



The Indianapolis Times

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

The Fathers and the Racketeers

Racketeering and lawlessness in America today are not primarily due to the invasion of America by "the scum of Europe." They are the perpetuation of the lawless heritage of the fathers who subdued the lawless heretics of the 18th century.

Such is the contention of Professor William E. Dodd, one of the most competent of American historians and publicists. Writing in the New York Times, Professor Dodd holds that we are in 1931 paying the price of lawlessness in 1831, 1831 and 1831.

The "small fry"—Capone, Rothstein, Diamond et al.—only are learning the lessons taught them by the behavior of "the great, the good and the wise" throughout American history.

Professor Dodd does not rest content with blanket charges. He provides a long list of particulars.

First, our ancestors disregarded the treaties with the red men and massacred right and left from the days of Massasoit to those of Slitting Bull.

Next, they violated the British navigation acts through wholesale smuggling. This was lawlessness among the high and mighty. Meanwhile, the oppressed masses were making their contribution to lawlessness through breaking their contracts as indentured servants and redemptioners.

The very framing of the Constitution was a lawless act, since the delegates had no authority to make a new Constitution.

After 1807 it became a capital crime to import a Negro slave into the United States. Yet 10,000 were brought between 1807 and 1861, and the first man was hanged for the offense in 1862. Southerners flaunted the law, in spite of the fact that it was the work of Thomas Jefferson.

This prompted northerners to disregard the fugitive slave law, requiring the return of runaway slaves to their owners. The latter form of lawlessness was one of the major causes of the Civil war.

Immediately after that war the northern carpet-baggers and the southern scalawags and galvanized Yankees launched an era of wholesale lawlessness. When this ceased, the south proceeded to ignore the intent and letter of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments.

The Sherman anti-trust law was passed in 1890, but it never has been honestly or consistently enforced. The fiction of good and bad trusts soon arose. Moreover, this law was perverted and turned against labor—quite contrary to all intent of the framers. The Pullman strike and the Danbury haters' cases are but two conspicuous examples.

Then along came prohibition, which has been challenged joyfully by rich and poor alike and has opened the way for a vast development of racketeering. The contemporary racketeer thinks it is the turn of the poor and low-born to cash in on the lawlessness racket.

"If the great may ignore social restraint and positive law, why may not lesser folk do likewise, or worse?"

Professor Dodd closes with the sagacious observation that "the great and the wealthy must obey the law if they wish not themselves one day to become the victims of lawlessness. This is perhaps a dark picture, but it is no darker than the facts."

Read 'Em and Weep

At the time of the worst industrial depression and largest unemployment and largest federal deficit in our history, the Hoover higher tariff has destroyed our richest foreign market and strained the friendship of our best neighbor. That is the significance of the new Canadian tariff wall raised in retaliation against us.

Last year, Canada, our largest and friendliest customer, protested against the proposed tariff increases of the Hoover administration. The administration ignored that just warning. Today its folly has returned to torture it.

Three times in little more than a year, Canada, in self-protection, has struck back at us—in May, 1930, in September and on June 1. And now there is a prohibitive tariff or a virtual embargo on many of our exports, which in 1920 totaled almost one billion dollars. Now the total is cut almost in half.

In the last twelve months our Canadian exports have dropped from \$847,000,000 to \$584,000,000 a year.

Thus the Hoover higher tariff, touted to protect American industry and wage earners, has closed or put on part time many American factories and added to the 6,000,000 unemployed.

To evade the retaliatory Canadian tariff wall, many American plants have moved to Canada—throwing more Americans out of jobs permanently. Premier Bennett announced on Monday that since the September tariff increase, seventy-five new American industries had moved to Canada. That was in addition to the 389 American subsidiaries, valued at \$485,000,000, already operating there.

To hasten and increase that flight of American capital and industries to Canada, the Ottawa government now has provided only a low 2 per cent income tax on Canadian investments of non-residents.

Of course there is nothing new and unexpected about this higher tariff boomerang, which has destroyed foreign markets essential to our prosperity, cut our customs receipts, and deprived American workers of their jobs.

Many American business men, most of the American press and more than 1,000 leading economists warned the administration when it forced through the billion-dollar tariff grab a year ago that precisely this would happen.

But we are not interested in "I-told-you-so."

It is the future that matters. The Hoover administration might with great charity be excused for the costly blunder of raising the tariff. But—now that the results of its folly are clear to every discouraged stockholder and every jobless worker—there will be no excuse for the Hoover administration if it refuses to help the country by lowering the tariff it raised.

If not at a special session before, then congress when it meets in December must cut the tariff to help revive prosperity.

Hughes Today

Years work subtle changes in the mental attitudes of men. Youth is bold and progressive. Age is cautious and conservative. The rule is almost universal, but there are exceptions.

Justice Holmes, for example. He is 90. Through his life there has been no weakening in that forward-looking, liberal outlook of his. Though old physically, he mentally is young.

