

The Indianapolis Times

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

Investigate This, Too

The grand jury of this county declares that the poorhouse is operated in a most outrageous manner, that its unfortunate inmates are terrorized and mistreated, that poverty is punished worse than are crimes.

Two weeks ago a sick and helpless former inmate made exactly the same charges to the grand jury and he is now in the penal farm under a sentence of 180 days.

Here, too, is something that needs not only investigation but quick relief. The circumstances strongly suggest that he was sent to that prison not for offenses, but because he dared to protest against the conditions which the grand jury says are vicious.

It is most significant that no warrant was asked for his arrest until after he had made his charges. The offense charged was that he tried to assault one of the attendants with a knife and that he had liquor in his room at the poorhouse. The witnesses against him were the paid employees of the superintendent whose removal is officially demanded.

If he had committed these offenses, they happened before he had been kicked out of the place. But these witnesses did not complain of his acts then. They did not ask a warrant until he told his story to the prosecuting officials and had gone to the grand jury to appeal, not for himself, but in behalf of all others whose necessities send them to the infirmary.

There is every reason to draw the inevitable conclusion that this man, sick with tuberculosis, was sent to jail for his protest and not for his alleged crime.

The length of the sentence and the extraordinary conditions under which it was imposed would suggest that an inquiry by the proper officials and at least a kinder attitude toward those who dare protest are in order.

Tomorrow we celebrate the courage of the brave men who dared to revolt against the tyrannies of a king.

Just how far can we be sincere if we send to a prison a sick, helpless, almost dying man because he lifted his voice against outrages.

Why not a hospital and a medal instead of a jail and dishonor for this man?

Henry Ford: Messiah or Menace?

Is Henry Ford the finest flower of the new capitalism or the most complete perfection of plutocratic exploitation? Does he prefigure a new and chastened age of competitive industry or is he the most conspicuous industrial colossus whose collapse Karl Marx believed would usher in Socialism. Such questions have been widely debated, but most interpretations of Ford have been too partisan to possess much value.

In the July American Mercury there is a comprehensive assessment of Ford which inspires confidence. It is written by Murray Godwin, who appears remarkably well qualified for the task. He is a virile liberal, unlikely to be constitutionally charmed by Ford's paternalism. He has worked at length for Ford, has quit without a quarrel and gone elsewhere without animus.

Godwin presents the socio-economic balance sheet of Henry Ford in American society with thoroughness and fairness. In Ford's favor there stand out bold and sharp such things as: (1) The \$5 and \$7 day and the five-day week, recognizing that workers are consumers as well as producers; (2) the straight wages system and resistance to the demoralizing piecework methods; (3) the bucking of Wall Street and banker domination in 1921; (4) the victorious battle against the licensed manufacturers' system which would have paralyzed technological progress in the automotive industry; (5) successful opposition to the attempt of the coal and steel barons to hold up the automobile industry by extortionate prices; (6) perfection of mechanical and mass efficiency in production; (7) achievement of economy in sales prices; and (8) free industrial training for able and ambitious workers.

The conventional indictment of Ford—well expressed by the way, in Edmund Wilson's article in the current Scribner's—consists of the following allegations: (1) His workers are reduced to desperate and harried automata, are hounded by overseers and prevented from unionization by elaborate espionage—in short, Ford's regime is one of relentless paternalism; (2) Ford fires anybody from his vice-president to his floor sweepers without warning or announced cause; (3) he ignores the Detroit community and allows it to support his idle men without substantial aid from Ford; (4) he squeezes his dealers ruthlessly when it is necessary to raise funds to buck the bankers; (5) his peace ship indicated a naive notion of the real causes of the World war; (6) his libel suit against the Chicago Tribune proved that he was no erudite master of history or literary criticism, and (7) he frequently divulges palpable drivel on such subjects as religion, morals and prohibition.

Mr. Godwin concedes some truth in all these charges, and admits that little can be said in defense of his irresponsible firing of men. Much can be said in mitigation of the other charges, according to Godwin. Ford's paternalism is to be preferred to the oppressive anarchy of a Judge Gary's steel industry or the paralyzing worries and exploitation of the piece-work system employed by some other automobile manufacturers. Detroit has always prodded Ford as hard as possible; so why should he care to be a sugar-candy daddy to the Motor City? Land monopoly, in the form of excessive rents and prices, have enabled Detroiters to milk Ford's men ruthlessly.

