

The Indianapolis Times

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

Where Farmers Sing

There's at least one group of American farmers who still can sing, "A farmer's life for mine!" This cheerful fact is recalled by receipt of a \$600,000 check by the United States reclamation service from its first and most successful project, the Salt River valley project in Arizona.

These 7,500 Arizona farmers owe Uncle Sam \$3,000,000, which will be paid off in twenty years. Then, unless unforeseen things happen, they will own outright the great Roosevelt dam, four other power dams, canals, pumping plants and their own 235,000 acres of citrus and winter vegetable land.

In twenty years they not only will have free water and power, but they will get their monthly dividend checks from the sale of surplus power to nearby towns and mines.

Salt River valley is typical of the twenty-seven reclamation service settlements. From the sale of public lands, the government started this great pioneering movement in 1901. The only money ever appropriated by congress for this purpose has been returned—\$20,000,000.

And in one generation there have been added taxable values to the nation of a half billion dollars, 2,000,000 acres of wealth-producing land where once was desert, fifty power plants earning \$1,000,000 a year, cities, towns, prosperity and contentment.

These projects are paying up their debts in spite of depression and overproduction.

Of course, it's all paternalistic. It's the very opposite of Mr. Hoover's "rugged individualism." It is governmental encouragement to public ownership of power. But it works.

And it is to be noted that, apparently with the President's consent, the latest, biggest and most sensational of these governmental power dams has been christened by Secretary Wilbur "the Hoover dam."

A Cure for Coal

Depressions may come and depressions may go, but the coal industry continues to go down. Even at the height of American prosperity, three basic industries were depressed. If the next cycle of prosperity is to help the country as a whole, some way must be found to bring health to those long sick industries: Agriculture, textiles, and coal.

Certainly there is no easy or simple way out for agriculture. Solution of the farm problem probably will be a long time coming, because it involves a fundamental readjustment in the relation of country to town in the machine age, as well as the immediate task of timing supply to demand.

But there is rather general agreement that sweeping and quick reforms could be made in the textile and coal industries by the simple expedient of modernizing labor policies.

This is the conclusion of the report on coal issued Monday by the Russell Sage foundation. In its survey of conditions in the central competitive field—Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and western Pennsylvania—the report covers the last thirty years and analyzes labor agreements and 10,000 disputes.

Extension and improvement of union organization and collective bargaining are found to be necessary.

"So long as a large part of the coal industry in the United States remains disorganized in its human relations, there can be little co-operation in the elimination of waste and conservation of coal."

It follows naturally that:
"Giving coal miners a share in the management of coal mines, in regard to their working conditions, yields direct benefit of a freer, more satisfied and, therefore, more efficient body of workers."

There is too much blood on American coal—too many miners killed, too many miners maimed, too many miners unable to make a living wage in the dark, dangerous pits.

A Magna Charter of Rehabilitation

If there is an economic expert in the United States today whose words should command the respect of thinking persons it is Dr. Leo Wolman, just appointed to the chair of labor problems at Columbia university. Speaking to the National League of Women Voters, he offered a triad of measures which he stated would bring swift and sure revival of prosperity. His proposals were:

"First, a Federal bond issue of at least \$3,000,000,000 to be expended as quickly as possible on construction work, leading to the employment of nearly 750,000 workmen, and stimulating private business.

"Second, compulsory unemployment insurance, imposing the full cost of the fund on industry with each industry being permitted, under state supervision, to set up and administer its own reserves.

"Third, creation of instrumentalities for future control of business and industry in the form of a central agency, composed of representatives of business and government, which will perform the function of observing and interpreting the major factors which affect the business situation and which will exercise at least a minimum of control over the chaotic forces of competitive industry."

It is hard to find fault with this program, unless one were to suggest that the burden of unemployment insurance should be divided among industry, labor and the public. But there is no evidence that those in a position of authority will abandon the talkmill and get down to business along such lines.

About Wage Reductions

"Wage cutting does not mean curtailment in the cost of manufacturing. Wages amount only to 16.2 per cent of factory cost, and a 10 per cent cut in wages results in a saving of only 1.6 per cent.

