



The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

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

The Price of Greed and Anarchy

When we think of misery in the textile industries, we naturally allow our minds to gravitate toward the south. We almost automatically turn to Marion, Gastonia, Danville and the like, where we are told that women and children work long hours for pitiful wages.

Yet, in a truly striking article in Harper's Magazine, Louis Adamic tells us of the "Tragic Towns of New England." He reminds us that bad working conditions are, after all, better than no work at all.

Lowell and Lawrence were two of the greatest textile centers of the United States until the middle of the last decade. Now they are both hollow shells. He thus describes the general physical impressions given by Lowell and Lawrence:

"I found in Lowell eight enormous mills, all idle for years, dominating the town, each six or seven stories high and covering several blocks, with tall, unsmoking chimneys. . . . The general aspect of Lawrence is not unlike that of Lowell: empty stores—rows of shabby, unpainted, untenanted old houses—broken window panes—no new buildings going up—people still moving out when they can—and so on. In Lawrence, too, charity is one of the main industries."

The picture of personal conditions given by Adamic is touching in the extreme. It is a uniform chronicle of extreme poverty, necessary but debasing charity and universal hopelessness. Only lack of nerve prevents an epidemic of suicide.

Lowell, a cotton center, could not compete with southern factories unless it gained the co-operative enthusiasm of the mill workers. The latter could be secured only by decent wages and good relations with unions, something which the mill-owners regarded with more repugnance than cessation of their very industrial existence.

Lawrence, a woolen and worsted center, has shut down in part as a result of the depression and in part as a phase of a great campaign against union textile labor. A number of big factories in towns close together makes labor organization relatively easy. The policy now is to build one factory in each of a large number of scattered towns, which enormously increases the difficulty of unionization.

Fall River, one of the oldest textile centers in New England, is industrially dead. This is due in large part to archaic machinery in the plants. The mill-owners exploited the industry to the limit, milked it dry, put no money back into improving equipment, and then dropped it cold. At the height of their prosperity the Fall River mills earned as high as 200-300 per cent dividends yearly. And these on the basis of a twelve or fourteen-hour day at low wages.

Nothing went back into the town: "The trouble with Fall River has been—in a nutshell—that most of the profits of its mills were spent, not in Fall River, but in Paris, New York, the Riviera, Newport News, Santa Barbara and Pasadena."

Adamic found the shoe towns in about as bad a condition as the old textile centers. There is no thought of permanence or soundness in the industry as a whole. The ideal is concentrated exploitation and quick abandonment. The manufacturers are at each other's throats, and all throttling unionism, industrial anarchy is the rule.

Adamic found one prosperous town—Salem, Mass. And this a cotton town, supposedly incapable of competition with the south. But unemployment scarcely exists, the shops are fully unionized, high wages are paid for short hours, and the unions co-operate with the owners in devising more efficient methods of production.

In Lowell men stand against telephone poles in tattered overcoats, their faces pinched with hunger. In Salem, mill girls actually go to work in raccoon coats and dine in evening gowns. The money goes back into Salem, not the Riviera or Mount Desert island.

The moral is easy. The decay of New England is the price exacted by an extreme form of capitalist greed and by old-fashioned industrial anarchy. Fall River and Salem, these are the symbols of the old and the new capitalism. But New Englanders still seem to prefer the industrial style of Fall River.

Paying the Fiddler

There has been much talk of late regarding the greatly increased costs of the federal government. Almost hysterical comment has announced the falling off of receipts from taxation and other sources. A great deficit stares us in the face. Hoover and department chiefs have gone into a huddle to devise ways for reducing the budget for next year.

We now are paying—and have been paying for more than a decade—the price exacted for our folly in entering the World War. Our enormously greater budget today is chiefly due to the stupendous debts placed on the shoulders of Uncle Sam by our entry into the Great Crusade. Total expenditures of our federal government in 1916 were less than the deficit of 1931.

In 1916, total expenditures of the central government amounted to only \$733,056,202. For the fiscal year 1930-31, they are \$4,435,029,000. The deficit for the current year is \$809,677,181, nearly \$100,000,000 more than the total expenditures for 1916.

Without apology to Messrs. Hoover, Mellon and company, it is unfair to blame them for our present fiscal mess, except in so far as these men belabored for war in 1916 and 1917.

If we want to get out and vent our spleen on anybody on account of our national fiscal problems today, then we must seek out the Anglomaniacs, Francophiles, Germanophiles, bankers and munition manufacturers who, from honest conviction or private interests, pushed the United States over the brink into world carnage in 1917.