Ford's peace ship proved that he held a view of war causes fully as accurately as the vast fabric of lies believed and passed on by the greatest of American historians. Ford may not be as learned as his opponents in the Tribune suit, but he has brought forth a more lovely and useful product than have some of our newspapers, argues Godwin.

But above all, Godwin says, stands the one supreme achievement of Ford, namely, to proclaim and demonstrate that the great industry of today can and should be carried on for the good of the industry, the employees and the consumers—that it should never

be a subordinate incident in the profit-amassing obsession of semi-piratical finance.

Capitalism may prove equal to supporting prosperous captains of industry and well-paid workers who join in producing a product well worth the price paid. But capitalism can not go on much longer primarily devoted to earning huge profits on great pyramids of water which represent no legitimate human effort.

If capitalism is to have a new day, then Ford is indeed one of its prophets. Ford has turned loose less verbal honey than some, but he has gone beyond all others in translating his words into positive action on a vast scale.

Hoover Diplomacy

President Hoover's conduct of negotiations with France on the debt holiday plan impresses us as almost a model of skill and patience.

Restless because of the delay in arriving at an agreement, critics in this country and abroad are assailing the President from two directions. One group says that he alienated France by being too high-handed, that he should have consulted France secretly and in advance of his public pronouncement. The other group says that he has not been hard-bodded enough, that he should have refused to negotiate with France at all, that he should have said, "Take it or leave it," and that France would have been forced by public opinion to take it.

Obviously, Hoover can not be guilty of both charges. In fact, they cancel each other.

Those who would have had Hoover conduct advance secret negotiations seem to forget that many of the present international evils are due to secret diplomacy. After the failure of President Wilson at Paris, when he cut himself off from the open diplomacy which was his chief weapon, Americans should have learned the danger of trusting to back stairs negotiation. Hoover's only chance to force a debt holiday was to obtain quick support of world opinion. That was achieved by his open diplomacy and could not have been secured otherwise.

But, having presented his plan, certainly it would have been suicidal to refuse to discuss it with France and attempt to meet her objections. At best he was putting America in the position of trying to dictate to Europe in an emergency. If he had added to that aspect of the situation the take-it-or-leave-it spirit of a bully, he would have made French acceptance impossible.

Hoover is open to criticism, in our judgment, because he waited so long to offer a debt holiday and because of his apparent unwillingness to link the more fundamental issues of tariff reduction and arms reduction with his moratorium plan to prevent European collapse. Taken alone we do not believe his plan is adequate to restore prosperity or preserve peace.

But within the scope of his plan, which we trust will yet be extended, the President's diplomacy seems to have been of a very high order. If the Paris negotiations fall, the world will not blame Hoover, but France. And with that world support, the Hoover plan can not now be killed even by France's veto.

Inmates of the Ohio State penitentiary sell gags to humor magazines. Most of them, we expect, are serving "Life." And maybe "Judge" recommended it.

Butterflies, says a naturalist, eat practically nothing. Imitate them, and you also may acquire wings.

That hotel where Alfonso is paying \$30 an hour for rooms probably considers the jack more important than the king and queen.

Then there's the censor who complained of the scant attire at the baby show.

Merchants are making an uphill struggle these days, but it's the customers who get the credit.

The surgeon who operated on the king of Siam's eyes hopes, of course, his majesty will see his way to reward him handsomely.

The silkworm, after all, is the poor hubby who is obliged to keep his wife in hose.

A butcher, notes the office sage, isn't always in a hurry when he makes a short cut.

REASON BY FREDERICK LANDIS

THE papers tell of the explosion of many pavements. This is no surprise whatever, for many of the highways in this country have been constructed under circumstances which were bound to lead to explosions sooner or later.

The confessions of Witt and Hamilton in the Jackson murder case at Indianapolis make the duty of the court perfectly clear.

Both of these fellows should get the chair.

