

The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)
Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-220 West Maryland Street, Indianapolis, Ind. Price in Marion County, 5 cents a copy; elsewhere, 3 cents—delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week.
BOYD GURLEY, Editor ROY W. HOWARD, President FRANK G. MORRISON, Business Manager
PHONE—Riley 5551 SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 1931.
Member of United Press Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Newspaper Information Service and Audit Bureau of Circulations.

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

Hoover Takes Charge

President Hoover is acting with increasing wisdom and courage in the Nicaraguan muddle.

He is reversing an interventionist policy of a quarter century. He is refusing to act on the Chauvinist demands of fire eaters like Representative Ham Fish of New York. He is resisting the pressure of American business interests determined to turn the United States marine corps into their own private police force.

Such is the significance of Friday's state department announcement that this government no longer would use its troops trying to protect Americans in the civil war interior of Nicaragua.

"To do so," Secretary Stimson informed the American minister, "would lead to difficulties and commitments which this government does not propose to undertake. Therefore, the department recommends that all Americans who do not feel secure under the protection afforded them by the Nicaraguan government, through the Nicaraguan national guard, should withdraw from the country, or at least to coast towns, where they can be protected or evacuated in case of necessity."

Any other policy is self-defeating, as demonstrated by our twenty-five years of sordid experience in military intervention. In those years the use of American troops, guns and airplanes has cost much more in American property and lives than it has saved—not to mention the Nicaraguan losses.

Moreover, the old imperialistic policy has made us hated throughout Latin America. Loss of trade has been only one of many evil results.

If President Hoover can get us out of the militaristic Nicaraguan venture, as he already is taking us out of the similar Haitian invasion, he will be credited with one of the great achievements in the history of American foreign affairs.

Another Blind Boy Sees

We never expected to live to see the day when one of the Republican old guard leaders would see the folly of continued high tariff. But that, apparently, is happening in the case of Representative Snell of New York.

Snell is no common congressman, but a fairly good-sized czar. As chairman of the house rules committee, he dictates legislation. He not only helped to force through the Hawley-Smoot higher tariff bill last year, but even refused to let Democratic and Progressive opponents fully debate it.

"For many years, on account of our natural resources and by means of a protective tariff, we artificially have maintained a higher standard of living than in other countries, but we have gone the limit in a tariff, our natural advantages are being depleted, and it will be necessary that the next generation govern its economic standards and living conditions more in accord with world-wide conditions than we have done in the past."

That is going rather far for a leader of the old guard, which insisted that the Hawley-Smoot steal would restore prosperity—"within sixty days," as one of them said.

According to the Progressives, Snell's lower tariff conversion—if it really is such—is explained by his hankering for the chair of the late Nicholas Longworth as Speaker of the house and the Progressive votes necessary to get that chair.

We prefer to think that Snell's eyes have been opened like those of so many business men, by the costly experience of this year. Higher tariff helped to kill the foreign trade upon which American prosperity depends.

The United States commerce department Friday issued the merchandise trade figures for March. Exports had the lowest value of any March since 1914, and imports the lowest value of any March since 1916.

The export value was only \$237,000,000, compared with \$369,000,000 last year and \$489,000,000 in March, 1929. The loss in our foreign trade turnover compared with 1929 is at the rate of \$425,000,000 a month, which means that our foreign trade has been cut in half.

It is about time that even the Republican old guard began to see the light and plan tariff reductions.

Unhealthy Banditry

Bandits may get discouraged in attempted holdups if many more head waiters or bank cashiers come back at them with bullets.

Frank Abler of Chicago, waiter, former army sharpshooter, shot two holdup men while patrons in a cafe looked on. Last week Claude H. Owens, clerk in a Maryland bank, shot to death Joseph Hayes, one of a trio of bank robbers, while two other citizens of the town made brave attempts to get the others.

Better than such emergency methods, however, would be efforts by authorities to cope with civic corruption, racketeering, unemployment and other causes of banditry.

Brains are better than guns.

Doing Their Bit

It generally is agreed that one of the chief immediate causes of the continuation of the present depression is the underconsumption of commodities. We are in a buyers' strike. People refuse to purchase up to their limit.

Most impartial students believe that the "buyers' strike" is nothing deliberate. It is a result of the fact that unemployment and loss of wages render the buying public incapable of purchasing normally, even if they wished to do so. They simply can not in many cases purchase necessities, to say nothing of comforts and luxuries.

