



The Indianapolis Times

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

Weakness of Public Works Solution

The \$800,000,000 bond issue is oversubscribed by \$5,200,000,000.
That oversubscription exceeds the largest figure yet suggested for public works as a quick way out of unemployment. Within the last week, two such suggestions have been urged, one for three billions, by a group of economists and social workers who tried unsuccessfully to call on Hoover; the second for five billions, by William Randolph Hearst in a radio speech.
One lesson from the oversubscription is important. It means that the money is available, that it is eager to be used, and that it is willing to go to work at a low rate of interest.

Hoover helped invent the idea of big public works in slow times as a stabilizing factor in offsetting depression. His idea looked good when first broached. It still looks good, years later. But what is lacking is its execution. The weakness in the big bond issue proposal now still is to be found in the execution column.

Political bodies move slowly. As Al Smith has pointed out, it took longer under a political system to build the elevators in the New York State office building than it took privately to build the whole Empire State building, the largest in the world.

Millions in public works today, federal, state and city, still are tied up in the political red tape of getting started. Construction projects that would mean employment for thousands and tens of thousands of men haven't even reached the blueprint stage. In terms of work for a man out of a job, a big governmental road project means nothing so long as the politicians still are quarreling about what route the road will take.

Billions similarly would be tied up, if billions were voted. Summer would go and autumn would come, then winter and spring and summer again, and on and on, before those billions actually would get into action.

The only practical "out" in this public works idea as a long-haul remedy for depressions is so to plan that the appropriations are made and all construction programs completed in good times; to get the gun all ready to shoot when the shooting is called for. A big bond issue gives little hope for the immediate future. If carried through, however, it might help solve the next depression.

Prohibition Reform

When a group of outstanding women publicly demand a change from Volsteadism as a means of reform, the old charge that all such efforts are inspired by liquor interests loses its force.

The women of Indianapolis who have joined in this nation-wide movement have been leaders in every civic movement for progress or for charity.

These women were prominent when the drive to clean up the government was started. All of them were in the great crusade for a city manager charter. They have given of their talents and time to good causes.

Now they declare that the present prohibition regime is a menace to morals. They must be given credit for the same sincerity that they have shown in the past.

For many years the prohibition forces had a monopoly of respectability. That was before it was tried. That was when the evils of the old saloon were apparent. That was when the welfare of the future seemed to be in the direction of absolute suppression.

Today respectability demands practicality. It demands that the ideal be reached, not abandoned to a phrase. It demands the same old objective of the curbing of the evils of alcohol and that the objective be reached by a path that will produce results, not greater evils.

The liquor problem must be solved. Perhaps these women of keen conscience and keen minds will point the way. They can not be ignored. Nor can their motives be attacked.

A Real Service

Out of the list of fine agencies which last winter endeavored to minimize the misery of the workless and hungry, none rendered better service than the kitchens operated by city employees.

That this has been forced to close for the summer may bring a problem to other agencies as the number of persons fed each day was somewhat staggering. Those in immediate need received care. The ticket of admission was hunger and no means of satisfying that hunger. Applicants were fed first and investigated later.

The work was started by voluntary contributions from the wages of city employees. It was enlarged by donations from many firms dealing in foods.

Because of the very nature of its work there could be no public praise. It was designed to care for citizens of Indianapolis, not to attract the jobless from other cities which had made no such provision for their care.

To work without applause and without recognition demands a finer grade of courage and sincerity than to march with the blare of bands and with flying colors.

Now that any necessity for silence is passed with the suspension of the work for the summer, credit should be given for a fine service. Here was a work that saved human beings. Here was a salvage corps that rescued many from misery.

The Rights of Age

For 42,000,000 of us the poorhouse no longer lies just over the hill, but a long way back in the realm of discarded fears.

For 70,000,000 of us it may lie just ahead.

In the United States, where forty-eight fights must be made for each victory won, it is a long tedious time before conceptions of social responsibility, accepted elsewhere, come to prevail generally. But in the last year, recognition of the need for old age security has spread more rapidly than ever before in this country.

Five states have been added to those with old age pension laws in the last few months, and the total of these now is seventeen. Four state commissions are studying old age security, with a view to action when their legislatures convene again.