When two men blandly go forth with all the implements to accomplish robbery, when they go it as a business, prepared to kill the victim if he resists, they should be dispatched with as little hesitation as if they were rattlesnakes.

If we long ago had started in to pet and pamper rats and rattlesnakes as we have petted and pampered criminals it would not be safe for one to step outside his house.

And as we got rid of snakes by the use of the club, so could we get rid of murderers by the use of the same club.

The government has a list of hundreds of underworld characters in and around Chicago against whom it is going to proceed.

If Mussolini had the same list he would do business with it in short order.

Naturally Mexico is displeased by the acquittal of this Oklahoma deputy sheriff who shot the two young Mexicans, and it may interfere with the alacrity with which Mexico has been executing her own people when they have mistreated Americans.

THE state department should proceed to make it plain that the acquittal of the deputy sheriff is in no sense a discrimination against Mexico. The state department should point out to Mexico that in this country we seldom do much to anybody who kills.

M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

A Nonstop Flight Around the World in Four and One-Half Days Is Only a Question of Time.

NEW YORK, July 3.—Post and Gaitly made a great record, but it won't last very long. Their actual flying time was four days and twelve hours. An airplane has stayed up nearly twenty-seven days. The speed of flight is constantly being increased. When put together, such facts leave room for but one result.

A nonstop flight around the world in four and one-half days, or even less, is only a question of time.

There are discoveries and inventions which leave little doubt as to what will happen.

Once the steamboat had been perfected men of sense could foresee the doom of sailing ships. Once the auto came into being it required no prophetic genius to realize that Old Dobbin's fate was sealed.

Science Warns

IT is the price of progress to make room for new industries by killing off old ones. In olden times, this was largely a matter of accident, or caprice. Men were often caught completely off guard, and ruined in consequence.

Except for a few revolutionary innovations, science generally warns us of what to expect. That is an advantage which the people of other ages did not enjoy.

All we need do is keep our eyes and ears open to realize many of the changes which are bound to occur within the immediate future.

Politics at Standstill

WERE it not for the chaotic state of social and political ideas, we could tell with some precision where we were going.

Science has made little headway, however, in the field of politics and sociology.

When it comes to government, justice and morality, we still are obliged to fall back on empiricism.

Without any well established principles, any rules which we can depend on to work the same in all cases, any complete records as to results, we are forced to guess, theorize and experiment.

Engineering Universal

IT is only necessary to compare the general condition of politics with that prevailing in other lines of human endeavor to understand just what we are up against and why.

Engineering is about the same thing in Japan, or Russia, as in the United States, and so is chemistry, or plumbing, or morality.

In constructing and operating a steel plant, Mussolini would adopt about the same methods as prevail at Pittsburgh, but not in setting up a municipal government.

When it comes to drugs, or dye stuffs, we are glad to take advice from anybody, but we scan it with reference to moral problems.

No Science in Law

THERE is nothing which even resembles science in our attitude toward law, statecraft, or social problems.

Look at the different ways in which our four sovereign states regulate marriage and divorce.

Some states forbid Negroes and whites to inter-marry, though allowing defective to do so.

In South Carolina, you can't get a divorce on any ground, while in Nevada, you don't need any ground to get one.

Social Ignorance

FIFTY-FIVE governments, and no two of them alike, or to come closer home, forty-eight states in the American union, and no two of them wholly alike, in regulating human conduct.

We have found it possible to discover and apply scientific principles in the hospital, the factory, or even on the farm, but not in the courthouse, or legislative hall. We are not going to discover and apply them there, either, unless we have more information for guidance.

Did you ever stop to think how much greater pains we take to inform ourselves about business, the stock market and many other things than about human beings?

We know how many freight cars were loaded each day, but not how many babies were born. Also, we know how many shares of stock were sold, and at what price, but not how many people died of cancer.

What we don't know about ourselves is, perhaps, the most astounding phase of modern life. Incidentally, I noticed several girls waiting in, dressed very simply and apparently fresh from the subway.

I mean the chorus girls. For over a week now I have been watching them rehearse. The first day I hung around the stage door waiting for them to arrive in their Rolls Royces and diamonds. I waited and waited. I noticed several girls waiting in, dressed very simply and apparently fresh from the subway.