Certainly the Democrats logically are estopped from making war faces at the Great Engineer and the Republicans, for it was a Democratic administration which collapsed before the war clamor, after having been returned to power on a peace referendum.

Now great expenditures sometimes may bring comparable benefits. Gigantic costs may be justified by colossal results. The non-financial results of the World War to the United States certainly were colossal, but for the most part they have been a colossal disadvantage to our country.

The "war to end war" has proved a huge travesty. There have been wars and rumors of wars ever since Nov. 11, 1918. Armaments have not been reduced. The nations of the world are spending more today than in 1914 for the instruments of mass murder.

The mythical German military dictatorship of 1914, when the German army was smaller than the French army alone, has been replaced by the real military dominion of France. The military strength of the latter and her allies out-tops that of her former enemies by forty to one.

We have received no gratitude from our former allies for our huge expenditures of money and men in their behalf. Rather, we have obtained nothing

except petulance and criticism. Though we have written off half the debts incurred by our former allies, we have been branded as "Uncle Shylock." The worst snarls have come from those whose debts have been cancelled most thoroughly.

Our best friends abroad are our former enemies of the war period. And we may doubt the disinterestedness of these states. No doubt a considerable part of their ostensible amiability is due to the fact that they look to our friendship and sympathy to help pull them out of their present difficulties.

Such are the results which we have obtained from the international foray which puts our present deficit ahead of our national budget in the pre-war days. We can not even allege self-defense or national pride in mitigation.

Even Secretary Lansing's articles now running in the Saturday Evening Post admit clearly enough that we had more reason for fighting Britain than for battling Germany—that we should have fought both or neither. If the above facts can not teach us something, then we do deserve the worst.

Planning Prosperity

In discussing the depression, the annual meeting of the United States Chamber of Commerce at Atlantic City has discovered one type of solution and several obstacles.

Most of the speakers, approaching the crux issue from the viewpoints of separate industries, seem to come in the end to virtually the same conclusion—that business must be stabilized by advance planning. No intelligent person will find fault with that proposition. It is obvious. To stabilize business by advance planning is to break the unemployment cycle and help perpetuate prosperity.

But adequate advance planning by a single company is almost impossible. Under the competitive system, one company usually fears to take steps toward employment reserves, the staggering of orders and other stabilization measures, without co-operation of competitors. To be effective, planning must be central planning.

To meet this need, L. C. Reynolds of the American Writing Paper Company proposed to the chamber a system of national control of industry through trade organizations: "Such would be practical if trade organizations should be clothed with legal authority and all business enterprises compelled either to belong to their respective associations or to abide by their decisions mutually arrived at."

But there must be no "governmental interference," Reynolds added.

And just there is the dilemma in all such plans, if understood correctly. They aim at a quasi-governmental national organization of an industry, whose powers for good or ill would be far greater than the old style monopoly, but which would be left entirely free from regulation or control by the government.

Isn't that another case of trying to eat one's cake and have it, too?

Granted that complete anarchy, or destructive "rugged individualism," in business produces inevitable cycles of depression, and that stabilized prosperity depends on co-operative centralized planning, there appear to be two alternatives.

One is voluntary action by private business. The other is government action, in which the government would hold the power of regulation over centralized trade agreements having official sanction.

Probably most Americans will grant that the first method is preferable.

But can private industry be persuaded to reform itself by voluntary stabilization plans? It can not, according to Dr. Joseph W. Willits, professor of industry at the University of Pennsylvania, who told the chamber that only about 10 per cent of industrial leaders "are alive to the present situation."

Therefore, Dr. Willits predicted that industry, if left alone, would drift unprepared into another depression in a few years. The desired stabilization would "require all the agencies of our economic and political organizations," he warned.

We do not profess to know the precise solution, nor to predict the future. But we believe the general trend is clear. There is increased demand for stabilized profits and stabilized employment through central planning.

If industry itself can not or will not meet that demand, will not the government finally be forced to step in? The people have suffered two very serious depressions within a decade. The people simply can not stand two more such depressions in the next decade.

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

GENERAL PERSHING has written an article on religion in which he states that Christianity is on the defensive and that it is up to all believers to unite to preserve it.

We are glad to note the general's solicitude, but he has drawn the picture too darkly, for Christianity is in fairly good health and will be transacting business under the Stars and Stripes so long as they shall continue to wave.

But there is no doubting the proposition that people have not the keen consciousness of religion that marked older days, when distances were measured by miles instead of minutes, when life was vacant instead of crowded, and when diversions were few and far between.