"Real wages—by that I mean wages in relation to cost—never were inflated. From 1921 to 1929, real wages increased only 13 per cent. During this same period, returns to industrialists grew 72 per cent, and in the same years dividends in industrial stocks and rails grew 256 per cent."—Dr. Julius Klein, assistant secretary of commerce.

"These business depressions are like a snowball going downhill. It gathers size and force as it moves. Pay the American workman less wages and through sheer force of necessity he will have to purchase less. When he purchases less, the retailer's income is cut. When that income is cut, profits in business of the manufacturer are cut. That means more men laid off, so that the vicious circle keeps moving around."—Alfred E. Smith.

"If reduced wages could make industry thrive, it is strange that the farmer does not get along well. Nothing should be high in this country but wages. Let us maintain wages, increase consumption, and reduce prices. The development of industry will attend to that. We shall find a level.

"Interest charges instead of wages are the burden of business. It is interest charges that should come down, and not wages. One of them is artificial, the

other essential. Interest is the heaviest burden of modern man. Whoever invented interest, invented a treadmill."—Henry Ford.

Democracy's Only Way

There have been plenty of charges that Mr. Hoover is somewhat less of a social engineer than he believed him to be in 1928. But his reaction to Senator La Follette's proposal of an extra session of congress is the first notice that he himself advocates this position. He says:

"We can not legislate ourselves out of a world economic depression; we can and will work ourselves out." Probably one should not be too dogmatic about the need for an extra session of congress or about the good things it might accomplish. But Mr. Hoover's statement about the futility of legislation is highly significant.

It so happens that legislation is the only effective means of social engineering in a democracy. To maintain the ineffectiveness of constructive legislation is to confess inability to carry on any large-scale social planning and to put it into operation through wise laws.

The hope of "working ourselves out" is nothing more than our trust in God, good luck, or economic anarchy. This is a natural, perhaps the easiest and laziest, reaction to our problems. But it is not the masterful response of a great social engineer.

Shade of Jefferson

Should the secretary of labor of the United States act indirectly as hangman for foreign despots?

Not if we understand American history or constitutional law. But this is where Mr. Doak is heading for right now.

The labor department's policy has departed two stages from sound American tradition and precedent. We started out by offering asylum to foreign radicals and were proud of their presence here. Jefferson numbered them among his closest personal friends.

Then, after the World war, we began to get nervous, in spite of our 120,000,000 souls and the wide expanse of the Atlantic and Pacific to protect us against the Red plague abroad, we launched the deportations delirium of the Mitchell Palmer days.

But in the first stage of the deportation flurry it was the custom to let a deported man go to the land of his own choice and designation. It was enough to get the source of poison off our own soil.

Now the secretary of labor has advanced to another stage. He assumes to act indirectly as the executioner of foreign radicals. He will not let them go back to the land of their choice, but insists upon sending them to the country of their nativity, where death is the almost certain result.

There have been several notorious cases, among which the pending ones of Guido Serio, the anti-Fascist leader, and Tao-Hsuan Li, fellow alumnus of Leland Stanford with President Hoover and vigorous opponent of Chinese imperialism, are the most striking.

If Serio is sent back to Italy he will be shot or condemned to a slow death on one of the penal colony islands. Li most certainly will be shot if he is returned to China.

Li is a well-educated man, a graduate of Leland Stanford and at present a graduate student in electrical engineering in New York university. Both these men will be welcomed in Russia.

If we wanted to remember American history, we would let these men stay in our midst. But if we have chills and want to get rid of them, then our protection is assured once we head them to a foreign land where they will be received, be this Russia or Lichtenstein.

There would seem to be no justification for our secretary of labor to act even indirectly as lord high executioner for Il Duce or Chiang Kai-shek.

The man who hates to be told how to run his car often is grateful for driving lessons at the golf links.

As any golfer will tell you, distance is three-quarters stance.

You can't accuse a symphony conductor of being high hat because he puts on arias.

As a result of the downfall of royalty, even card players are looking upon the king as a joker.

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

THOMAS A. EDISON, burned his fingers the other day when he took hold of the wrong bottle down in Florida.