Therefore, if we wish to end the depression speedily, nothing should be done further to reduce the purchasing power of the laboring classes. Further discharge of employees and wage cuts will only drive the depression to lower levels.

How far the railroads have co-operated enthusiastically in this policy of aiding recuperation may be seen from the recent report of the bureau of statistics of the interstate commerce commission. Summarizing the findings, Lawrence Todd writes as follows in Labor's News:

"Reduction in the total number of employees on Class I steam railroads in the United States of 248,527 persons between December, 1929, and December, 1930, is reported by the bureau of statistics of the interstate commerce commission.

"Every group, from executive officials to maintenance men, suffered a loss in number employed and number of working hours a day.

"Thus the downward trend of the employment side of the railroad industry, which began in the summer of 1929; steadily continued through the entire period of the general business collapse, in spite of brief seasonal recovery.

"In December, 1929, there were 1,605,085 employees

of all groups, who received \$234,081,322 total compensation. In December, 1930, there were only 1,356,568 receiving \$193,168,785 total compensation.

"In the executive, official, and staff assistant group, in December, 1930, there were 16,088 men and women, a reduction of 921 in the year.

"Professional, clerical and general employees numbered 239,506, a loss of 29,908 in a year; maintenance of way and structure workers numbered 274,479, a loss of 76,911 in a year; maintenance of equipment and stores workers were 375,160, a reduction of 72,094; transportation (other than train, engine, and yard) were 168,939, a reduction of 88,575 in a year; transportation (yardmasters, switch tenders and hostlers) were 19,027, a reduction of 2,508 in a year; transportation (train and engine service) were 263,359, a loss of 44,010 in a year."

When Will They Learn?

The federal farm board has turned from the gay spending of millions to the uttering of threats, as a means of "farm relief."

Its wheat advisory committee says:

"The present indications are that with an average wheat crop this year, prices obtainable will be far below the cost of production, causing great loss and hardship to American farmers."

As unpleasant as is this news, it certainly seems to us to be a better method of approach to the farm problem than to encourage false hopes by spending government millions in futile speculation to boost prices.

The wheat advisory committee knows what it is talking about. It has done American farmers a service in reminding them of a disagreeable fact. The farmer must beat the surplus, or the surplus will beat him.

When will the farmer learn to stop over-planting?

They Husted the East

Many have tried to their sorrow to push the Orient into western civilization faster than it wanted to go. Kipling said it couldn't be done when he wrote:

"And the end of the fight is a tombstone white with the name of the late deceased.

"And the epitaph read: 'A fool lies here who tried to hustle the east!'"

But three royal gentlemen of Siam, the last of whom soon will arrive here with his little queen, have come nearer succeeding than any except the modern rulers of Japan. In two generations old King Chulalongkorn and his two Oxford-bred sons, Rama VI and Prajadhipok, have made over their kingdom that lies in the heart of the far east.

They have abolished slavery, the harem, much superstition. They have established postal and telegraph systems; built good roads, pure water works for their metropolis, Bangkok; instituted co-operative rural credits, compulsory education and vaccination, a metric system, conservation laws for fisheries; encouraged the formation of a Pasteur institution for tropical diseases, a Red Cross and a society for preservation of arts.

Rama and the present king created and supported the Siamese Boy Scouts, called "Wild Tigers." Queen Rambalabani, like Mrs. Hoover, is head of the Girl Scouts.

Siam had the first aerial postal delivery in the Orient. Its university is modern, not only in its curriculum, but in its craze for football and boat racing, tennis and golf.

Democracy these modern rulers, like some of our western ones, have not espoused. But they have been benevolent monarchs. The present king and his consort love the talkies, movies, radio, golf.

Until he suffered the eye affliction that brings him here for an operation, Prajadhipok was a smiling, happy little king, as were his brother and his sister. And that, doubtless, is why they have been permitted to hustle the east.

Whether the people of Siam are happier in the new ways than in the old is another question. Many of the great of the east—a Gandhi, for instance—would say no. We leave it to the wise men to answer.

A man who thinks he is boss in his home takes a little dictation every now and then.

In speaking of army maneuvers as "games," you get the impression that "war is fun."

No one knows the true measure of Mayor Walker better than his tailor.

Even for light opera, opines the office sage, things look darkly.