In the nation's highest judicial office we now are observing a most interesting transformation. Charles Evans Hughes is 69. In his early years he was conspicuous as one who challenged "things as they are." He was a crusader, a reformer, the grave abuses of the early years of the century.

In his handling of the Armstrong insurance investigation and as Governor of New York he became

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

M. E. Tracy SAYS:

What Is the Use of Wasting Time in Talk About Things on Which Every One Agrees?

NEW YORK, June 4.—Delegates to the Northern Baptist convention, now in session at Kansas City, are treated to a rather gloomy portrayal of the church condition by the Rev. M. E. Dodd.

With 10,000 churches showing no gain whatever and with Baptist ministers throughout the country bringing in an average of only six members each, he declares that the denomination "seems to be committing spiritual race suicide."

Such a method of appraising religious progress suggests that he is right.

You simply can not translate spiritual growth into figures. If you could, Christianity would have perished on calvary.

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No Aid to Christianity

WHILE one school of divines seeks to measure religious work by counting noses, another seeks to boost it by compromising with people who prefer something else.

The Rev. Arthur Stanley Wheelock of White Plains, N. Y., announces a thirty-five-minute service at 8 o'clock for accommodation of golfers, bathers and picnickers.

It may be a comforting thought that salvation is merely a matter of mathematics, on the one hand, or of salesmanship on the other, but somehow the thing doesn't seem to be working out right.

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Good Pacifist Propaganda

General MacArthur, chief of staff, may be a great military tactician; indeed, we are inclined to think he is. But as a propagandist, he is a complete washout.

He has issued a shrill denunciation of pacifist clergymen.

The fact that the chief of staff officially is opposed to pacifists will not strike the American people as particularly new or significant. But by his attack, the general has given publicity to a very big news story which hitherto has escaped the attention of most of the American public. The news story is this:

Of 19,372 clergymen answering a questionnaire of the magazine, *The World Tomorrow*, 12,076, or 62 per cent, said the churches should go on record as refusing to support or sanction any future war. Not 1 per cent of the churches opposed the last war.

If 62 per cent of the churches oppose the next war, there probably will be no next war for the United States.

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Mussolini Music

Mussolini got excited some months ago over the adverse publicity he received in this country from a speech by General Butler of the marines. Il Duce had enough bluff to make the state department bow to him.

But how is Mussolini going to censor American opinion of the Toscanini incident? That has revealed the Fascist dictatorship in all its cheap and cruel futility. Many Americans, especially of the wealthy class which has tended to admire the dictator, are more enraged by the mistreatment of the great conductor than by all the Fascist murders of labor leaders and liberals.

As progressive leaders point out, it is a good bet that the Canadian tariff will result in the establishment of more American-owned plants across the border.

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Another Tariff Blow

CANADA is the twenty-sixth country to raise its tariff rates since the Smoot-Hawley bill was adopted.

Democrats see it as just one more case of retaliation; Republicans as just one more of normal protection.

No matter which you like best, the effect will be the same—reduction of trade and more unemployment.

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We Should Argue

GOVERNOR RITCHIE of Maryland is dissatisfied with the rule which prevents discussion of controversial subjects at Governors' conferences.

He thinks that they are about the only ones which merit discussion.

They are. What is use of wasting time in talk about things of which every one agrees?

If the tariff had been discussed openly and frankly, as it should have been, and as it used to be, we might have avoided the mess we now are in.

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Why We Blunder

SIDESTEPPING debate on the ground that some may feel hurt or get mad has had a lot to do with the mistakes and blunders from which we are suffering.

If the successful operation of a republic depends on one thing more than another, it is the ability of people to disagree and argue without losing their tempers.

Somehow or other, we seem to have lost faith in that ability.

Though still teaching our children to debate in the public schools, we forbid it at noon-day luncheon clubs.

A man can't argue even over the radio unless he owns his own station.

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Scared of Free Speech

AT Decoration day services this year there was a great dramatic interest, due to the passing of the "Boys in Blue."

At some meetings there were only one or two survivors and at others only a handful.

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There was a thoroughbred note struck at several places by the G. A. R. survivors who had taken into their fold the one or two ex-Confederate soldiers who lived in the community.

With this spirit existing all over the country, there should be a joint reunion of the Blue and Gray at the Chicago world's fair in 1933.

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If the politicians only had kept out of the mess after Appomattox there would have been little trouble.

The soldiers always managed to get along with each other and McKinley once said that all the hard feelings between the sections was due to those who never smelled gunpowder.

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The day before yesterday the Indianapolis Times published a cartoon by Edgar Martin, "Boots and Her Buddies," which is his address?

Edgar Martin draws the cartoon and his address is in care of NEA Cleveland, O.

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The purchase of bare necessities by the commonwealth will not restore prosperity.

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A result of this executive action, our incoming tide of Europeans is more than ten thousand less every month than it was one year ago. And as a result of the depression, almost twice as many foreigners have gone back home as have entered.

But, do not become despondent, for when times pick up the dear fellows will all return.

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