

The Indianapolis Times

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

A Fundamental Matter

Prompt action by Judge Baker in the criminal court in directing attention of the grand jury to the manner in which a law was written by fraud and forgery in the closing hours of the legislature gave some measure of hope to those who believe in free institutions.

The success of that body in bringing to justice those who substituted forgery for legislative processes will determine whether this is to be a government by the people or by special interests through their agents and tools.

There is agreement among legislators on the one fact that the law as signed by the Governor was not the same law as was passed by the members of the legislature.

Somewhere in the morning hours a different measure was substituted and promptly signed by the Governor.

There may be some debate as to the effect of the changes upon public interest. There can be no debate on the fundamental question that laws should be passed by the legislature and not by lobbyists.

The bill affects the rights of bus companies and the control of them by local officials instead of the public service commission. Inasmuch as that commission under the guidance of the Governor has an unbroken record of giving the utilities all that they ask and the people no redress from outrage and wrong, it may be expected that when ever public interest and utility greed clash, greed will win.

The people of the state have come to expect that result on utility matters. They have submitted quietly to outrages in rates and valuations. They have become submissive to utility extortions and exactions. But they have not yet become submissive to the direct writing of law by lobbyists.

If any official, high or low, consented to the ledgerman by which copies of the law were switched, he should be sent to jail. It is as Judge Baker so clearly pointed out, treason and the overthrow of all government.

But can the law catch up with the traitors and the manipulators? Is the law strong enough or wise enough to get the real rebels against free institutions?

The matter is much more important than catching any other law violators and should be pursued to the very end. Until these crooks are caught, all other law fails.

A Good War to Forget

The 119th anniversary of the declaration of war on England in 1812 is close at hand. The nature and significance of this conflict is suggested vividly by an amusing and illuminating article on present-day English attitudes toward the War of 1812 by Margaret Wilson in the Atlantic Monthly.

Miss Wilson, well known as a brilliant American novelist, recently married an Englishman and has gone to live in England. She was surprised one morning to find an English woman expressing the view that Americans had no use for naval vessels—that we are not a sea-going nation.

She mentioned the fact to her husband and asked if Englishmen knew nothing of the War of 1812. Even Miss Wilson's husband thought the War of 1812 began in 1776.

"This sent Miss Wilson to the library to get a history to prove there was a War of 1812. With difficulty she found one which gave the war three lines. She had to consult twenty well-educated Englishmen before she found one who could identify the War of 1812.

When she referred to the burning of Washington, one man thought she was accusing the British of burning George Washington. "I know we did burn Joan of Arc. But George Washington—that's a bit thick!"

The British have shown better sense on this matter than we have. The War of 1812, Old Ironsides notwithstanding, is a fine war for Americans to forget.

In the first place, we were in the wrong over most of the diplomatic disputes which preceded the war. We tolerated, even nursed along, the abuses over which we protested.

In the second place, it was an unnecessary war. The orders in council, which were the immediate justification alleged by the United States in declaring war, were ordered repealed on June 16, 1812. We did not declare war until June 18.

In the third place, it was a humiliating and an insignificant war. Clay and the war hawks thought they could bring England to her knees in short order. Clay declared: "I trust that I shall not be deemed presumptuous when I state that I verily believe the militia of Kentucky alone are competent to place Montreal and upper Canada at our feet."

But all the militia of all the states proved quite incapable of getting any foothold in Canada. The United States won but one considerable land encounter, and that after the treaty of Ghent had been signed.

The naval engagements have stimulated much patriotic prose and poetry, but they were insignificant, even if compared to the battles between the coast guard and the rum runners off New Jersey and Florida in 1931.

The wiping out of the St. Mihiel salient cost more American lives and ammunition in a single day than were demanded by the whole War of 1812. The Battle of Lake Erie required as great bravery as the Battle of Jutland; but it was an encounter of ill-fated order.

In short, the War of 1812 was a petty war, even when compared to the Spanish-American war.