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Loaded Down



Lockjaw Is Fourth of July Peril

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

IN recent years there has been a gradual tendency to return to the old Fourth of July holocaust that aroused consternation twenty years ago.

In the old cannon cracker-shotgun days, it was not surprising to read in the paper on July 5, the records of hundreds of deaths due to explosions and, during the months that followed, reports of deaths from lockjaw due to infections sustained in Fourth of July celebrations.

Fortunately, some sense has been brought into the situation. Many periodicals conducted campaigns of education, ordinances have been passed, and the total number of accidents and deaths is much less than it used to be.

However, a new generation has grown up and apparently there is a tendency to relapse into the condition that formerly obtained.

Lockjaw is particularly likely to occur in injuries caused by fireworks. The germs of lockjaw develop in soil and in manure and on dirty clothing.

Any time an injury occurs in which dirt is forced into the wound and sealed in, there is danger of lockjaw. That is the kind of accident that occurs in explosions of cannon crackers, blank cartridges and toy cannons.

Gun wadding is forced into the wound and the germs of tetanus or lockjaw go in with it. The size of the wound is not important.

The tiniest puncture by a dirty nail, a splinter or explosion may cause the passage of the germs into the body.

There is just one thing to do about lockjaw. Whenever such an injury occurs, get a doctor as soon as possible. He will open the wound, clean it thoroughly, treat it with proper antiseptics, and in questionable cases inject the antitoxin against lockjaw to prevent the disease.

It is not safe to wait in any case until lockjaw has developed. After the disease has developed, immense amounts of antitoxin are needed. The condition is very serious. It is accompanied by convulsions.

The patient must be treated in a hospital. Certainly here is one condition, above all others, in which prevention is far cheaper, much more certain, and much more sensible than a later attempt at cure.

So serious is the possibility of lockjaw that in many places boards of health are willing to provide the antitoxin without charge, particularly in the case of children, to make certain that cases of lockjaw do not develop.

IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

THIS column has given its solemn promise not to write any more about "Shoot the Works!" And I intend to keep that promise—at least within reason. But I do want to say something about those people of the theater who have gone mad in the pampered pets of captains of industry.

I mean the chorus girls. For over a week now I have been watching them rehearse. The first day I hung around the stage door waiting for them to arrive in their Rolls Royces and diamonds. I waited and waited. I noticed several girls waiting in, dressed very simply and apparently fresh from the subway.

But nary a Rolls drew up to the door. Frankly, I was disappointed. I, too, had taken too literally the Hollywood version of what a chorus girl should be.

I worked, and when I say "work" I mean just that. For hour upon hour they went through a grilling routine.

Johnny Boyle is an exacting director. He knows what he wants and gets it, if it takes all day. And it's fascinating to watch him take a homogenous collection of raw material and make of it one rhythm.

I don't mean that there are inexperienced chorus girls. But, after all, our show is going to be different. And it means that they must forget the steps and routine they have been accustomed to and learn something altogether new.

The girls, for the most part, are serious and intelligent. They are earnest about their work in the same way that an efficient secretary is about hers. Also they have no illusions about eloping with a young millionaire on his vacation from college or being sponsored by a retired button manufacturer.

Just Another Job

SINGING and dancing is their job. They know it is essential for them to meet certain requirements in order to make good on that job. The other day a group of about fifteen girls came up to my apartment for a movie-tone picture.

I was considerably surprised to see with what naïveté they exclaimed when they discovered it was a penthouse. I had been prepared to welcome a group of slightly bored, disillusioned professionals.

Instead, I was confronted with a bunch of utterly simple girls, childishly eager and pleasant in their rather unique assignment.

So when you read about the wild doings of chorines in your favorite tabloid just take it with a grain of salt. The ladies of the ensemble aren't any different from the girls who get crushed in the Bronx subway.

They want to pay a hundredfold the debt of gratitude which they owe to Lafayette and his companions.

"From all the points of the front a single shout on this July 4 will be heard: 'Honor to the great sister, Long live the United States!'"

He who has ceased to enjoy his friend's superiority has ceased to love him.—Madame Swetchine.

