



The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)
Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-220 West Maryland Street, Indianapolis, Ind. Price in Marion County, 2 cents; a copy elsewhere, 3 cents—delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week.
BOYD GURLEY, Editor
ROY W. HOWARD, President
FRANK G. MORRISON, Business Manager
PHONE—Riley 5551
Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Newspaper Information Service and Audit Bureau of Circulations.

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

A Civic Loss
The dishonest and disorderly will feel a little more safe today. The upright and the decent will feel a trifle more apprehensive. Many citizens will moisten of eye. Jerry Kinney is dead.

His passing is a loss to the city. During long years of service upon the police force, in shifting positions as political changes came to the city administration, he won and kept the respect of all citizens.

In a day when graft and corruption are not unknown to departments of safety, and when rewards of the dishonest officer in large cities are great, no one ever impugned the honesty of Jerry Kinney.

He was a good citizen as well as a good guardian of the law. He was a friend to those with whom he worked. He was esteemed by the public.

He set a standard by which his successors will be measured.

The Important Matter

During the coming year, political leaders will probably learn that the people will be more interested in issues than in men during the next campaign.

Political leaders are spending much time and thought on candidates for offices of Governor and of President, while the people anxiously are looking for a party that will write for them a new declaration of independence from the tyrannies of the present era.

It does not matter much whether one man is favored at this time above another as a candidate. It does make a great deal of difference as to whether one of the two parties furnishes some opportunity of solving some very great problems.

In this state there is the outstanding question of whether the public utilities shall continue to own the government and to burden the people with their extortions and exactions. Public ownership of government is a live question. That might even lead to public ownership of utilities.

In the nation there are the outstanding questions of prohibition and unemployment.

The people are demanding settlement of these problems. They are tired of evasions and experiments. They want relief.

There should be men in both parties who have ideas on the question, men who are strong enough to force parties to take the part of the people.

Hard times turn thoughts of voters to real issues. In prosperity the majority is indifferent. But this is a different time. The people are awake even if many political leaders seem to be asleep.

Another Half-Baked Report

Half-truths constitute much of the Wickersham crime commission's latest report on prosecutions. In that respect it is akin to the commission's misleading report on prohibition. Even Commissioner Lemann, chairman of the committee on prosecutions, refused to sign the body of this new report.

It is true, as the report states, that "at times an obstacle to effective control and efficient prosecution has been found in the power of the senate with respect to appointments. The claim of the senate not merely to exercise a collective power of rejecting unit nominations, but to dictate appointments as the patronage of the senators of the state in which the district lies, often has had a bad effect upon personnel and conduct of the office."

Certainly senators who misuse their office for partisan purposes deserve all the condemnation that the commission or anyone else can give them.

But the unworthiness of some senators does not relieve Presidents of their share of the blame for the evils of patronage appointments, for Presidents alone have the legal responsibility for the nominations.

As a matter of fact, the recent record of the senate in trying to block unit presidential appointments is good. The senate blocked the "master political stroke" involved in the Hoover nomination of Judge Parker, of yellow dog contract fame, to the supreme court.

When the President yielded to politics in putting Watson and Hopkins on the federal bench in Pennsylvania and Kansas, liberal senators protested.

The commission inaccurately reports that federal prosecutions are now controlled centrally by the department of justice. Control of local federal prosecutions by Washington at times has been attempted, and has been criticised severely.

The commission thinks such control is a good thing, and would subject local law enforcement to direction from Washington. Doesn't the commission know that a distant bureaucracy is far more susceptible to politics and far more dangerous?

The danger was demonstrated by Daugherty's use of the federal prosecution machinery to persecute Senator Wheeler, who had uncovered scandals of the Harding administration.

Central control which the department of justice exercises over appeals in federal cases is not good advertisement for the Wickersham era.

Only a few days ago, Senator Couzens called attention to the loss of a million dollars in taxes on the estate of Mrs. Hill, the railroad builder's widow, as a result of the department's refusal to appeal that case.

Apparently the commission dislikes popular and local control of law enforcement. It says the direct primary has had a bad effect on the office of the public prosecutor. The report cites no evidence for this careless generalization, and there are known facts which discredit the statement.

The commission favors centralized control of prosecutions in the hands of state officials, rather than local officials, and in this connection deplores clashes between state and local authorities in labor strikes.

This loose language makes good propaganda for union-baiting employers, but it travels far from the impartial purposes for which the commission was created.

It might be mentioned that the commission's expert on prosecution, Alfred Betman of Cincinnati, submitted a separate report, which avoided the reefs on which the commission report itself founders.