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

THE newspaper men at Washington complain that President Hoover has discontinued talking to them with the degree of confidence which marked the administration of Calvin Coolidge, which is a risky experiment, since the newspaper men can do so much to make or unmake the chief executive.

The honor of the Washington correspondents is well known that it is not necessary to elaborate on it, but we recall an incident back in 1898 which illustrates it better than anything else.

At that time this country was using all its energies to prosecute the war with Spain and the papers were keen to learn about the purchase of ships to be used to transport men and munitions to Cuba.

This was the story for which all correspondents were watching.

Finally one day Assistant Secretary of War Melick called the correspondents into his office and the room was packed in half a minute, for here was the story of stories.

There they stood, ready to get it and dash to the wires and send it to their papers.

There were probably forty correspondents, waiting with pads and pencils, when Melick told them they did not have to do any writing, inasmuch as he had prepared written statements for all of them, which naturally increased their joy.

The door was closed, so all could have an even start for the wire, and the assistant secretary of war passed out the thin, printed sheets, and then there was a movement toward the doors and several escaped and dashed down the corridors.

Then a look of bewilderment spread over Melick's face and he called for the correspondents who had left, and they returned. Then he said: "Boys, I have made a great mistake. I should not have given you this information today."

He explained that he wanted to help them, but in his desire to do so he had uncovered the nation's plan of invasion, and he asked each correspondent to return the sheet he had given him and say nothing whatever about it.

And each correspondent returned to his paper and not one word was sent over the wires.

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Mr. Ford Offers an Argument for Prohibition, Then Explodes His Own Argument.

NEW YORK, April 18.—Sir Arthur Eddington says that the universe is headed straight for destruction. That includes our own little world, of course. A correct sense of value should make all of us interested, even though Sir Arthur fails to announce the date.

Ex-King Alfonso goes right on, however, declaring that he has not renounced the Spanish throne, but merely is taking a vacation. Sancho reappears to make life miserable for the American marines in Nicaragua.

Soviet Russia persists in the five-year plan. Millions of ordinary people are so unimpressed with Sir Arthur's gloomy forecast that they won't give up worrying over such petty details as how they can get work or eat regularly once more.

Most humiliating of all, the very same day Sir Arthur turns prophet, a British automobile manufacturer comes out with a new pay as you ride plan for installment buyers. Five cents a ride for 15,000 miles, then buy a new car on the same terms and begin all over again. Why didn't some American think of it?

Mr. Ford Speaks Again

MENTION autos and Henry Ford comes strolling into the picture. This is due not only to the 20,000,000 cars he has made and sold, but to a fondness for tackling anything that comes his way, whether it is a peace ship or prohibition.

Five may or may not have convictions regarding the end of the universe, but he can speak with assurance when it comes to the end of the eighteenth amendment. Wages will go down, he predicts, if such a misfortune should overtake us.

He is not disturbed by that unhappy prospect, however, because of a feeling that big business will save Voistaidism. Considering all that has been said about million-dollar rum rings and international syndicates, not to mention the openly avowed wetness of some rather important financiers and captains of industry, there is ground for suspicion that big business falls short of being 100 per cent dry. But let that pass.

Explodes Own Argument

MR. Ford's pessimistic idea of what would happen if prohibition came to an end is based on the assumption that society goes with it. He explodes that assumption when he admits the ability to get sober workers in countries where there is no such thing as local option, much less the eighteenth amendment.

If it is possible for him to get temperate, reliable workers in England or France, where the sale of liquor still is legal, why should he be so sure that repeal of prohibition in this country would do the same for temperate and unreliable workers?

As a matter of common sense, very little of the anti-prohibition sentiment can be traced to a desire for more drunkenness, or a belief that more drunkenness would follow.

Millions of people have changed their minds regarding prohibition, not because of what it has done to promote temperance among older people, but for the way it has popularized drinking among young people, and more than all else because of what it has done to finance, a corrupt alliance among bootleggers, criminal and political politicians.

Corruption Is Problem

THE majority of those who believe the law has failed, and who advocate modification or repeal, are not trying to make conditions worse, but better. Neither have they become so obsessed with the part played by liquor as to forget the vastly more important part played by lawlessness.

Whatever prohibition may have accomplished in discouraging drunkenness, it has accomplished much more in encouraging every form of disrespect toward law. Crime never flourished with such arrogance or impunity in America as it does today, never enjoyed such thoroughly organized support, never was regarded with such a frivolous attitude.

