

# The Indianapolis Times

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

## World Court Attacks

When the senate fight over American adherence to the world court is renewed in December, opponents will use the latest major decision of the court to discredit it.

They will say the court opinion, that the proposed Austro-German customs union would violate Austria's pledge under the Geneva protocol, was a political, rather than a judicial, ruling.

They will say that the eight-to-seven division of the judges, with France and her military allies providing the judges which made possible the adverse majority, proves their charge. They will make capital of the fact that Frank B. Kellogg was one of the seven dissenting judges.

As an advocate of American membership in the court under the Root protocols, this newspaper is inclined to admit that there probably is some truth in these charges. It looks to us as though political considerations may have influenced some of the judges.

That is unfortunate. But no sane supporter of the court ever has argued that it is perfect.

Probably no American would favor abolishing our supreme court. And yet, a great many Americans deplore the partisan purposes which sometimes have moved the supreme court majority. Similarly, many Americans often are critical of the failures of congress or the presidency, but they do not therefore conclude that those institutions should be wiped out.

Judged in the light of other institutions, rather than of perfection, the record of the world court on the whole is a very fine one. It is difficult to conceive of any effective international peace machinery without a world court.

This one exists, and has the adherence of virtually all other nations. Either the United States co-operates with the rest of the world in this court, or we stay out and thereby weaken the key institution for the peaceful settlement of international disputes.

Given that alternative, an overwhelming majority of the American people—as indicated by the press and every popular poll taken—favors adherence to the court.

That popular mandate would have been carried out long ago had not the administration's political maneuvering prevented senate action. We hope this policy of delay is at an end.

## Reports Without Action

President Hoover vividly described the stigma crime has laid upon this country when he proposed the organization of his commission on law observance and enforcement. The commission finally made fourteen reports, the results of two years' work.

During that time crime has not decreased; recently there have been terrifying outbreaks in New York and elsewhere.

President Hoover probably has not yet had time to read all the fourteen reports. The public, nevertheless, is awaiting his reaction to the reports.

The natural hope was that the Wickersham commission might open the way toward something approaching a cure for crime. Obviously, the Wickersham commission could do nothing of the sort. A majority of the commission found themselves unable to discuss comprehensively the causes of crime, and this implied inability to name remedies.

But the commission did make several fine recommendations on ways to treat phases of the problem of crime.

Will the President request congress to enact the reforms demanded of the federal government by the commission experts?

## Railroad Losses

Net operating income of 171 Class 1 railroads during the first seven months of the year was 2.19 per cent, according to reports to the interstate commerce commission. Last year, during the same period, it was 3.48. Thirty-five railroads operated at a loss.

Net railway operating income is computed on a basis of "property investment." Property investment is the value of the road and equipment as shown by the companies' books. Net operating income is what is left after operating expenses, taxes and equipment rentals have been paid, but before interest and other fixed charges are paid.

The companies' valuations may differ from those of the interstate commerce commission, as they have in several notable instances when the government set out to recapture excess earnings as defined by the transportation act.

Nor is there necessarily a fixed relation between stocks and bonds a railroad may have outstanding and its value.

The railroads' net operating income of \$295,000,000 for the seven months was \$165,000,000 less than last year. This is a sizable drop, and is responsible chiefly for the plea of the railroads for a horizontal freight rate increase of 15 per cent, now being considered by the I. C. C.

The figures show that the railroads have suffered severely from the depression. But so have all other businesses, some even more than the railroads, the majority of which at least are not idle or running at an actual loss.

The question naturally arises whether the railroads have been forced to bear a disproportionate share of the cost of readjustment, and doubtless this phase of the rate question will be given due consideration by the I. C. C. before it allows a rate increase which finally must be paid by consumers.

## "Lake Mead"

The board of geographical names has recommended that the greatest of all man-made lakes which the Boulder dam will create will be named for Dr. Elwood Mead, chief of the United States reclamation bureau. We hope that it will.

Author of the Wyoming water law, pioneer in land settlement in California, engineer, teacher, evangelist for reclamation, Dr. Mead has been a valuable public servant.

Throughout the long fight for the Swing-Johnson act, Dr. Mead, among all other administration men, stood firm for sound power features of the Boulder dam measure.

## A Coalition?

Let congress, says James M. Beck, Republican representative from Pennsylvania and a former solicitor-general, form a coalition, elect some "fair-minded" man as speaker, and cut federal expenditures from three to five billions.