Public and Private Schools

It is widely taken for granted that private schools are hotbeds of conservatism. They commonly are regarded as adolescent country clubs, where social snobbery prevails, and reactionary doctrines are preached.

But, as a matter of fact, one can make out a far better case for liberal teaching in the average private school. The private school rarely is subservient to any local political system or machine. Neither positions nor teaching methods are dictated by partisan politics.

There is no comparable amount of snooping by patrolineering organizations. There are no absurd publicly prearranged exercises in the way of flag and Constitution worship, such as often are forced on public school authorities. There is much less of a tendency toward espionage on the part of powerful pests.

The private schools can choose their own textbooks, free from the political pressure of school boards.

Moreover, the curriculum and distribution of space are more flexible. If a good teacher desires to spend more than a normal amount of time on what he regards as a specially important topic, he can do so, within the bounds of reason.

Goose-stepping uniformity of progress throughout the course is much less fully insisted upon.

This is no attempt to create the impression that our private schools are utopian centers of intellectual curiosity. There is all too little of that spirit in the best of them. Yet it does seem that the energetic and skeptical teacher has far more rope in a private school than in the average public institution.

No Arms Cut, No Debt Cut!

Germany's move for a reduction of reparations has revived discussion of American cancellation of war debts. That is natural. Reparations and debts can not be separated, either economically or politically—as the collapse of the fiction of separation, maintained by the Washington government, discloses.

The total of reparations which the allies are to collect from Germany under the Young plan roughly is the same as the United States proposes to collect from the allies on war debts. Thus, in effect and in the long run, Germany is paying us, with the allies acting as collecting agencies.

Experience proved that Germany could not be made to pay for the war, as the allies originally planned. For two reasons: With restricted world markets and internal weaknesses resulting from the wrench of war and revolution, Germany could not make enough to pay the full war bill. And even if she could pay for the war, she would have to do so by dumping goods abroad and otherwise ruining the allies—which the allies in self-protection could not permit.

Therefore, the Dawes plan was revised downward to the Young plan, and in the Young plan was left a loophole for the further reduction. All that camouflage was necessary because time was required to let the politicians and public opinion catch up with economic facts. Now at last the economic facts can not be evaded any longer.

The alternative to allied reduction of reparations is German default and repudiation, and possible German Fascist revolution. A German Fascist-militarist revolution probably would result in another European or World war.

A German repudiation of debts would shake the financial structure of every capitalist country, especially the United States.

In this emergency one very simple solution is offered by the allies and by many Americans: The allies will reduce or cancel Germany reparations provided the United States reduces or cancels allied debts.

This should be done by the United States not only in the interest of European peace and reconstruction, but for America's selfish interest which is tied up with the peace and prosperity of Europe and European trade, it is said.

The trouble with this solution is that it is too simple; it states only a half truth. It neglects the fact that the United States already has canceled war debts from 25 to 75 cents on the dollar, and that the allies have been squandered by allied governments on increased armaments.

The American farmers and workers, who must pay for the large share of those debts already canceled, resent very bitterly being maneuvered into a position in which they are paying for European preparations for another war. And these American taxpayers have no intention of allowing further debt cancellation for war purposes. We don't blame them.

To use debt cancellation as a trading club is not a pleasant task. But we see no other way open. If the allies want to risk European revolution and war resulting from German chaos, rather than agree to debts reduction along with reparations and debt reduction, they will have to take the consequences.

The solution is not debt-reparations reduction. The solution is debt-reparations-arms reduction.

"I hope everything comes out all right," as the appendix victim said to the surgeon.

For exciting news these days, there's no place like Rome.

Many a man who arises with a grouch in the morning usually goes from bed to worse.

Making oratorical gestures, says Political Pete, is largely a matter of forum.

REASON

BY FREDERICK LANDIS

ONE of the greatest decisions in the history of the Supreme Court at Washington is the one setting aside the Minnesota gag law, which authorized the state to put a gag on the newspapers, for had it been upheld the government could have proceeded to muzzle the free speech of the individual and stamp out liberty as everybody has understood it in America.

The newspapers are not given to lie about anybody; they are compelled to adhere to the truth, and if they do lie about anybody they are liable in damages, just as an individual is liable if he speaks the truth.

We saw the other day where some statesmen regretted that the Minnesota gag law had been set aside, for they did not like to have their sins laid open to the world.

The truth is that the papers of this country are more gentle in their handling of public officers. If they published all they knew about all of them, many of them would not appear in public, except in the dark of the moon.