It's risky business these days to trust any bottle.

F. Scott Fitzgerald, the novelist, says the Jazz age ended two years ago, which is welcome information, since most of us had overlooked the fact.

The Kirkland case is over, but a lot of people are continuing to wonder who it was that financed the elaborate defense put up in the two trials.

ENTERPRISING citizens of Akron want President Hoover to ride from Washington to Akron in the great dirigible which bears their city's name, but we suspect they are going to be disappointed.

These continued robberies in broad daylight bring the painful reflection that some of these days this country is going to find it necessary to be positively discourteous with the boys.

They've held up everything else and some day a brace of bandits is going to overleap the bounds of discretion and go into court and hold up the judge, the lawyers, the jurors and witnesses.

Possibly that might put a burr under the tail of our complacent procedure.

THREE members of the supreme court will be disqualified when the court hears the appeal of ex-Secretary Fall, and if the case hangs on a little longer all of the rest of them will have to retire.

When it comes to getting up the national exhibit for the Chicago world's fair, we ought to include the Fall case along with our other old things, such as George Washington's saddle bags and the clothes line that Abigail Adams used to hang in the East room of the White House.

WHEN the Russian government finally gets to the bottom of it they'll find that the wreck of this submarine, which has been lost in the North sea is the result of another capitalistic conspiracy.

In the midst of warlike preparations in other parts of the world, it is comforting to read that pugilists Jim Jeffries and Jack Johnson met and shook hands the other night out in California for the first time since Jack knocked Jim's block off for the heavy-weight championship many years ago.

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

It Isn't Money That Counts So Much, as What People Believe They Can Do With It.

NEW YORK, June 2.—Robert E. Autrey flies an airplane over Houston, Tex., by means of radio control.

It is the first public demonstration of a principle which he discovered seven years ago, and which has been used for guidance of driverless automobiles many times.

Whatever its commercial value may be, its suggestiveness with regard to war is appalling.

The thought of piloted planes, raining death and destruction, is bad enough, but what about the prospect of a manless fleet, capable of just as great destructiveness, though incapable of being hurt?

Future Strife Horrible

SUCH inventions as that of Mr. Autrey are much more prophetic of what future strife will be like than such maneuvers as were held last week.

Preparedness, as we call it, has ceased to be a mere matter of mobilizing so many men and machines.

In no field has science become so predominant.

If the destiny of nations is to be determined by their power to commit wholesale murder, we might as well admit that the inventor, mechanician and chemist will reign supreme.

Works Both Ways

NEW YORK authorities are considering the proposition of piping prisons for tear gas.

It sounds all right, but, like most everything else, has two sides.

The idea of quenching a riot, or preventing a break for liberty, merely by turning on the gas and putting all the convicts out of commission seems feasible, if a little unfair.

But suppose some of the convicts were to get control of the system and put all the guards out of commission?

A Money Parade

THE treasury will issue \$800,000,000 worth of bonds on June 15. They will draw 3 1/2 per cent interest, mature in eighteen years, and be callable in fifteen.

It is expected that they will be oversubscribed.

The same conditions which make it hard for people to get work make it easy for the government to borrow money at low rates.

When times are good, business men forever are talking about what they could and would do if money were only cheaper. When times are bad, they talk just as convincingly about what they could and would do if money only paid more.

You can't explain such a paradox in any other way than that money rates do little more than reflect the general attitude.

In other words, it isn't money that counts so much as what people believe they can do with it. Probably our greatest economic mistake is the idea of trying to translate everything into money value.

Diet and Cash

WE used to think of crops as something to eat, and used to be glad when they were big, because it meant more and better food.

Now we think of them as meaning so much profit in dollars and cents.

What we have on our tables has come to be regarded as rather less important than what we have on the bank book.

It is more than possible that the craze for money has had something to do with all this dieting.

It is a pity that such a paradox in any other way than that money rates do little more than reflect the general attitude.

In other words, it isn't money that counts so much as what people believe they can do with it. Probably our greatest economic mistake is the idea of trying to translate everything into money value.

