelligence test?

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

THE papers say that we are getting ready to build a very imposing embassy in Paris for accommodation of the American ambassador, which is all right, since nations are supposed to house their foreign representatives decently.

But we do wish some way could be found to open the foreign service equally to capable men, whether they be rich or poor, and about the only way to do this is to build a suitable building and provide for its maintenance.

As it is now, the foreign service belongs entirely to rich men, usually those rich men who have contributed liberally to the campaign fund of the victorious party. Nothing could be more at odds with the philosophy of representative government.

It is true that foreign representatives do not do the important work they once did, the cable and the wireless having converted them into glorified messenger boys, but they will be continued so long as nations endure, for formal purposes, if nothing more.

Benjamin Franklin was the greatest ambassador this country ever sent to Paris or anywhere else, for that matter, but he didn't have any imposing embassy to operate from, and because he rented several rooms in a hotel and kept a horse and buggy, John Adams, his associate, accused him of extravagance.

Thomas Jefferson had more respect for Franklin. In fact Jefferson correctly thought that Franklin was in a class by himself, a conclusion with which the history is sure to agree, for now, after the slow appraisal of a century, the quaint figure of the aged philosopher is rising to its real stature.

When Jefferson presented his credentials as our representative to the French court, they said to him: "And so you have come to take the place of Dr. Franklin!"
And Jefferson replied: "No man can take the place of Dr. Franklin! I am only his successor."
Such praise seldom came from the lips of Jefferson.

To the French, Franklin embodied all that they admired, all that they half consciously were seeking, all that they soon were to demand amid the red light of revolution.

He stood for justice and the rights of man; he seemed to them the embodiment of the progress of liberty.
He was scientist, inventor, philosopher and friend of man and they greeted him with open arms.
In his doctin suit he was more illustrious than the king in purple and lace and his picture was found in palace and in hut.

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Big Bill Thompson's Reaction to Defeat Should Be An Interesting Study for Psychologists.

NEW YORK, April 9.—"Your election is notice that the gangsters must move," wires former Governor Smith of New York to Anton J. Cermak, newly elected mayor of Chicago.

Though such message hardly is calculated to bring cheers from Al Capone, it has merit. If half our politicians were equally frank, it would not be necessary to overturn the government of our second largest city to let gangsters know that moving day had arrived.

The upset in Chicago is so plain that even Big Bill Thompson should be able to understand it, but you never can tell. If he has a better side, it was not revealed in his twelve years as mayor of Chicago. Maybe it has been so completely atrophied by egotism that the most spectacular defeat in Chicago's history will not suffice to bring it out. At any rate, Big Bill's reaction should prove an interesting study for psychologists.

Frankness Gets Inning

SPEAKING of frankness on the part of politicians, particularly as illustrated by former Governor Smith throughout his career, the so-called Raskob plan has done a lot to rejuvenate it in the Democratic party.

That in itself is enough to justify all the rumpus, no matter what the outcome.

What we need in both parties is more plain, honest, straightforward discussion.

Nothing has done so much to confuse politics as lack of it. Ever since the war, both parties have been emphasizing minor issues for no purpose in the world except to evade major issues. In spite of all the talk, little has been accomplished with regard to those minor issues, because nobody was interested.

After the war, the two parties have been accomplishing with regard to major issues, because of the pre-campaign straddle.

The 'Poorhouse' Resents It

IT goes without saying that President Hoover meant no harm when he used the word "poorhouse" in connection with the Virgin Islands. But that is beside the mark. It is not what a man means that determines the effect of his words, but the way other people understand them.

Even the Virgin Islands are not only sensitive over their present condition, but hold the United States largely responsible for it. They are only human when they resent having it called to their attention.

Who they want, and what they believe they are entitled to, is assistance.

They feel that they not only have been neglected, but have been made to suffer through laws and restrictions imposed on them by the United States.

Their population has shrunk by 15 per cent since they were taken over by this country in 1917.

Two of their principal sources of trade—rum and bay rum—virtually have been annihilated.

The result has been doubly disappointing, because it is so different from what they expected, and because they are helpless to remedy it on their own account.

Until this government is ready to do something effectual and constructive in their behalf, words, especially to a critical character, should be avoided.

Timid About Money

THE depression has led to some rather curious consequences.

Money is hard to get, not only for promotion of new business, but for continuance of old business, even along reduced lines, yet there seems to be plenty of it on hand.

The state of New York just has borrowed \$34,000,000 at the lowest rate of interest in twenty-five years—3½ per cent.

Last month the United States government borrowed \$594,000,000 at 3½ per cent.

Savings bank deposits have increased throughout the country, though they pay only 4 or 4½ per cent.

If such conditions prove anything, it is that those who have money, whether in large or small amounts, are suffering from timidity.

The difference between what financial regard as gilt-edged security and what they classify as reasonable business investments, has grown too great for commercial health.

We are not going to put our unemployed back to work as long as industry is to pay twice as much for money as savings bank, and three times as much as the call market.

Questions and Answers

How can wood be bent to a permanent shape?