Finally, the War of 1812 promoted treason and disloyalty. Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut refused to raise their quota of troops, but mobilized their militia against the federal government instead.

Most of the provisions used by the British army in Canada treacherously were shipped in by New York and New England. Timothy Pickens called a convention at Hartford to plan nullification and secession. Let us not remind England of the unpleasantness of 1812-1815.

Meeting the Deficit

Prospects of a billion-dollar federal deficit for this fiscal year have revived discussion of tax increases.

It no longer is possible to dismiss the deficit lightly. Less than two weeks ago it was placed at \$809,000,000. Now the United States treasury statement shows an \$879,000,000 shortage for the first ten months of the fiscal year.

At the current rate of loss, the deficit on June 30 will be more than \$1,135,000,000. That figure is considerably larger than our total ordinary annual expenditures before the war.

There are two ways to meet the deficit. One is to increase taxes. The other is to borrow and go deeper into debt.

Theoretically, the government might reduce expenditures; but actually it can not. The future is mortgaged by commitments which can not, or at least will not, be escaped. Indeed, it appears that expenditures are going up rather than coming down.

National defense is about the only large item that could be cut easily, and unfortunately neither the administration nor congress is ready to do that.

So far the administration has indicated that it will take the easiest—the most dangerous—way. It proposes to increase the public debt. This was confirmed last Wednesday by the assistant secretary of the treasury, speaking before the United States Chamber of Commerce convention.

Such policy might be justified if the government were certain that the present deficit was caused solely by the depression, that the depression was about over, and that income would be up again next year.

But the government has no such certainty. On the contrary, there are signs that the deficit will be even larger next year, unless there is a substantial tax increase.

An increase in customs receipts is not in sight, tariff revision and revival of foreign trade are not probable this year.

Domestic business, reflected in income and corporation taxes, following a short spring upturn, has been falling during the last month. A further slump in Wall Street has brought stock prices to the lowest level since March, 1927.

The farm outlook is darkened by reports of new grain surpluses abroad, and prospects of another drought. According to the chief of the United States weather bureau, "the severe drought of 1930 continues unbroken in many parts of the country, especially in those sections most seriously affected during the last year."

If the administration is intelligent, it will face these unpleasant facts in determining its tax policy. It will forget that it is on the eve of another presidential campaign, and base its policy on sound financial principles rather than partisan expediency.

To go on increasing the public debt in times like these is not sound finance. If the deficit is to be made up by an increased tax, good business requires that it be taken from the personal incomes of the very wealthy.

A higher tax on middle class incomes or on corporations would retard business recovery.

An Able Journalist

One of the friendliest, and by the same token, most effective, American editors died Sunday in Columbus, O.

E. E. Cook, who had been editor of the Columbus Citizen and editor-in-chief of the Ohio group of the Scripps-Howard newspaper, succumbed to illness that had rendered him inactive during the last year.

Editor for more than a generation of an important newspaper in the capital of an important state, Cook played a useful role in the public affairs of his time. He was loyal to the highest concepts of journalism, unswerving in his advocacy of the state's best interests, yet he found no occasion to make enemies, personal or professional.

Men with whom he disagreed most earnestly and openly are among his sincerest mourners today.

A man hot under the collar is fit to be tied—firmly about the neck.

"I'm spilling fine," as Floyd Gibbons, the 217-word-a-minute man, might say.

Maybe the drum major preens like he does because of his high baton average.

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

THIS new ambassador of the republic of Spain is sending to us is said to be an open critic of the United States.

Well, after he arrives, he would better put on his muffler or he will go back quicker than he came.

So far as he is concerned, it is fortunate that he is an open critic, for this enables him to get it out of his system.

You see, if he were a closed critic, it would all be canned up in him and he might have liver complaint.

When you are making your list of heroes do not overlook Laddie, that little dog in Chicago who saved one child from a burning house by arousing help and then gave his life, trying to drag another child to safety. Carnegie should have founded a hero fund for dogs.