Lucky Land! No Experts

ICELAND has no army, no navy, no skyscrapers, no night clubs, and no deficit.

What is more significant, it has practically no unemployment. Maybe the explanation of Iceland's good fortune in these respects is the fact that it has no experts.

Iceland is a rather old-fashioned country.

It knows very little about the slide-rule method of producing wealth.

The people of Iceland go right along eating and drinking much the same as the grandfathers and grandmothers did. Consumption remains steady and the country's commercial structure is not subjected to such terrific fluctuations as occur elsewhere.

Trade Is the Key

IF we ever could get out our heads that trade depends largely on what people eat, drink, wear and employ to amuse themselves, and that prosperity depends largely on trade, we only would not have fewer depressions, but a better understanding of why they occurred and how they could be cured.

In spite of all the innovations and improvements, this still is a world of men and women, and its economic condition still is determined by what those men and women do.

It is the way they spend their money, not the amount they have, that counts.

Daily Thought

For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders.—St. Mark 7:21.

Evils, like poison, have their uses, and there are diseases which no other remedy can reach.

What is the highest mountain peak in the world?

Mt. Everest in the Himalayas, which has an elevation of 29,141 feet.

Which city was the first regular capital of Ohio?

Chillicothe, from 1800 to 1810.

Does the Bible say that a man's life is "three score and years and ten?"

It is in the Ninetieth Psalm.

Do racing autos use the same kind of motors as ordinary autos?

Racing cars have specially designed and built motors.

The Oversight



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Mouth Is Subject to Several Diseases

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

THERE are many diseases that constantly occur in the mouth. In addition, the mouth is subject to the effects of diseases affecting the body generally.

Diseases that are particularly mouth diseases include pyorrhea, which usually begins about middle age and which may be responsible for the loss of most of the teeth; dental decay, which may be particularly a disease of children and young adults; abscesses at the roots of the teeth, which occur at all ages; Vincent's disease, or Vincent's angina, sometimes called trench mouth.

Studies made on dental decay in recent years indicate that if the teeth are kept clean, if the person eats a proper diet with adequate amounts of vitamins A, B, C and D, and if suitable dental care is given to the teeth at least once each year, dental caries is extremely unlikely to occur.

Pyorrhea is an infectious condition caused by a germ which gets into the spaces between the teeth, which develop in decomposing particles and which attack the gums where the defense is broken down by injury or abrasion.

Germs getting into the teeth through cavities may form abscesses at the roots of the teeth. It is quite possible for such germs to be brought to the roots of the teeth by way of the blood and thus to set up disturbances.

Trench mouth is ulceration of the tops of the gums caused by germs which live best where there is no oxygen.

For this reason, one of the best methods of prevention and treatment of trench mouth is the proper use of sodium perborate, which is

mildly antiseptic and which develops oxygen.

In addition to the conditions that are particularly diseases of the mouth, many general diseases, such as tuberculosis, cancer and syphilis, and various forms of poisoning, such as from lead, mercury and bismuth, may affect the mouth, causing the teeth to fall out and associated with development of ulcers.

Thus the person who attempts to treat diseases of the mouth must have not only a complete knowledge of the structure of the mouth, jaws and teeth, but also of diseases in general.

For this reason, a specialty has developed in medicine called stomatology, dealing particularly with diseases of the mouth.

Moreover, good dentists and good physicians work together constantly to control conditions which demand the special knowledge that both may apply to the situation.

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

IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

WHEN pessimistic people speak of the death of the theater, they merely are referring to the possible passing of the stage as we know it. To a few it must consist of large and elaborate theaters, stars, expensive scenery and orchestra seats costing \$5.50.

During the actors' strike, when Equity was born, one old trouper declared: "We don't need to have a theater. Any street corner is a stage when actors get together and people come to listen."

It seems to me no sorrowful thing that some process of deflation should take place in the American theater. I have a feeling that much of what has been smothered and checked by primary costs and the overelaboration of mechanism, both artistic and economic.

For instance, it is far more difficult to get a play produced than to have a book published. The cost of a book is sufficiently low to make it possible to take a chance on things which do not see likely to be sure-fire.