The United States forest service says that the wood must first be steamed, and while pliable is pressed into the desired form, or bent in the desired shape and nailed into position. When it dries it will keep its shape.

What is the heating element in an electric toaster?

It consists of a wire that offers high resistance to the flow of current, and therefore becomes red-hot. Nichrome is the trade name for the resistance wire that is chiefly used in such appliances.

Where is the city of Sommerda? In Germany.

Is there such a word as peopling? It is the participle of the verb to people, and means stocking with inhabitants.

For what book did Sinclair Lewis win the Nobel prize for literature? He won on the merits of his books in general. "Main Street," "Babbalanza" and "Elmer Gantry" received special mention. "Arrowsmith" was not mentioned in the report.

For what does Ph. D. stand? Doctor of Philosophy.

What is the symbol of the tenth wedding anniversary? Tin.

Can't See the Forest for the Tree!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Diabetes Rarely Found With Anemia

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEN

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

A PERSON who has either diabetes or pernicious anemia is sick; a combination of the two diseases makes him especially sick.

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The leadership of contending economic and political theories lies with Russia and the United States. It is curious that we so persistently refused to recognize the Soviet republic, because Russia in many respects has held up a mirror to our industrialism. Stalin and Ford, Ford and Stalin—they are accepted prophets of the modern age.

It is no minor difference that Russia is building a scheme of distribution unlike our own. But in the field of production the resemblances are obvious.

If I may steal a figure from Ben Hecht, "What is Mr. Stalin, after all, but Henry Ford standing on his head?"

It would be difficult for anybody to make out a case against the new efficiency which can and should come from the machine age. And yet I am not altogether disposed to break into a long cheer over the fact that a consumer is hell-bent to bind itself into a factory system.

Machinery is, among other things, impersonal. And I am afraid that its tyranny may not be wholly abated by saying, "But this is quite a different sort of dynamo. This is a kinder, a kinder gadget. This is a proletarian dynamo."

I wonder if it is possible for the worker ever to own in a complete spiritual sense any moving belt which he is assigned to serve.

Within my lifetime I have found no case where a worker accepted as the present worship of industrialism.

It draws followers both from right and left and all along the center. Folk like Thoreau and William Morris are dismissed as sentimental old fogies.

Not in the Books

THE answers from the Russian representatives seemed a little vague. But one Communist, who undertook to act as spokesman, explained that the Russians would not arise in the Russian mind. He said in effect:

"You don't understand when you speak in terms of pressure and compulsion. That isn't the point. You must grasp the Russian spirit."

In America, it isn't a question of putting on your overalls and going to work and then taking them off to participate in what you call 'the individual's private life.'

"Everybody in Russia is filled with enthusiasm for the state. And even after you have made your contribution of toll to the furtherance of the Five-Year Plan, you sit around in the evening and discuss it with your fellows."

"No painter worth his salt would have any interest except in promoting through his art the growth and triumph of the Soviet republic."

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SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Perfumes Made of Deadly Explosives, Poisonous Gases and Ill-Smelling Liquids.

THE modern magic of chemistry is illustrated spectacularly by the manufacture of synthetic perfume flavors. Deadly explosives, poisonous gases, and ill-smelling liquids go into the retort of the chemist and come out highly prized, and highly expensive, perfumes.

One of the foundations of many perfumes is phenylethyl alcohol. The name is not as hard to pronounce as it appears to be. Note that it is merely the addition of phenyl and ethyl! This alcohol occurs in natural attar of roses.

The chemist manufactures this alcohol by beginning with toluene, a coal-tar distillate which smells like gasoline. To this he adds chlorine, a highly poisonous gas which was used during the World War.

He treats these two with another deadly poison, cyanide. The result is the desired alcohol.

By a somewhat similar process in which the starting point is benzene instead of toluene, the chemist is able to manufacture vanillin, the flavor of the vanilla bean.

Another perfume base is artificial musk. It is a first cousin to TNT, the deadly explosive used in the World War.

Prices Go Down

THE full name for TNT is trinitrotoluene. The name was not made long to confuse the layman, but to aid the chemist. It means toluene containing three nitro groups.

Artificial musk is simply TNT with the addition of another alcohol, this time, butyl alcohol. The technical name of artificial musk consequently has yet more syllables in it. It is trinitrobutyltoluene. If you take it section by section, it is clear, thus, tri-nitro-butyl-toluene.

The manufacture of artificial musk is not an easy process. It requires concentrated nitric acid, a dangerous liquid to handle. In addition, there is risk of fire or explosion.

As a result, the manufacture is usually carried on in a small building placed at a considerable distance from other chemical works.

Natural musk, containing only 10 per cent of the active agent, once sold for \$160 a pound. Since it was only 10 per cent useful, the price for the active agent was \$1,600 a pound. In those days, perfumers locked up musk in a safe.

Today synthetic or artificial musk, 100 per cent active, sells for less than \$5 a pound.

A variety of musks are on the market. In addition to the one made from toluene, there are others manufactured from cres