It seems a good idea, but it should be contemplated in connection with the party lineup of the seventy-second congress. Republicans will have a shaky majority of one or two and the progressives will possess the power of turning that minute majority into a minority.

"The difficulty of effecting economies in the con-

gress," Beck goes on, "lies in the party system, for the minority always can propose extravagant expenditures, which, if rejected by the majority, makes for it enemies and no friends."

Is it possible, we wonder, that Beck realizes that he may be a member of the minority and is seeking ways of avoiding making "enemies and no friends," particularly in a presidential year?

We agree that partisan politics should be forgotten during this crisis. But the hope that there might be declared such a "moratorium on party politics" is weakened by the fact that experience under our two-party system shows that political truces rarely work.

Yet, after the miracle of Representative Will Wood, the appropriations committee chairman, coming out for army and navy economies, Beck's declaration for these and other economies is heartening.

Democrats and progressives demonstrated during the early part of the last session that they could keep their bargain with the administration for a so-called truce on politics.

That truce was not broken until it was clear that the arrangement had become a cover for administration dictatorship. Obviously any kind of coalition, even of the temporary truce variety, implies concessions on all sides for a common purpose.

We believe there is a common purpose in the country to provide adequate unemployment relief and at the same time balance the federal budget, which now threatens a three-billion dollar deficit for the two-year period.

If all parties are sincere in their desire to carry out this common purpose, the result can be achieved, whether the method is called a truce or something else.

## Labor Looks Abroad

Ever since the World war, when the American Federation of Labor withdrew from the Amsterdam International, the American labor movement has been largely nationalistic. While committed on paper to the League of Nations, its chief concern has been with domestic problems rather than world conditions and their effect upon local wage scales and living conditions.

Today signs multiply of a wider viewpoint. In a recent speech, President William Green came out for cancellation of allied war debts and German reparations, on the ground that these stand in the way of permanent peace and prosperity.

Elaborating his statement is an article by John P. Frey, head of the federation's metal trades department, urging cancellation based upon the contingency of material reduction of armaments, and denouncing the Versailles treaty.

"It is of immediate and direct importance to the trade union movement in Europe and to our own," Frey stated, "for it is clear now that one of the causes of industrial depression in Europe is due to reparations, war debts, and the feverish expenditure of money for military purposes, coupled with fear of future wars."

Interesting also is the action of the federation's executive committee at Atlantic City in voicing a determination to ask the senate to ratify our entry into the world court under the Root formula.

One thing more the federation should do to demonstrate its broader world vision. This is to speak clearly in opposition to such hate-breeding atrocities as the recent Smoot-Hawley tariff act and demand downward revision in the name of world trade and peace.

Al Capone, promising his help toward capturing the kidnappers of a Chicago bookmaker, called kidnapping "the lowest form of crime." Maybe he should have added, "especially kidnapping such an upstanding citizen as a bookmaker."

Pennsylvania scientists report that the blight which for years threatened the chestnut with extinction is being overcome. It sounds like good news for the columnists.

Several years ago, if we remember correctly, a Detroit paragrapher said that what this country needs is a suit of clothes composed of three pairs of pants and two coats. This year that might be extended to include an overcoat.

The name of the winner of the Nobel prize is Sir Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman, and it seems to us that school pupils should get some kind of award for pronouncing it.

George Bernard Shaw, commenting upon the economic situation in Great Britain, says "the bankers are always wrong, too." But, George, not when they send you a notice of an overdraft!

Cheer up, all is not so dreary as it seems. Fashion designers have promised some creation for fall and winter that at least ought to produce a giggle.

## Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

THREE persons were riding atop the junk wagon. The man was unkempt and carried a sickly pallor. The woman drooping beside him had sore, straining eyes. Her face was a mask of misery. The baby on her lap was a pitiful little object.

There must, without a doubt, always be junk men. And these men also will, I presume, go on having wives and children. They are as much a part of our world as the garage mechanic or the department store clerk.

The fact that they are poor and so obviously without the simplest luxuries does upset us. But what I cannot forget was the groping, sightless look on the woman's thin, set face.

Such individuals may not always be in dire straits for food. But assuredly they need medical attention desperately. Glasses, dental work, and a doctor's help.

To see a healthy man or woman start forth to battle for a living is not a sad, but an encouraging sight. One has no fear for them. But these ill, half-blind creatures are whipped before they start.

We boast a good deal about our free clinics and our charitable institutions, and perhaps we have reason to do so. But the truth is that only a small percentage of those who can not pay get adequate care, optical, dental, or medical.