The state legislature of Indiana adopted a pension law this spring only to have it vetoed by the Governor. The legislature of Pennsylvania adopted a constitutional amendment opening the way for future action. In seven other states, one branch of the legislature favored pension laws. All this indicates that the movement for old age security probably will move forward even faster in the future.

Our obligation to those who have toiled honorably in the community for a lifetime has been neglected too long. All the haste with which we can act to discharge it will not be too great.

Mussolini and the Pope

Ever since the Fascist dictatorship took over power in Italy, political prophets have foretold its speedy end. This is too late in the day to fall into such easy prophecy.

Mussolini, when the time comes, probably will not fall quickly. His control of military weapons and espionage is so complete that he is apt to give revolutionists a long run for their money.

Nevertheless, it is not too much to say that his growing conflict with the pope is weakening his hold seriously on Italy. Not that the Catholic church alone is able to undermine him, but that its power is very great when added to other anti-Fascist elements.

Long ago Il Duce lost support of the Liberals and Labor. The middle classes now are restive under his restraint.

At this distance it is idle to speculate on the reasons for the church-Fascist conflict, which seemed to have been settled by the papal treaty of two years ago. Rigid censorship obscures the facts.

Whether the Catholic societies took the initiative in anti-Fascist political action and thus aroused the Fascist rank and file, as the government contends, or whether Mussolini deliberately precipitated the terrorism, is not clear.

But in either case, Mussolini seems to be getting himself into a deeper hole.

If the church societies were attempting illegal interference with political affairs—and that has not been proved—Mussolini could have handled the issue to his own advantage by legal methods. Instead, he has allowed a reign of terror, which only can make martyrs of large numbers of religious adherents.

In any country, that is risky business for a government. In Catholic Italy it is downright dangerous for any dictator who wants to keep his seat.

End of a Gag Law

Freedom of the press was upheld Monday by the United States supreme court. But the margin was dangerously close. In the 5-to-4 decision, the new liberal majority—Holmes, Brandeis, Stone, Hughes and Roberts—saved one of America's basic rights. The Minnesota press gag law was declared unconstitutional.

By giving the state power to enjoin publication of newspapers carrying alleged defamatory matter, the Minnesota law clearly limited the freedom of the press, contrary to the due process clause of the federal Constitution.

In the case under review, the owner of the Saturday Press was charged with violation of the state law through publication of articles which alleged that a gangster was in control of certain organized vice in Minneapolis and that various officials were guilty of inefficiency and graft. The state courts enjoined further publication of the paper.

It should be obvious to the layman, much less to a jurist, that the laws of libel give necessary and adequate protection against published matter, without the sweeping gag rule attempted by Minnesota.

Facts for Hoover

President Hoover and Secretary of Labor Dost deny that there have been serious wage cuts.

James A. Farrell, president of the United States Steel Corporation, and other industrial leaders agree with the American Federation of Labor that there have been serious wage cuts.

When will the administration wake up?

The administration was more than a year late in discovering that serious unemployment existed in the country. Its denials of wage cuts now are worth no more than its earlier denials of unemployment.

When will the administration wake up?

The fellow who frequents the speakeasies says he does it for "more-ale" support.

Probable lament this summer: "It's a great life if you don't week-end."

A Texas man is walking around the world backward. There's one man, at least, who puts himself a step forward every backward step he takes.

The cruiser Chicago, soon to become the flagship of the United States fleet, has a black goat named Al Capone for mascot. A black sheep might have been more appropriate.

"That's the dope," as the dentist said, applying the anesthetic.

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

THE other day Herbert Bayard Swope, former editor of the New York World, declared that in the event of a future war we should have absolute censorship and the most complete system of propaganda, all of which is a step backward toward the cave.

According to Swope's plan a padlock would be placed on every newspaper, every magazine, every book, every picture, every play, every radio utterance and every private conversation, and we would have a situation so unendurable that a resident of Soviet Russia would feel perfectly at home.

DURING the last war we were fairly well protected from the insidious utterances of those who were against the war, and quite a number of them were placed behind the bars, the late Eugene Debs being perhaps the most distinguished of them.