PADEREWSKI, the master of the piano, states that he is going to play until he dies.

He hasn't the hair he used to have, but he still has the fingers and the temperament.

Paderewski is more than a great musician; he is a great patriot.

General Smedley Butler has made a great mistake, theatrically speaking, to get into this mess with this Haitian.

After having cavorted through the headlines of the world, arm in arm with Mussolini, it is a sad anti-climax to do a number with a mere minister from Haiti.

If King Alfonso several years ago turned down a one million dollar offer to go to Hollywood and appear in pictures, he now can kick himself all over the lot, for he wouldn't be in it now with Joe E. Brown, for instance.

Nothing fades quite so rapidly as an ex-king.

ACHIVALRIC Texan desires to marry one of the Siamese twins, now that the girls have won their freedom from their manager, along with a judgment for \$99,000.

But how could a fellow marry one of them without committing bigamy?

The supreme court of Illinois just has let four gangsters go for technical reasons.

We would have a terrible time saving the country if it were not for these technicalities.

Stephenson now is trying to get out on a writ of *habeas corpus*, but we don't believe he'll make it.

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

A Reasonable Excise Tax on the Hooch Now Being Sold Would Wipe Out the Federal Deficit.

NEW YORK, May 4.—Treasury reports for the first ten months of the fiscal year ending June 30 indicate a deficit of more than a billion dollars.

Boiled down, that means that the federal government has spent \$4 for every \$3 it has received.

About two-thirds of the deficit can be traced to decreased revenues, the remainder being due to increased appropriations. Administration officials say that the shortage will be overcome by a bond issue and that there will be no rise in taxes.

Profit to Racketeers

MORE than 24,000 stills were captured in this country last year.

General Lincoln C. Andrews, whose experience as former head of the federal prohibition bureau enables him to speak with authority, says that there probably are ten stills in operation for every one captured.

If that is true, we have something like a quarter million running.

The public gets bad hooch while racketeers get the profit. A reasonable excise tax on the same quantity of good hooch would wipe out the federal deficit.

Science Saves Lives

TWO hundred fifty-eight persons were killed in the last six months of 1930 as a result of accidents in connection with miscellaneous flying.

Only two were killed as result of accidents in connection with regular government supervised flying. That shows the advantage of scientific regulation.

We not only save time, but life as well, when we give science a chance to function in a conservative, purposeful way.

The trouble is that we waste a lot of scientific knowledge on mere folderol.

It's Not All Useless

PROFESSOR ARTHUR H. COMPTON, who won the Nobel prize for his work on the photoelectric effect, says that the scientific knowledge of modern science as one would expect.

Declaring that Greek science lost out because it failed in its promise "to help men to live better," he suggests that our may meet a similar fate.

"Is a girl, smoking and listening to jazz over a loud speaker, what the great electrical pioneers have been working for?" he wants to know.

It is possible to disagree with Professor Compton and still admit that, in spite of all its benefits, modern science has victimized humanity with a lot of useless trips.

Save That Sky Line

LAST week, the Empire State building, a structure dedicated formally in New York.

It's the tallest structure ever built by man and, therefore, denotes increased ability from an engineering standpoint. Whether it deserves similar credit from an aesthetic, or humanitarian, standpoint, is debatable.

Among other things it will compel more clerks and stenographers to ride on their feet in the already crowded subway trains.

But in a very real sense Governor Franklin Roosevelt's decision to dismiss the charges against Mayor James J. Walker hardly can be represented as the end of a major engagement.

It is merely a termination of the first skirmish. Not as a sportman, but as a realist, it is necessary to add that this particular skirmish has been won by James Joseph Walker.

But almost immediately the battle will proceed on a much wider front. The Seabury investigation will consider the structure and the functioning of our city government as a whole. That is the logical way to proceed.

Too Much Noise

A YOUNG couple just has been married by television. Since they were first to try the experiment, they undoubtedly got a big kick out of it.