A good parent may send his children out to fend for themselves without a penny of money. But he is not a good parent if, having the means, he lets them go from him without clear brains and healthy bodies. Giving them these, he has done his duty.

No father owes his adult child a living, and no government like ours owes its support to one of its citizens. But we shall not have an enlightened civilization until we insure to every man, woman, and child the right start—health.

One-tenth of the money we spend on armaments would give free medical service to every person too poor to pay for it. And money thus spent would be a profitable investment, materially and spiritually.

## M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Another War Would Mean Mechanical Murder From the Air and Horrors Men Haven't Even Dreamed About.

NEW YORK, Sept. 9.—Making due allowance for the inability of mutineers to function with disciplined effectiveness, the Chilean revolt furnishes a good test of ship versus plane.

It threatened to be serious, if not successful, until the aerial bombardment put a speedy end to it. Having run away with the entire navy, the sailors were in a position not only to defy capture by the army, but to inflict untold damage on coastal towns.

Air forces represented the Chilean government's one hope. Even Billy Mitchell couldn't ask for a more convincing demonstration than they gave.

## Here's Mechanical Murder

WITHOUT a doubt, war is going into the air.

Navy men are all right as long as they can fight each other, or destroy merchant ships, but when it comes to battling aircraft, they are about as effective as was cavalry on the western front.

What is bound to happen in case of another major conflict should be enough to make any man want peace.

Half-ton bombs dropped from a height of five miles and filled not only with dynamite, but poisoned gas; lakes and reservoirs showered with deadly germs, and a lot worse things that haven't been dreamed of—war no longer contains the slightest element of sportsmanship or personal heroism. It's just a matter of mechanical murder.

## Mere Childishness

SPEAKING of sportsmanship, Gar Wood says he tricked Kaye Don into starting too soon and being disqualified as a result.

He says that he made up his mind to do it when Don refused to agree to a delay of forty-five minutes in starting the race which he had requested, to repair a leak in his gas tank.

Should Americans cheer for Wood because he is their speed champion, while Englishmen condole with Don for a similar reason, or should everybody unite in disgust at such childishness?

## Just Human Nature

STILL speaking of sportsmanship, Captain Ekin says that those attending the Cleveland air races are far more interested in stunts than in speed records.

That proves little, except that human nature hasn't changed very much.

People are interested in stunts not only because of the thrill, but because stunts show the pilot's individual skill.

People like to see what a man or woman can do that is different and daring, like personal performances. They can imagine themselves doing the same thing, and how it would feel.

## It's Perfectly Logical

LIKE so many other things, aviation is ranging beyond the capacity of individuals, except in the stunt realm. Instead of evolving into a flock of winged fliers, as most of us expected fifteen or twenty years ago, it promises to become a highly organized activity.

Perfectly logical, when you come to think about it. Aviation represents a tremendous compound of invention and discovery. It is one of the last words in technical knowledge, not only with regard to wind pressure and combustion engines, but with regard to many other things.

It represents our first effort to employ vehicles out of their natural element.

The safety of those who ride in airplanes is dependent on motion derived from mechanical power. That means that nothing should be left to ignorance, incompetence or faulty construction.

Unyielding vigilance, strict attention to detail, and exacting supervision are essential to create public confidence in air transportation, and they can not be had without organization.

## It Can't Be Done

BECAUSE organization is essential in mechanical fields, we should not assume that it is essential, or even desirable, in all other fields.

There still are many things that we not only can do better alone, but that we must do alone.

No system has been devised whereby we can be born in an organized way, or die in an organized way.

Whether how many folks are standing around, we have to go through each of these performances by ourselves, and a lot more in between.

Though we can be helped in obtaining knowledge, what it means and the use of that is made of it, rests largely with each of us as an individual.

For certain phases of life—and they are very important phases, there just isn't any room for a corporation, board of directors, bond issue, or mass production.



## KORNILOFF'S REVOLT

Sept. 9

ON Sept. 9, 1917, General Laurus G. Korniloff, commander-in-chief of the Russian armies, raised the flag of revolt against Russia's provisional government.