For the Ungeneral Public

THE head of a publishing house need not deal entirely in terms of the public taste. He knows that in his business he is concerned not with one single group, but with many.

Of course, he would like to sell 100,000 copies or, better yet, 200,000, but it is perfectly sound business for him to issue a novel which never will go above the 4,000 mark.

And the theater can be rearranged in such a way as to meet the varying taste of a complicated mixture of individuals. As things stand today a run of less than 300 nights probably indicates a losing venture.

That is sheer nonsense. A play likely to appear to no more than 15,000 or 20,000 persons deserves its chance just as much as "Abe's Irish Rose."

And if audiences turn toward a new simplicity of accoutrement, there is no reason why many fine things can not be done for limited runs. As a matter of fact, there is evidence already that much which

goes into spectacular productions is not inevitably necessary.

The movement toward stripping the theater down to its essentials has made marked progress in the field of musical comedy. The success, for instance, of the first "Little Show" was largely based upon the fact that less gold and silver cloth was displayed before the audience than usual.

Twenty young women, each kicking a right leg, can be less exciting than one or two engaged in the same pastime.

Getting Out of Touch

WITHOUT doubt, the life of the theater depends upon a greater realization of the necessity for projecting emotion. On the whole, books deal with problems which touch us rather closely.

The stage has fallen into the habit of dealing too much with material which is familiar. I don't mean at all that every comedy, farce and tragedy should touch upon the present economic depression or the five-year plan in Russia.

But I do think that there can be no life for the theater unless it buckles down to interpreting our immediate concerns. This does not bind all authors to adventure only in realism.

Last week, for instance, I saw "The Barretts of Wimpole Street." Robert Browning is hardly a figure calculated to be, of himself, sensational in the minds of most.

The day of Browning clubs and attendant discussion as to what the poet meant is done. Professor Phelps, at Yale, strives valiantly to keep his memory fresh and green. But it is not to be denied that the works of the dead master tend to find a refuge in half cut and upper shelves.

Still something does come alive in Besier's play when Browning suddenly strides through a door and meets Elizabeth Barrett for the first time.

There is in the situation enough of present experience to give it the thrill and interest of a first page

story in yesterday's newspaper—or tomorrow's, for that matter.

It Has Its Moments

IN my opinion "The Barretts of Wimpole Street" falls very far short of being a great play. In my judgment it isn't even a good play. But there are scenes so lively and engrossing that the entertainment is worth any man's attention.

During a full twenty minutes I wept copiously. This is not a particularly profound tribute, for I happen to belong to the clan of easy weepers.

Yet there are a great many plays through which I can sit with dry eyes. And to me the chance to get a little moist during a performance is far more appealing than the possibility of laughing now and again.

Tears indicate to my mind a closer tieup between the person in the orchestra seat and the player on the stage. The theater arts in going too far to the left of laughter.

Most of us find a good many devices in every day life which are sufficient to amuse us. We need far more the vitalization of being stirred.

No Remorse for Tears

WHEN I have been tricked into either laughter or tears, I leave the theater somewhat resentful. But I have no remorse about growing more than a little damp while watching the play at the Empire.

Miss Katherine Cornell and Bryan Aherne play in a manner which justifies the position of the theater as a medium to tear the spectator out of himself and make him a participant in the proceedings.

I never have been a believer in the theory that there was long ago a golden age of acting which has passed away for all time.

I doubt profoundly that the '70s or the '80s set any people on the stage more moving than Miss Cornell or Mr. Aherne during the best parts of "The Barretts of Wimpole Street."

If there used to be players more skilled than they, I am not at all sure that I would have cared to go to see them. It may have been an agony beyond my capacity. This is enough.

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Questions and Answers

What does Mizpah mean?

Mizpah (Hebrew—watch, outlook) is the name of several places in Palestine, the most important of which is the heap of stones and pillars set up by Jacob and his brethren as a witness of the covenant between Jacob and Laban. The use of Mizpah as a memorial inscription on rings is based upon the words of Laban, who said: "Mizpah; the Lord watch between me and thee."

How tall were Abraham Lincoln and George Washington?

Lincoln