Was the knot tied any better, however, or their future happiness made more secure, than if they had been united in some country parsonage by the light of kerosene lamps?

Paul Keyland drives his new "comet car" around the Tempelhof airport in Berlin at the rate of ninety miles an hour, its 151-pound motor splitting flame from the rear and spectators falling off the airport fence in alarm.

A group of modern scientists, no doubt, but think of what life would be like with a thousand such vehicles racing through the Holland tube or up and down Main street.

Say what you will, but a good deal of our ingenuity is being wasted on the production of unnecessary noise, smoke and confusion, and that, too, at a time when the majority of human beings never stood in such dire need of quiet and relaxation.

People's Voice

Editor Times—I see in your paper where a city judge gave a man thirty days and \$15 fine for driving a horse and buggy, leaving them without anything to eat for ten days.

We Americans are a wonderful people. We must look after horses and dogs. How many millions of unemployed workers who have been turned out without any means of earning a living? Politicians think nothing of that. Those in Washington quit in March until next winter.

Let the unemployed take care of themselves. They wonder why we have Socialists and radicals. Lots of people are going to learn something before prosperity gets around the corner.

WILLIAM BRONSON.

Who won the Edgar A. Guest title contest? The Rev. M. S. Rice, pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal church of Detroit. The winning title was "Harbor Lights of Heaven."

Is it true that the names of all persons who have \$1,000 bills in their possession are registered at the United States treasury?

One thousand dollar bills are not registered in the treasury under the names of the persons holding them.

Oh, Man!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Child Can Learn Bowel Action Habits

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

PROBABLY no other factor of infant training concerns the mother so much as the difficulty of habits so far as concerns their excretions.

Some mothers are apparently able to teach their babies not to soil themselves after they are 6 weeks old. Other mothers find it difficult to train infants even after 2 years of age.

Granted that the child and the mother are of normal intelligence, training can do much in this regard. In a recent consideration of the subject in Hygiene, Katherine Brownell suggests that the first step is to determine the usual hour of the bowel action, which, at the age of 6 weeks, is perhaps twice each day.

A small vessel, made especially for the infant, is held between the mother's legs, and the child is supported in a comfortable sitting position. This is repeated time after time, and at least 50 per cent of babies get the idea promptly. In a few instances infants do not seem to learn readily; in such cases, a small glycerine suppository or the temporary insertion of any well greased or oiled tube will begin the action, and after two or three days the artificial stimulation can be omitted.

It is, of course, important to have the child understand that the matter is entirely normal. It must not be frightened, and everything possible should be done for its comfort.

The mother should realize that the infant should not be taken from a warm bed and its skin placed in

contact with a cold vessel brought in from outdoors. A slight warming of the utensil will keep the child from anticipating its use with fear of discomfort.

Wherever the systematic plan is adopted, the results are likely to be so good that the mother becomes a propagandist and educator for the future.

Visiting nurses have put such plans into effect in homes and invariably with good results. Here, after all, is a case in which individual attention by trained mother or nurse means much for the beginning of sensible habits.

The child whose training is begun at six weeks of age is a more easily trained child in other habits and ways of life thereafter.

The world is built on a social scheme, and happiness depends largely on a reasonable amount of confirmation to social custom.

Ideals and opinions expressed are those of one of America's most interesting writers and are presented without regard to their agreement or disagreement with the editorial attitude of this paper.—The Editor.

IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

WHEN a good cause has been defeated, the only question its advocates need ask is, "When do we fight again?"

I had occasion to use this quotation from Charles W. Eliot on the morning after last election day. It is entirely possible that from time to time I shall feel the need for using it again.

But in a very real sense Governor Franklin Roosevelt's decision to dismiss the charges against Mayor James J. Walker hardly can be represented as the end of a major engagement.

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One Front Page Story

IF Governor Roosevelt had decided to appoint a commissioner to try the mayor of New York, that action would have been more spectacular than vital. The removal of Mayor Walker would have been only a small step toward the elimination of Tammany power.