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DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

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Star Summer Course, which you were unable to attend. Her classes there are heart and soul enthusiastic over her wonderful instruction and her lovable personality.

I admit I'm tempted. But the ballet is out so far as I'm concerned. I once saw Anna Pavlova do her famous swan dance. And as my motto is "Perfection or Nothing," I decided then and there to abandon for good and all any aspirations I might have had to trip across the board on my toes.

I couldn't somehow picture myself as a dying swan or Narcissus or the Spirit of Spring.

However, there are possibilities in the musical comedy routine. Already I am perfecting one step for our co-operative revue. Well, it isn't really a step. It's more of a shuffle. But if I come through that ordeal without any serious mishap I shall seriously consider taking up tap dancing.

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Editor Times: It is a matter of history that a eminent expert opinion, as far back as 1921, testified in court, under oath, that it is only a matter of a short time that any company would be able to furnish natural gas.

This came to light when a gas company in Cleveland attempted to abandon its franchise in 1929, because of its inability to furnish gas from both the Ohio and West Virginia fields and attempted to leave the people of Cleveland without fuel gas and had to answer in court.

The gas question then became quite a political issue and that instance may be a warning to be alert and careful with the present attempted entry of gas companies to our city.

Cleveland at the time had 200,000 users of natural gas with its uniformity of rates, the gas transmitted with an appropriate network of pipes, pumps, and equipment of the value of \$40,000,000, with an equal investment for connections, apparatus and fixtures by the users.

The company involved was of the same type as those applying in this city, serving a great number of cities and towns.

This may show that, to grant privileges to new concerns, where our present gas company is fully sufficient, may be a bad bargain for the city and a mere subterfuge to obtain a valuable franchise without returns.

The Court in that case said, "The public is best served by a gas concern having the field solely to itself and not by competition."

"Now, of course, with this trend of thought on public service, the public must not be left to the rapacity of utilities corporations so that they may demand any price and get it, because then the people would be at their mercy, and consequently rate fixing commissions, utility commissions, that supervise, regulate and curb the rapacity of a utility that otherwise might squeeze the very lifeblood out of the people, have come into existence."

Therefore, let us depend on our public service commission and our public city officials, that they will

SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Public Had Horror of X-Ray for a Short Time After Its Discovery

TODAY, the X-ray is one of the most powerful tools of the modern world. It is used by the physician, the surgeon and the dentist as a means of locating pathological conditions not otherwise discernible.

The research physicist and chemist make use of X-rays as a means of penetrating the secrets of the molecule and atom.

The X-ray likewise has its use in industry. Portable outfits are on the market for the use of electricians, plumbers and other technicians, so that pipes, wires, etc., can be located in the walls of buildings without first ripping large holes in the plaster.

It is interesting therefore to look back to the early days of the X-ray, for their discovery by Professor Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen occurred on Nov. 8, 1895, a date within the memory of many readers.

Dr. Otto Glasser of the Cleveland clinic, who is an authority upon the history of the X-ray as well as a well-known authority in the field of the X-ray, has collected some interesting information about the early reception of the X-ray by the public.

"A veritable flood of articles in the new 'wonder rays' appeared in rapid succession in the press of the whole world," Dr. Glasser says. "I have been able to collect more than a thousand articles on X-rays which appeared in scientific journals during the year 1896."

X-Ray Opera Glasses

AMONG the public, according to Dr. Glasser, there was a general fear that X-rays made it possible to look through things, for example, to look through a solid wall as one might look through a window, or to look through clothing.

Dr. Glasser tells that a bill was introduced into the house of representatives of the state of New Jersey to prohibit the use of X-rays in opera glasses at theaters, while a London firm "made prey of the ignorant women by advertising the sale of X-ray proof underclothing."

Dr. Glasser quotes a most amusing editorial which appeared in the Pall Mall Gazette of London. It read, in part:

"We are sick of the Roentgen rays. It is now said, we hope untruly, that Mr. Edison has discovered a substance—tungstate of calcium is its repulsive name—which is potential, whatever that means, to the said rays."

"The consequence of which appears to be that you can see other people's bones with the naked eye, and also see through eight inches of solid wood. On the revolting indecency of this there is no need to dwell."