But under the Swope plan there would be one beautiful iron heel, big enough to cover the whole country, and millions would feel the hob nails thereof from the start of the war until the finish, and any little squirt of an officeholder who wished to try his hand at being a Mussolini could help himself to the authority.

SURELY there was no great damage done by disloyalty in the last war which points to the need of such despotic power as Swope suggests. In fact, the loyal response of our people was little short of a miracle, for they had been assured but a little time before that they had been "kept out of the war."

There is a legitimate field for criticism in time of war; there is an undoubted right in the citizen who is bigger than all officeholders to review the conduct of his public servants and express his disapproval if he feels that way about it.

WITHOUT such criticism both England and France would have failed in their war-time program, for it was only the public criticism of the inefficiency of their first pilots which enabled them to install the men of iron who later made victory possible.

There is quite a lot of criticism needed to call attention to profiteers, those wolves which follow all armies, and it is necessary to mention notorious favoritism in the working of conscription, and yes, if we have another war, we will need a world of public expression to cause the nation to take every dollar as well as every man.

You can't put the American people in a strait-jacket.

M. E. Tracy SAYS:

Oversubscription of U. S. Bonds Indicates That There Must Be a Lot of Idle Money on Hand.

NEW YORK, June 5.—The government could have sold seven times the amount in bonds that it offered.

Many banks bid for more than they wanted, of course, to be sure of getting what they needed, but that hardly explains such an enormous oversubscription.

As treasury officials suggest, there must be a lot of idle money on hand.

Too bad some better use can't be found for it than buying stocks to make up a deficit, or buying stocks on a 20 per cent margin.

Stocks continue to rise, while grains continue to sag.

The farm board alibis itself for not doing anything to help, by reminding people that it said it would.

What is even more discouraging, it won't tell how much wheat it has bought, or how much money it has on hand.

"There are too many people who are not in sympathy with the policy of the farm board for us to place our economies in their hands," says Mr. Stone.

Light on Drug Traffic

DELEGATES to the conference to limit narcotics now in Geneva are not so scared of sharing information with the public.

British, Swiss and German delegates having declared that the medical profession in their countries were against or partly against the suppression of heroin, a Polish delegate challenged them to show when and where medical organizations had gone on record to that effect.

An Italian delegate warned things up by asserting that though only 1,600 pounds of heroin were needed to supply the world each year, Switzerland had produced five times that amount in four months.

A Swiss delegate defied anybody to prove that any drug produced in Switzerland had entered illicit traffic.

The Italian delegate said that he was willing to take his Swiss brother's word for it, that he expected no one to admit that drugs from his country were entering illicit trade, but that the tons and tons now being smuggled all over the map must come from somewhere.

Try It on Mussolini

IF the delegates find the narcotic problem too tough, they might turn it over to Mussolini. He is one man who appears never to be so busy that he can't find time for something more.

As though running Italy, contributing to the Saturday Evening Post and quarreling with the pope were not enough, he has written a play.

Hungarian officials snubbed him by staying away from his premier performance in Budapest, Thursday night.

If Il Duce is finding life too drab and monotonous he can take them on for the week-end.

Lindy Stays Busy

COLONEL LINDBERGH is another man who never knows when to stop.

Instead of taking a few weeks off to play with the baby this summer, he is going to fly the Pacific.

Not any long hard flights, you understand, since Mrs. Lindbergh will be with him, but just easy hops of 1,000 or 1,500 miles along the Canadian and Alaskan coasts, over the Aleutian islands and then across to Japan.

While the colonel and his lady are entertaining themselves that way, millions of jelliesbans and flappers will imagine that they have found life's greatest kick in a necking party.

Those Mayors Again

THANK heaven for the mayor of Chicago. He has proved that the American chief executives now in France have no mortgage on baldness.

As a sympathizer with Sacco and Vanzetti, he couldn't bring himself officially to welcome the brethren from this side.

The brethren were peeved, naturally, but soon found a way of retaliating through their guides instead of the offending host.

Deciding that they hadn't been allowed time enough to wander around Vinny Ridge, some of them hid in the dugouts, holding up the party for several hours.

Wasn't that cute?

Tough Job on Cermak

JUST the same, it's a good bet that the mayor of Chicago wishes he were with the bunch in France.