Not liquor, but corruption is the problem.

Questions and Answers

What is the scenario of the motion picture "Metropolis?"

It is a foreign production, somewhat like "Just Imagine." It is the story of New York in the year 2000, "when skyscrapers will have risen to 500 floors or more, driveways for automobiles will be as high above the ground as the 29th floor, the rich will have gained control of the city and live above the ground, while the poor are forced to live beneath the earth's surface where they keep the tremendous machinery of the world in motion."

What is the derivation and meaning of the name Gimmie?

It is British family name derived from Gomm, a Huguenot name meaning "gem," or something meaning "son of James" (a supplanter).

What are the featured players in the musical comedy "Fifty Million Frenchmen?" What are some of the songs?

William Gaston and Genevieve Tobin were the featured players. The songs in the production include "Find Me a Primitive Man," "Do You Want to See Paris," "I'm in Love," "You Do Something to Me," "Where Would You Get Your Coat?" and "I'm Lucky in Gambling."

Are the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans at Different Levels?

The mean level of all oceans is the same the world over, but under special circumstances, where land separates two oceans, as at Panama, tidal conditions may result in one body of water being actually higher than the other at certain times.

Did the Chicago Cubs score more runs in the 1930 baseball season than the St. Louis Cardinals? According to official figures the Chicago Cubs scored 938 runs for the season and the St. Louis Cardinals scored 995.

Castles in Spain



IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

GEORGE JESSEL, toastmaster at a recent dinner to Mayor Jimmy Walker, attacked newspaper men who had criticized the city administration.

He said that they hid in their big buildings and threw stones from a distance. He said that they were protected against having anything to do with the city.

Little does Mr. Jessel know of the life of a columnist. We have not the good fortune to be in the happy position of the actor who moves from one success to another and nightly receives the plaudits of admiring audiences.

I can not speak for all my fellows in the craft. But it will be no secret to readers of this space to know that the letters which come in are often barbed and bitter.

It is not always so. But at times the brickbats fall much faster than the bouquets.

I would like to present a few samples from one day's list of letters. Please understand that this is not done in any complaining spirit. When columns are printed which arouse no bitter rejoinder, the columnist begins to feel that he is merely making mud pies and that nobody cares or even sees what he is going.

Worst of All

NOW for a few current exhibits: "Being a former reader of the well-known Evening World, I followed it into the new combination. I enjoy reading many of the items—all but your unnotified efforts. "When I first read your writings, I wondered what was your object."

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Temperature of 110 Near Life Limit

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

THE recent report of a case in Chicago in which a child with a fever of 109 has continued to live for a considerable period again has aroused interest in the possibility of life after a high temperature.

Unquestionably when a temperature exceeds 110, which is the maximum registration on the ordinary fever thermometer, conditions occur affecting the cells of the body generally which are incompatible with life.

A British investigator, in 1930, reported a case of a child who had a temperature by rectum of 110. The child immediately was put into a tepid bath; the temperature came down to 102, and it did not again reach the exceedingly high point first mentioned.

If it had remained at that high point, death no doubt would have occurred. Apparently such temperatures result from some disorder of the portion of the brain which primarily is concerned with regulation of body temperature.

It is well known that exceedingly high temperatures may be present

People's Voice

Editor Times—The famous corner saloon flourished on the four corners of our block.

A family man bought 5 or 10 cents worth of beer, drank it at home with his meals.

Today the cellar, bathroom, garage and chicken houses are full of home-brewed liquor. Dad calls in the neighbors, relatives, or friends, and an all-night debauch begins that positively would disgust hoags. The gin party at Gary is an example.

I hang my head in shame at the disgrace Volstead has brought upon our nation. A tax vampire who bleeds the poor to keep a law few people respect. Give us back the brewery and let the United States coffers fill with their high tax rate. Also end this terrible depression for people who prefer death to charity.

Yours to keep citizens from being hypocrites.

MRS. W. A. COLLINS.

By that I mean your writing reads like a child's scribbling. There is only one thing I would like to know after reading some of your recent criticisms of our great mayor.

"Are you really happy and contented in living your own life? How many people do you know that you have not criticized in some way? Why don't you go and shoot yourself?" J. M. C.