But even a columnist may learn a little wisdom as he goes along. And I think I have profited by listening to certain words and studying some of the writings of Lincoln Steffens. At a dinner he said:

"I know you men are not fighting Mayor Walker, you're broadening your fight. But you are proceeding bit by bit. Mayor Walker was nominated by Tammany hall. He must represent what Tammany hall represents."

"Suppose you say, 'We are not going to oust or punish Walker—we are through with punishment. We're going to show you what is the matter with New York, what Tammany represents.'"

"Well, when you know what it represents and decide to do something you will decide the fate of the nation, for every city has a Tammany hall."

This seems to me a sound approach to the problem. I never have felt, even from the beginning, that James Joseph Walker was a particularly poor specimen as Tammany mayor. He has been well up to the average of what comes out of the machine.

In fact, aside from certain personal attributes, such as the peculiar and persuasive charm of the present city executive, there is very little difference between Tammany mayors.

Like all machine products, standardization sets in Jimmy Walker is merely John F. Hylian with better upholstery.

Nor is it entirely fair to attack Walker as a man unfaithful to his trust. He never pretended in any serious way to be a servant of the city of New York.

Quite frankly he declared at the beginning of a campaign that he owed allegiance to Mr. Curry and that he would seek counsel from the actual ruler of our local government.

And to this trust Jimmy Walker

has been faithful, as have his predecessors.

Without Drama

I AM under the impression that the voters of New York maintain Tammany in power because they do not fully understand what it represents.

The Seabury investigation will take a long time. Much of its work will deal with highly technical problems, difficult for the majority of us to comprehend. Quite possibly



JOFFRE'S CHICAGO VISIT

May 4

ON May 4, 1917, the French mission arrived in Chicago for a tour of the middle western states. Marshal Joffre delivered his first address, as follows:

"My friends, I am proud to have in my hand the American flag, which is to the American people what the French flag is to the people of France, a symbol of liberty."

"I hold in my other hand the flag of France, who has given the flag of France, who has given the flag of France, and which also stands for liberty."

"I had the honor to carry the French flag on the field of battle, and I am glad to join the flag of many battles to the flag that never has known defeat."

"With this flag I bring to you the salute of the French army to the American people, our staunch ally in the common cause."

The marshal then joined the two flags of red, white, and blue. The whole assembly mounted the seats and cheered.

The mission was enthusiastically welcomed and hospitably entertained at Chicago and thence proceeded to St. Louis.

Can You Do It?

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SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

"High Priest of Light" Is Apt Title for Professor Albert Michelson.

A SIGH of relief ran through the ranks of American science when word was sent out from Pasadena that Professor Albert A. Michelson was better.

Michelson recently suffered a somewhat critical collapse brought on by the fact that, despite his 78 years, he has been working night and day for several hours past midnight, upon his newest experiment, an attempt to determine the velocity of light with greater accuracy than it had been determined in the past.

Michelson is the "grand old man" of American science, although no one would use just those words to his face. There is the quiet dignity of an older man, in his bearing, the sort of reserve that doesn't encourage the use of such expressions.

He is a distinguished-looking man, with gray hair and mustache, finely chiseled features, sharp eyes and high forehead.

It would be interesting to know what Michelson thinks of the amount of public attention which he and his work are getting these days.

For Michelson carried on most of his work in the days when it was considered practically unethical for a scientist to talk about his work.

But it would be a mistake to think of Michelson as the sort of man who withdraws from the world. Until five years ago, he was a frequent and familiar figure at the symphony concert and better plays in Chicago.

At that time he still enjoyed a game of tennis in spite of his advanced years and was to be seen frequently on the courts of the Quadrangle Club.

The High Priest

MICHELSON has been called "the high priest of light," an apt title, for he is the world's greatest authority upon the subject. He was the first American to be awarded the Nobel prize in physics.