Wolves, burglars and crooked politicians do not like the light of day; they operate in the shadows, so you must put it down that the public official who would abolish the liberty of the press has something in his record which he wishes to hide from the grand jury.

According to the interior department, it costs 60 cents a day to educate a child in the average city schools, which should impress one that the American system of free education is the most wonderful feature of modern civilization.

This is by all odds the greatest thing in America.

LECTURING in Brooklyn, John Galsworthy, English author, named the three greatest American writers and Sinclair Lewis did not even get honorable mention.

All of which shows that Galsworthy is a gentleman of discrimination.

Bishop Cannon has sued Representative Tinkham for \$500,000, claiming that Tinkham damaged his reputation to the extent.

There's one fine thing about a libel suit and it is that you don't have to be a piker in your demand; you can become astronomical in your figures.

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Public Office Used to Be Regarded as a Matter of Honor, but Now It Is Regarded as a Matter of Pay.

NEW YORK. June 9.—The New York police are looking for Willie.

Willie is a young man of 16 who shot a pal in Los Angeles with a gun he stole from a New York cop. Incidentally, he claims to have committed fifty robberies—twenty on the east coast and thirty on the west.

Added to this, he has escaped from two reformatories.

One is forced to admit that Willie has talent, which is none the less genuine because it has been employed in the wrong direction.

MOST people will dismiss Willie as just another interesting episode.

That is one reason why he and hundreds more of similar bent are inspired to strike their stuff.

Willie typifies an inescapable side of this sophisticated society.

You can't put a premium on prosperity without getting a dose of it in all directions, can't glorify stunts without inviting just so much mischief and nonsense.

Child prodigies, child tree sitters, and child crooks go together.

Crooks Pay Better

IN its latest report, the Wickerham commission says that too close an affinity has developed between criminal justice and politics.

No one familiar with the situation will deny it.

After all, politics is just a method of doing something by means of organized effort.

When honest people allow crooks to run away with the organization, they must expect to pay the price.

Public office used to be regarded as a matter of honor. Now it is regarded as a matter of pay. Crooks pay better than the public, and they are.

Character at Root

WHETHER you take Willie, whose hunger for publicity inspired him to strut, or a district attorney, whose hunger for cash inspired him to graft, the problem of lawlessness goes right back to character.

We are not going to cure lawlessness by appointing prosecutors instead of electing them, or by any other change in technique.

Old Paul wrote, "just as the twig is bent, the tree inclines."

Too many twigs are being bent the wrong way.

As most any parent knows, the fundamental conceptions of a child are developed during the first eight or ten years.

Helpful as it may be, most of our scientific welfare work comes into the picture afterward, which accounts for its failure.

Home Life Decides

BY UNITED PRESS

THERE is just isn't any substitute for the right kind of a home and the right kind of environment during the first few years of a child's life.

The damage resulting from lack of them simply can not be corrected.

As long as 8 or 10 per cent of the babies in this country are turned loose to forage for conscience, morality and a sense of value for themselves, because mama or papa can't agree on the way to play a hand of contract bridge or have seen a face at the movie that suits them better, we can expect an increase of child delinquency and crime.

As long as we fall for the illusion that a life can be straightened out in a reformatory or a state prison, after it has gone wrong for twenty years, we shall continue to get unsatisfactory results.

Up to Parents

INTELLIGENTLY directed self-expression is the rightful privilege of childhood, but that is impossible if and when the parents become so bent on satisfying their own whims, caprices, and appetites that they shirk the job.

It is a curious thing that, with all our generosity in providing for the education of children at public expense, we should be conviving their neglect through easy divorce laws, and should be encouraging a type of life which deprives them of a normal home atmosphere.

The thought prevails that we can discover a system which will permit us to evade personal responsibility.

It goes without saying that some systems are better than others, but no system ever was or ever will be a substitute for honest, conscientious interest.

That is especially true of those who bring children into the world.

No organization can take the place of a mother, and no efficiency expert can do a father's job.

A good many people seem to believe that the public schools should act as parent and wet nurse, or that they visits by a social worker can patch up the damage of a broken home.

Society is being asked to do a lot of things it never was intended to do and can't do.

Crook prodigies and rotten politicians are two of the unpleasant results.

Questions and Answers

How old is Gary Cooper?

He was born on May 7, 1901.

Was Jessica Dragonette, radio artist, born and educated in this country?

She was born in Calcutta, India, and received her education at Georgian Court convent, Lakewood, N. Y.

How long does a person have to live in Nevada in order to obtain a divorce?

The new law provides that suits may be brought after a residence of forty-two days.