THE number of actual churchgoers is not so great in proportion as in the days of our ancestors, but this does not argue a rise in infidelity so much as it argues a rise in competing attractions.

We have millions who have religion, but it is covered by sports and automobiles.

There has been a certain decline of faith which it were absurd to deny and to this very fact is due a great portion of our major crimes. The social workers and students of cities will tell you they can trace this line of cause and effect very clearly.

And there is no denying the fact that the religious come into which many have fallen has departed the village of Guemappe and the departure of the impressive influence, formerly exerted by family life.

IN the old days there were family services every morning, the father reading the Bible to his children, and he read with an authority we never have seen equaled elsewhere, and he was listened to with profound respect.

Then after the reading, the mother of the family started an old-fashioned hymn, one of those old hymns which in its magic arms lifted countless lives out of loneliness and despondency, and after this the father led the family in prayer.

That's the way the American family used to start the day, and while it is out of date now, we can't say that we have profited greatly by the change. Nobody ever went to hell as a result of that old-fashioned morning service in the homes of the United States!

M. E. Tracy SAYS:

Power Is Passing Out of the Hands of the Many Into the Hands of the Few.

NEW YORK, May 2.—Women can not serve as jurors in Illinois. The law gives them the right to do so was passed by popular vote, not by the legislature. That, according to the state supreme court, makes it unconstitutional.

Those who have been arguing that the eighteenth amendment was not properly adopted because the people were not allowed to vote on it in a majority of states should be interested in this decision. So should every one, for that matter, who believes that popular opinion is an important factor in law making.

From a technical standpoint, the Illinois legislature improperly may have delegated its power in asking the people to decide whether they wanted a law making women eligible as jurors, but from the standpoint of common sense, it did the right thing.

Money Dictates

A Senator Costigan of Colorado said in his address to the Texas legislature: "The time has arrived for public, not private, ownership of our government."

Though he made the remark while discussing economic conditions, it justly could be applied to most, if not all, our major problems. Whenever money fails to set up a dictatorship, system can be depended on to supply the lack.

If it is not a board of directors, it's a bureau of experts, and if it isn't a bureau of experts, it's the reign of precedent and red tape.

Power, whether as represented by wealth, work, politics or the racket, is passing out of the hands of the many and into the hands of the few.

Human Welfare First

FOR the last thirty years, but particularly since the war, we have centered our attention on property rights, professional rights, commercial rights, and every conceivable variety of group rights.

As a result, we have five or six million people out of work, while the number of those with incomes of \$100,000 is about four times as large as it was in 1920.

At the same time, the number of people controlled 60 per cent of the wealth. Now it is controlled by only 1 per cent.

Senator Costigan is right when he declares "human welfare must again take first place in our people's affairs."

Headed Where?

OUR chief fault lies in a sharp departure from the principles on which this republic was founded. In many respects we have changed the original setup.

Some think our only way out is to go still farther in this direction and change the government.

Others think it would be wiser to reincarnate some of the old policies and conceptions.

Theodore Roosevelt once said that we were headed for regulated monopoly or state Socialism. Woodrow Wilson, on the other hand, believed we would avoid both by preventing the concentration of wealth and the overorganization of industry.

There's a Difference

MACHINERY is supposed to be the force driving us toward the one big corporation, idea, whether through public or private control.

There is a deal of difference, however, between machinery and mechanism, between the unit of efficiency which science decrees and the endless combination of such units as greed would impose.

Building the most economical cotton mill is one thing, but combining fifteen or twenty such mills under one head, is quite another.

It is possible to admit that a certain-sized group of grocery stores is necessary for effective buying, and still doubt the wisdom of putting fifty or seventy-five such groups under a single management.

Least Is Best

THOMAS JEFFERSON declared that, other things being equal, the least government was the best.

Anything that restrains or determines popular action is government, whether ordained by law or not, and if the least is best in one form it is best in all forms.

Up to this point America has been dominated by nothing so distinctly as a desire for bigness.

We have massed money, just as we have massed brick and steel, and we have massed men to match both. We have called it efficiency, but in many instances the overhead created by too much organization has more than absorbed the saving made possible by machinery, while the loss of personal initiative and craft pride has done irreparable damage to our social and intellectual outlook.



BATTLE OF ARRAS

May 2

ON May 2, 1917, the British and Scottish troops made impressive gains in the Battle of Arras after a week of hard fighting.

Two hundred prisoners were taken in the first forward sweep, when the Scots advanced in long lines and went through and beyond the village of Guemappe with loud shouts and cheers.