Think of facing 50,000 school teachers, firemen and policemen, who no money to pay them off, and July 1st is just around the corner.

If that is not enough, think of trying to meet \$15,000,000 worth of bills with only \$150,000 in the treasury.

Mr. Cermak, who was elected to clean up the mess left by "Big Bill" Thompson, knows that times are hard and that the summer is going to be hot.

Daily Thought

Cease from anger and forsake wrath; fret not thyself in any wise to do evil.—Psalm 37:8.

It is he who is in the wrong who first gets angry.—William Penn.

When were Indian head 1 cent pieces discontinued and when did the government begin to make Lincoln head 1-cent pieces?

The coinage of Indian head pieces was discontinued in 1909 and Lincoln head pieces were coined in that year.

Who played the part of Margaret Dean in the picture, "The Little Shepherd of the Kingdom Come"? Doris Dawson.

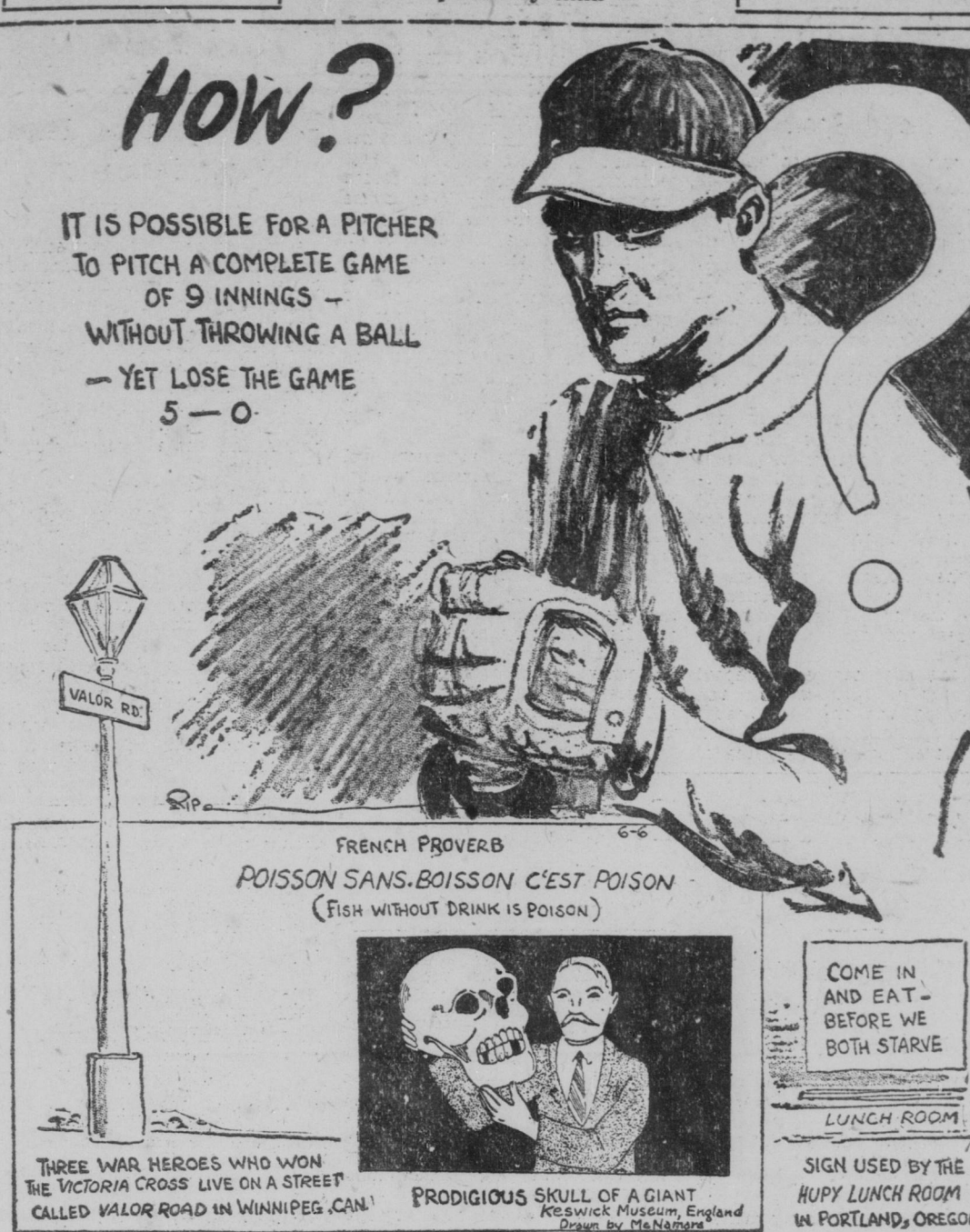
What were "pieces of eight"? Large silver coins of Spain, the "Spanish dollar." They were called "pieces of eight" because they were valued at eight reals.

