



# The Indianapolis Times

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

## To the Very Bottom

Whatever property rights of citizens may be involved in the now notorious bill No. 6 will be protected in the civil courts. But that is not enough.

Every change made in the case suggests that the penitentiary should beckon to some legislators, officials and lobbyists, if these charges be only half true.

Boiled down, the charge is made that this bill was sent in entirely different form to the Governor from that in which it passed the senate.

The difference in the bill is in the fact that it takes away from the city of Indianapolis and other cities the right to regulate bus traffic.

That may not be important. But the real damage is in the fact that as long as the city could control the bus lines and be free from the domination of the public service commission, which is and has been dominated by utility interests, there should always be a club over greedy gentlemen who may wish to either wreck the local car lines or force impositions on the people.

The change in that regard was important enough to make public officials forget their oaths and even step into the shadows of the penitentiary, for there is no one so guileless as to believe that the change was made by accident or mistake. This was no work of bungler. It came from burglar.

In essence it was pure treason, inasmuch as it substitutes government by forgery and fraud for government by the people. No one could do greater damage to our institutions.

Where the civil courts leave off the criminal courts must begin. Unless it is possible to punish such a crime, we should close the doors of our courts altogether and throw away the keys to all prisons after their gates are swung outward for all inmates. The job should not be difficult.

## Fall of the House of Bourbon

The sportsman-king, Alphonso XIII, last of the reigning Bourbons, seems to be not only down, but out. His royal obituary should, however, be written with reservations.

Spain enjoyed republican rule some fifty years ago. After the revolution of 1839, Spanish radicalism produced a republic which lasted from February, 1873, to December, 1874. The United States alone recognized this government.

This, by the way, indicates the decline of American enthusiasm for promoting and approving foreign radicalism during the last half century. Witness our present evasive rationalizations to justify refusing to recognize the Soviet Union.

But if Alphonso or one of his numerous progeny fails to stage a comeback, his abdication will mark the practical end of the last of the four great historic monarchies of modern times—the Hapsburgs, Hohenzollerns, Romanoffs and Bourbons. The Bourbons have the longest historic ancestry of any of the four, antedating the Hapsburgs by more than a century.

The first Bourbon was Robert the Strong, who became Duke of Neustria in 851. Certain chronologists claim that the Bourbons lie back of the famous line of Capetian kings of France.

The House of Bourbons attained the throne of France in 1589, when Henry IV ascended the throne, after having concluded that "Paris was well worth a mass." He accepted Catholicism and founded the royal Bourbon line in France.

With the exception of the revolutionary and Napoleonic periods, the Bourbons ruled France until Charles X was chased out during the revolution of 1830. They still supply the personnel of the royal pretenders in France.

The Bourbons ascended the Spanish throne a century after they had captured that of France. In 1700 Louis XIV placed his grandson on the Spanish throne as Philip V. Some of the early Bourbons made good kings of the Iberic peninsula, especially Charles III (1759-88), one of the ablest European monarchs of the eighteenth century.

But since this day the Spanish Bourbons have been a pretty sorry lot. Whatever his lack of Napoleonic genius in statecraft, Alphonso XIII personally is probably the most ingratiating member of his line during the last century and a half. He is a good man to ring down the curtain for the Bourbons in Spain.

Fifty years ago Spanish republicanism was hailed with great enthusiasm by American liberals. It was taken for granted that it meant a passage from an intolerable system to the final and perfect stage of political evolution. No such naive gusto is registered by liberals today. Republicanism and democracy are as much under fire today as was monarchy in 1848.

Monarchy used to be condemned as unthinkable, because an able ruler might be followed to the regal cushion by a long series of nonentities. In a republic, only an able and devoted man could find his way to the top.

The experience of many republics, not excepting the United States of America, has proved that republicanism and democracy are no sure guarantee against getting a flock of dodos as first citizens of the land.

If we are going to rely upon politics to control and direct society, then we must have a system which produces superior ability, special training, personal integrity, a sense of social responsibility, and subordination to popular control.

No great state yet has produced such a system, though some smaller countries, like the Scandinavian nations, have done so. Russia may some day emerge with such a setup.

The German empire of 1914 possessed all the qualifications except popular control. England from 1905 to 1914 probably came nearer than any other major modern state to meeting all these requirements.

## One Woman and a Mob

A courageous woman last Saturday saved one Negro from a mob in Tennessee, while in a nearby town another Negro was taken from the jail and hanged in the courthouse yard.

The sheriff's wife who saved the Negro saved justice. While we wish there were more like her, neither Tennessee nor any other state should have to depend upon a lone woman to avert the stigma of mob violence.

## M. E. Tracy SAYS:

Our Latin-American Policy Never Has Consisted of Anything but Reversals.

NEW YORK, April 20.—President Hoover catches twenty trout, while thirty American refugees land at New Orleans. Why not give the refugees a trout dinner at the White House?

Secretary of State Stimson says that the Nicaraguan situation has changed since 1926. He says that it was a case of organized armies then, but that now it is a case of unorganized banditry, and that while our marines could protect Americans against the former, it would involve a needless waste of life for them to attempt to do so against the latter.

In other words, we should yield to thugs, after having squelched a well-directed revolution. The reasoning is sophisticated, rather than clear. One hardly could blame Latin-Americans if they took it as a suggestion that guerrilla warfare is the way to make revolution virtuous in Uncle Sam's eyes.

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## Gangsters Fool Us

APPLYING Secretary Stimson's theory to home problems, we get a plausible explanation of gang rule. If gangsters only would come out in regiments, or even battalions, permitting the establishment and patrol of neutral zones, we might be able to do something.

The gangsters, however, proceed a la Sandino, run around in small squads, shoot from behind and pick off their victims unawares.

If such tactics are too much for the devil dogs, what can we expect of ordinary cops and village constables?

In complete accord with our national policy, the Iowa legislature refuses to buy bullet-proof vests for such citizens of that state as may visit Chicago. A joke, of course, but not without serious implication. Some of our forefathers would have regarded the Nicaraguan situation, not only as it exists today, but as it had existed for the last sixteen years, as equally ridiculous.

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## Just Chatter

WHY have our marines been

there all this while, if it's not necessary to hurry them home now? What was the big idea, to begin with? Have we shed all the blood for nothing, or were we maneuvered into the mess by shrewd European diplomats?

What will we do if England, France or some other European country, insists on protection to its nations, after our marines are withdrawn?

The chattering is of a "new Latin-American policy," because our recent course in Nicaragua has been reversed. That is nonsense. Our Latin-American policy never has consisted of anything but reversals. We just are running true to form.

For the last fifty years, no one, inside or outside the United States, has had the slightest idea what this government would do when a situation arose in Latin-America.

In Nicaragua, we began by supporting a conservative government, and wound up by compromising with the liberals. Now we are running out on the liberals because Sandino is too tough a proposition.

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## Fear and Contempt

WHEN the revolution broke out

in Brazil, we sought to help the government by placing an embargo on arms, but only to discover that the revolution had succeeded in the meantime. It has been a constant performance of blow hot and blow cold, until neither Latin-American nor our own citizens know what to expect. One year, we are all for "protection," even to the point of armed intervention, while the next we are for evacuating everybody, regardless of loss.

Latin-America is divided between fear and contempt of the United States. Our wealth, power and resources are well understood, but our capriciousness creates constant doubt and distrust as to how, when or for what purpose, they may be used.

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## A Sculptor Has Modeled a Study Head of a Tramp

Thereby inviting critics to rate it as bum work.

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A better name for the back seat of a roadster, if you've ever driven in one in cold weather, is the grumble seat.

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