Philip Gibbs, war correspondent, wrote: "For nearly three hours the Scots were held up by the fire of German machine guns and artillery, and suffered many casualties, but they fought on each with separate initiative, and it is to their great honor as soldiers that they destroyed every machine-gun post in front of them."

"Between 11 and 12 in the morning, the enemy developed his first counter-attack. He massed great numbers of men in the valley below Guemappe, flung a great storm of shell on to the village and then sent forward his troops to work around it."

"It was then that the Scottish troops showed their fierce and stubborn fighting spirit."

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

On request, sent with stamped addressed envelope, Mr. Ripley will furnish proof of anything depicted by him.



Following is the explanation of Ripley's "Believe It or Not," which appeared in Friday's Times:

The Russian Factory Hands Who Slapped Each Other's Face for 36 Hours—Michael Goniusz and Wasy Bezborodny, two factory hands of Kiev, Russia, slapped each other's face for 36 hours. Mutual face slapping is a good-natured sport greatly favored by the "musik" congregates.

The effect on the audience is exhilarating rather than brutalizing, and they encourage their champions by calls and cheers.

Temiskaming, Quebec—The town of Temiskaming, which now has a population of about 3,000, was planned and developed by the International Paper Company, with the primary aim of providing comfortable homes and pleasant surroundings for those employed at the Kipawa mills. All taxes are borne by the company, since no one can own his own house, and only employees are allowed to live in company houses.

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE Mathematical Gift Runs in Families

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

IN a recent consideration of the practical application of heredity, Paul Popenoe discusses particularly the question of the infant prodigy. He mentions the mathematical genius who, at the age of 9 years, can multiply six figures by six figures and announce results; of the children who do calculations at the age of 11; of phenomenal memories capable of giving populations of cities, statistics concerning mountains, rivers and inventions.

A Norwegian student learned 403 figures in 104 minutes, and there are people who have been able to remember 2,000 words after one reading.

It is obvious that such performances require not only a system, but also some special gift in the form of unusual brain development.

Popenoe concludes as a result of his consideration that such mathematical talent runs in families, mentioning a French family which produced eight outstanding mathematicians in three generations.

In the same way, lack of mathematical ability runs in families. Thus there was one family in Pennsylvania in which there was an inherited lack of sense of quantity and number.

When the father went to work in the morning he had to measure out the meat and potatoes that the mother was to cook for dinner, because if it were left to her she had absolutely no sense of quantity and there was no telling how much or how little she would cook. This defect persisted through five generations.

One of the reasons for believing that mathematical and similar mental abilities are inherited is the fact that not all members of the family are gifted alike, the fact that the special ability appears at an early age in the gifted members, the fact that it behaves independently in transmission.

Thus the special genius may appear without any other type of talent and may be lacking with almost any other type of talent.

Furthermore, the special gift comes out in spite of all discouragements. One of the greatest experts in the field of heredity attempted himself to become a lawyer, but the pull toward mathematics and statistics was so great in his

case that even though he studied law he eventually had to follow his bent.

Training is a great help to genius, but a genius is not greatly influenced by training.

In a study of 2,000 children in California it was found that ability in arithmetic developed less than almost any other ability tested.

The ability to spell correctly followed closely thereafter. Approximately 9 per cent of adult differences in the ability to do arithmetic and to spell could be ascribed to the original nature of the person concerned; by the time people had reached adult age, modification of only 3 per cent had occurred due to experience and training.

Popenoe is convinced that spelling ability is as much determined by heredity as any ordinary mental talents.

Children either spell well or badly, and his statistics indicate that there is little or no relation between spelling ability and various methods of instruction, school surroundings or even foreign parents.

Among college students it has not been found that spelling ability is associated closely with general intelligence.

He and the Rev. Father Coughlin hardly could with due scrutiny and sincerity set, Socialist opponents in those ranks. The Communists themselves would dissent.

The mayor may be surprised to find that he gets hardly a quarter as much abuse from the Communist daily organ as is visited on Norman Thomas.

I say, that before we build more tall towers, we tear down some ramshackle slums. I say, that it is the bounden and imperative duty of the greater city to break the breadlines.

I say, that in the richest city in the world no child should go hungry or lack the chance to play within some bit of green.

I say, that when the sick forget to weep and the poor to mourn, it will be time enough to talk of the municipality "which has won the admiration of the world."

Merely a News Note

THAT'S too general, you say. All right, let's go back to an incident recently reported in the newspapers. A mother took a sick child to a public hospital. The doctor wrote out a prescription. The mother said she had no money. The doctor tore up the prescription and gave her some advice on what sort of food the child should eat. The mother took the child home and turned on the gas.