How many American Indian languages are there? About forty-five language stocks, with approximately 300 dialects.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

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

By RIPLEY



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

The City of London Does Not Have a Movie House—The city of London, with its 675 acres of area, and less than 100,000 inhabitants, is only one of the twenty-eight boroughs of the capital of Great Britain. The true name of the English metropolis, with its teeming millions of inhabitants, is the Administrative County of London.

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Many Plants Dangerous to Eat

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

EVERY one knows that some varieties of mushrooms are poisonous, but few people realize that many other plants are dangerous to eat or dangerous to contact.

According to Dr. E. O. Jordan, there are several thousand poisonous plants in the world and one authority in Michigan lists 156 poisonous plants growing in that state.

Poison ivy is much more dangerous to some people than to others, because there is apparently a special sensitivity to it. Domestic animals eat poison ivy apparently without harm.

A representative of the United States department of agriculture listed thirty important poisonous plants growing in the United States.

He mentions the leaves of the false hellebore, from which a drug is made. The fruit pulp of the Kentucky coffee tree has been mistaken for that of the honey locust.

IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

PRACTICALLY all the discourses imposed upon the public in a time of depression have to do with stern advice about getting back to work.

Aside from the fact that there are many who find no opportunity to follow this counsel, I am not at all sure of its fundamental soundness.

It is monstrous to assume that labor is the highest goal of man and leisure little better than an affliction. It seems to be necessary for mankind to have a plan for production.

And, likewise, I think it necessary for us to take some thought about the art of loafing. Very few of my acquaintances have any skill in this respect. Although I frequently have presented myself as an extraordinarily lazy person, I boast too much.

When left with nothing to do, I feel an urge to go places. And that isn't what I mean by loafing.

Each His Own

EVERY man ought to develop for himself some fascinating pursuit which he can carry on without any special aid and comfort from the neighbors.

This will become an increasingly vital issue as the world moves to a more sensible program of shorter hours and a five-day working week.

Once when I was associated with a free employment agency, a man came in who presented a rather difficult case. I asked him what he did, and he told me he wrote plays and short stories.

"Have you sold any plays?" I asked him.

He said he had not.

"How about short stories?" I wanted to know.

And he confessed that those, too, were a drag on the market so far as he was concerned.

"Well," I said, "that seems to be a tough way to get along, because you need money to live on right now. Perhaps you're even down to the point of being hungry."

He said that he was, but he didn't want to take a job in a bakery that he could get for him. He said he didn't think he'd like the work. In a rather exasperated spirit I inquired, "Well, what kind of work do you like?"

"I think all work is terrible," he told me.

Hundreds of cinemas are located in the metropolis, but not a single one within the limits of the City of London.

Every Insect Has Only Three Pairs of Legs—The class insecta of Linnaeus (1758) was coextensive with the arthropoda of modern zoologists. The general practice for many years past among naturalists has been to restrict the terms "insecta" and "insect" to the class arthropoda with three pairs of legs in the adult condition. Bees, flies, moths, bugs, grasshoppers and springtails are insects, but not spiders, centipedes nor crabs, far less earthworms, and still less slugs, starfishes or coral polyps.

Reference: Encyclopedia Britannica.

Monday—"The Man Who Could Remember Everything He Ever Ate."

Questions and Answers

How many rear admirals are there in the United States navy, and how many hold the rank of admiral or vice-admiral?