And in the same mail: "You are not the kind of fellow I'd relish playing against in any game where my need depended upon the honor of my opponent."

From your journalistic tactics, I don't believe you would be above stooping to conquer. For this reason: "Did circumstances permit, you never would have made a berth on a Rocke coach train. Yes, Mr. Brown, I am a Catholic."

"My religion is the proudest and most beautiful of my claimings. And worse than the candid gibes do I detest and resent the occasional sops you throw in our direction. So here goes, Mr. Brown. From now on I am going to read another evening paper."

J. M. D.

Whips and Scorpions

THIS comes from E. D. W.: "Yes, Jimmy Walker loves Jimmy Walker, and New York loves Jimmy Walker. You found out how much we New Yorkers thought of you last November. Your votes were only from the Reds, whom you are supporting. Can't you take your medicine like a man?"

"This is what I don't understand. If New York is not being run to suit you and the rest of the Reds."

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Temperature of 110 Near Life Limit

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

THE recent report of a case in Chicago in which a child with a fever of 109 has continued to live for a considerable period again has aroused interest in the possibility of life after a high temperature.

Unquestionably when a temperature exceeds 110, which is the maximum registration on the ordinary fever thermometer, conditions occur affecting the cells of the body generally which are incompatible with life.

A British investigator, in 1930, reported a case of a child who had a temperature by rectum of 110. The child immediately was put into a tepid bath; the temperature came down to 102, and it did not again reach the exceedingly high point first mentioned.

If it had remained at that high point, death no doubt would have occurred. Apparently such temperatures result from some disorder of the portion of the brain which primarily is concerned with regulation of body temperature.

It is well known that exceedingly high temperatures may be present

People's Voice

Editor Times—The famous corner saloon flourished on the four corners of our block.

A family man bought 5 or 10 cents worth of beer, drank it at home with his meals.

Today the cellar, bathroom, garage and chicken houses are full of home-brewed liquor. Dad calls in the neighbors, relatives, or friends, and an all-night debauch begins that positively would disgust hoags. The gin party at Gary is an example.

I hang my head in shame at the disgrace Volstead has brought upon our nation. A tax vampire who bleeds the poor to keep a law few people respect. Give us back the brewery and let the United States coffers fill with their high tax rate. Also end this terrible depression for people who prefer death to charity.

Yours to keep citizens from being hypocrites.

MRS. W. A. COLLINS.

SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

A Modern City Is at the Mercy of Its Power Supplies.

THE chief problem facing the modern world is the problem of power. It takes power to turn the wheels of the Machine Age. A modern city is at the mercy of its power supplies. If they were taken away, the city would disintegrate quickly.

Power pumps a city's water supply, runs its trains and street cars, lights its buildings, and operates its factories and automobiles.

Scientists, thinking of the future, must concentrate their attention upon the problems of power production.

At the present time, mankind has four chief sources of power. They are coal, falling water, petroleum, and natural gas. The first task is to evaluate the future of each of these sources.

Most authorities seem to think that the future of petroleum and natural gas is extremely limited.

Prediction in this field, however, is somewhat dangerous. For it is probably a fact that no one really can make an adequate estimate of the world's supply of petroleum and natural gas.

Cracking Process

THE petroleum situation also has been changed a number of times by the march of technical progress.

Petroleum is a mixture of hydrocarbons, some of them lighter than others. Gasoline was first produced by a process of distillation which drove off the lighter hydrocarbons, leaving behind the heavier components.

The latter further were separated into kerosene, heavy fuel oils and lubricating oils.

It is probable that if the world had been forced to depend upon distillation alone for its supply of gasoline, it would be faced with a shortage of gasoline at the present moment.

Fortunately, however, the cracking process was developed about fifteen years ago. In this, the residue of heavy hydrocarbons, after the gasoline has been distilled off, are placed in "cracking" stills, where they are subjected to high temperature and pressure.

The result is that the molecules of the heavy hydrocarbons are "cracked" or split up into lighter molecules. In this way a large portion of the heavy hydrocarbons are turned into lighter ones and in this way, the supply of gasoline is made larger.

But it must be borne in mind that this increase in the gasoline supply of the world is brought about at the expense of the heavier fuel oils, such as are required by Diesel engines, and the lubricating oils.

The expansion of the gasoline supply, which cracking brought about, has been increased further by development of "anti-knock gas."

The