As long as such things are, I will not rap my forehead on the floor in honor of Imperial New York and its regal rulers.

Since when did it become an offense to stand up and say, "this city, for all its glories, isn't good enough?"

Not since the armistice was signed has any New York mayor availed himself of the easy out of raising up against his critics the herring howl of "Bohshevism."

It is well known that James Joseph Walker does not follow public affairs so very closely, but as one highness to another, Mr. Curry might break the news and say, "Jimmy, I think you ought to know the war is over."

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SCIENCE BY DAVID DIETZ

Intimate Glimpses of Sir Oliver Lodge Reveals Him as Man of Many Sides.

FOUR pictures of Sir Oliver Lodge stick in my mind. To me they have the revealing qualities of informal flashlights which often tell much more about a man than does the carefully posed portrait.

I recall seeing him at a soiree of the British Association for the Advancement of Science upon the campus of the University of Liverpool.

It was a mild evening in late summer. Tents, a soft white in the lanterns that hung from trees, protected the refreshment tables loaded with plates of sandwiches and pastries. Somewhere in the distance a band was playing.

There is style to a soiree of the British association. Full dress, medals, and academic robes are all in order.

Suddenly I caught sight of a magnificent figure coming across the grass. He was an old man, as his bald head and white beard testified. But he was square-shouldered and erect and looked about six feet tall.

The black and white of his full dress accentuated the brilliant red of the Oxford gown which he wore open. Upon his breast were some of the most coveted decorations of the British empire. There was a flurry of whispers as he approached the crowd.

It was Sir Oliver Lodge. And in that "snapshot," I saw Lodge, the great man of the world of science, the genius whom the world of science delighted to honor.

Pain and Weariness

THE second picture I recall of Sir Oliver Lodge is entirely different. He was discussing his work both in physics and psychic research with a small group of questioners.

He was asked whether he had said in his "Raymond" that the folks in the "other world" smoked cigars.

At that instant, I saw a look of such pain and weariness come into his eyes as I have never seen elsewhere. It was gone in a flash and he answered the question in his usual calm even way.

But in that instant I caught some idea of the tremendous heartache it has caused Lodge to endure the wild reports and charges that his belief in spiritism evoked.

I realized then that it was not easy for him, who had built himself an unquestioned reputation as one of the world's greatest physicists, to enter a field of research in which he met with the disbelief and even antagonism of 90 per cent of his colleagues.

Later I had opportunity to talk with Lodge about his work in spiritism. He particularly stressed the point that his interest had not grown out of the World War and the death of his son, as had been said so many times, but that he had been interested in the subject for many years, long before the war, and had carried on many investigations prior to the war.

The third picture I recall of Lodge is at a scientific session. Young men were explaining recent research work. Lodge sat in one corner against the wall, his feet crossed, his whole posture expressing complete ease.

There was a look of satisfaction in his eyes and a genial smile upon his lips. His look seemed to say that he was pleased to see the work of science going on. It was the look of the master who is pleased with his disciples.

The fourth picture I recall of Lodge was in a lecture hall. He was the speaker. He was leaning against the rostrum and speaking in a quiet and even, but earnest voice. It was Lodge, the patient teacher.

I have tried by means of these pictures to give the reader an intimate view of Lodge. His official record is to be found in many places.

It would take half a column of type to list his honorary degrees, his medals, and his memberships in important scientific societies. He was one of the great pioneers in the modern study of the atom and of radio.

Marconi usually is termed the father of radio. There can be no quarrel with that, provided that we remember that radio had many fathers. One of them was Sir Oliver Lodge.

Lodge invented the method of tuning radio circuits. Accordingly, if you were one of that once-numerous band of enthusiasts known as "dial fishers," send your thanks for pleasant evenings to Sir Oliver.

Lodge was born on June 12, 1851. He received his education at University College, London, and became professor of physics at University College of the University of Liverpool in 1881.

He held that post until 1900. He was president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1913.

His early interest in spiritism is shown by the fact that he served as president of the Society of Physical Research from 1901 to 1904.

People's Voice

Editor Times—A few days ago the newspapers quoted an evangelist in the employ of the Anti-Saloon League substantially as follows: "We will maintain prohibition even if it is necessary to dye the land red with blood."

This utterance was made in a house of worship. Its import is clearly to incite the commission of murder. Ample time has elapsed for disavowal of this statement by members of the Anti-Saloon League and the members of the