There are approximately sixty-three admirals in the United States navy, four of whom at the present time hold the rank of admiral by virtue of their office. They are Admiral W. V. Pratt, chief of naval operations; Admiral C. V. Chase, commander of the United States fleet; Admiral Frank H. Schofield, commander United States battle force, and Admiral C. B. McVay, commander-in-chief of Asiatic fleet. Three rear admirals also hold the rank of vice-admiral by virtue of their office. They are Arthur L. Willard, commander of scouting force; Richard H. Leigh, commander of battleships of the battle force, and George R. Marvell, commander of cruisers of the scouting fleet.

Why does the cream rise to the top of a bottle of milk?

Because there is more fat in cream than in milk and fat is lighter than watery liquid. It is the same principal that makes oil float on the surface of water.

How old is Ethel Barrymore, the actress, and how old are her son and daughter?

Ethel Barrymore is 51. Her son is about 21 and her daughter is 19.

SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Daily Weather Maps Will Help Layman "Forecast His Own Weather."

IT is easy for the average layman to make his own weather forecasts from the daily weather maps issued by the United States weather bureau, if he keeps in mind that there is a general drift of high and low pressure areas eastward across the United States.

By noting the positions of the "high" and "low" on the map, he can make a pretty good guess as to the sort of weather to be expected.

A good guess as to what the temperature will be like can be made by noting the latitudes of the high and low. As a rule, the weather will be cool and the humidity fairly low if the largest high pressure area on the map remains either northwest or northeast of the location of the observer. It will continue warm as long as the predominating high is south of his latitude.

The movement of a low pressure area usually can be predicted by noting the isotherms, that is the lines of equal temperature, leading eastward from the center of the area. The low usually moves along these isotherms.

Isotherms should not be confused with isobars, which are lines of equal pressure. The map is marked with both isotherms and isobars.

If a low is moving toward the observer from the southwest, it usually will bring precipitation—rain, unless the temperature is low enough for snow.

Low pressure areas which pass along the northern border of the United States are deficient in precipitation.

Highs and Lows

A HIGH pressure area, as the name indicates, is one in which the air pressure is high. A low pressure area is one in which the pressure is low.

As one might expect, air naturally flows from a high pressure area into a low pressure one.

But because of the tendency of winds to turn to the right in the northern hemisphere, a tendency which results from the rotation of the earth on its axis, the winds, as they flow into the low pressure area, take on a whirling motion.

The low pressure area, therefore, becomes the center of a whirling system of winds. In the northern hemisphere the direction of the whirl is always counter-clockwise; that is, opposite to the direction in which the hands of the clock move. Such a whirl is known technically as a cyclone.

The student of the weather map should not confuse the terms "cyclone" and "tornado." Contrary to a somewhat general notion, the two are not synonymous. A tornado is a violent and very localized storm of a particular kind.

The cyclone is a low pressure area around which winds are whirling with a motion, as already indicated, which is counter-clockwise in the northern hemisphere.

Forecasting weather is largely based on two facts; first, the fact that the winds in the cyclone are whirling with a counter-clockwise motion; second, the fact that the cyclone is drifting slowly eastward across the country.

Forecasting Rules

SOME time ago, E. H. Bowie, national forecaster of the United States weather bureau, formulated a series of rules in a bureau publication titled "Weather Forecasting in the United States." These may be summarized as follows:

1. A high pressure area over the southeast and a cold wave in the northwest usually indicate a storm development in the southwest and general precipitation.

2. Storms which develop in the southwest and move normally are followed quickly by clearing weather, but a storm forced to the left of a normal track will be followed by the development of a second storm.

3. Through a low pressure coming from the west may be narrow or wide. Narrow troughs move slowly, storms developing at extreme northern and southern ends. Wide troughs may develop extensive storm areas.

4. When the northern end of a trough moves eastward faster than the southern end, weather conditions in the southwest and south remain unsettled, but when the southern end of the trough moves faster settled weather follows.

5. Storms that start in the southeast do not gather great intensity until they begin to curve toward the northeast.

6. Marked changes in temperature of southeast and northwest quadrants of a storm imply an increase in intensity.

7. Very high temperatures northwest of a storm indicate that it slightly may remain stationary or retrograde.