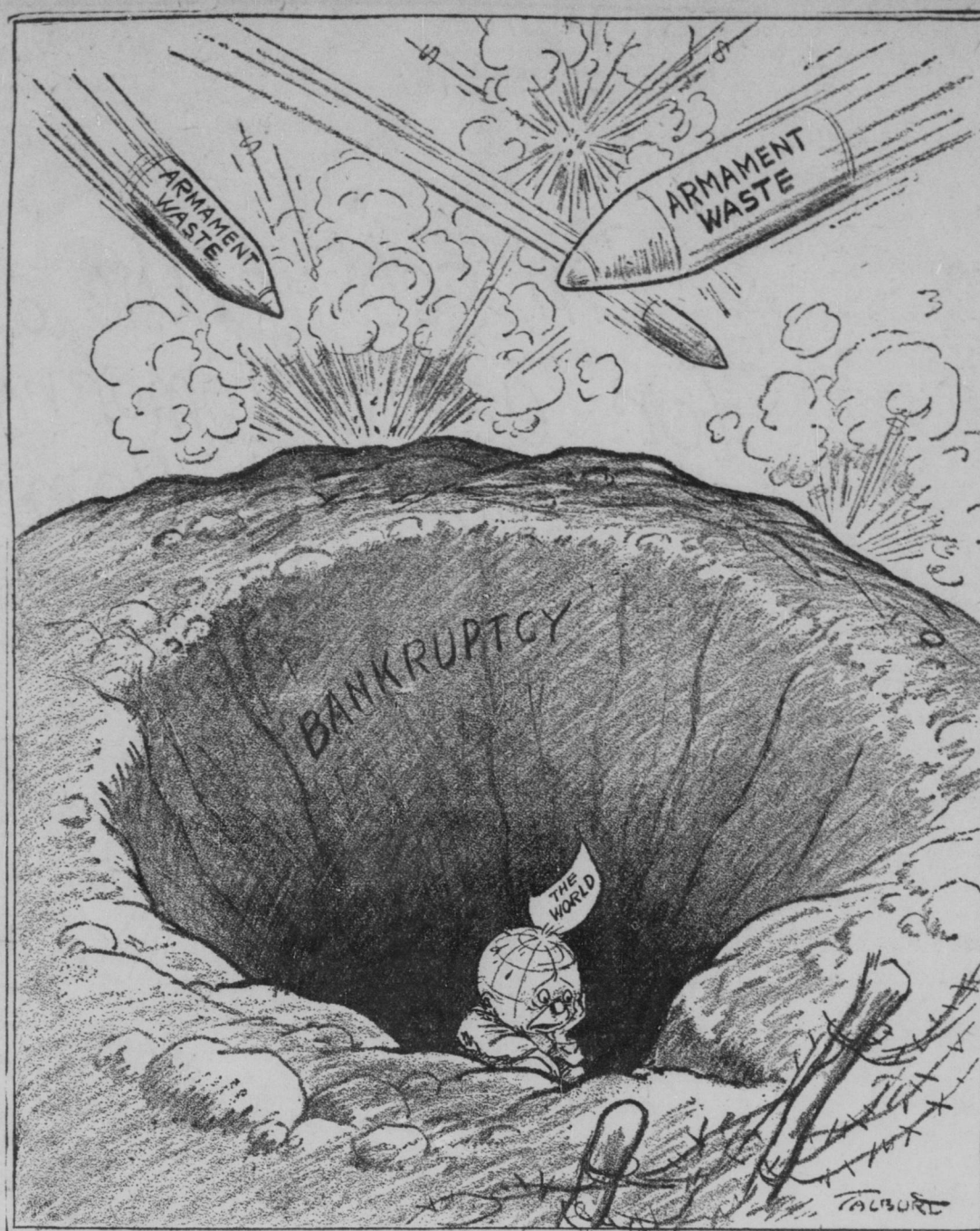
When informed of the revolt, Premier Alexander Kerensky refused to believe it. By an exchange of telegrams with Korniloff, the premier acted with resolute and celerity.

He deposed Korniloff as a traitor, arrested his envoy, Vladimir Lvoff, proclaimed a siege of Petrograd and appointed General Klembovsky as chief of the armies of Russia.

General Korniloff responded to this by moving an army against the capital.

Does Indiana have a widow's pension? No.

## The Shell Hole



## DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## Longevity Is Increased by Science

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

Editor of The American Medical Association and of Hygieia, the Health Magazine.

SINCE the earliest times men have searched for the fountain of youth, some magical elixir by which their years of life might be prolonged far beyond the three score and ten assigned by Biblical legend as the due of all.

Modern authorities are inclined to view askance the numerous years assigned to such patriarchs as Adam, Abraham and Methuselah, believing that the Biblical accounts refer either to lunar months or represent merely the desire of the descendants to brag about their forefathers.

The Middle Ages also gave rise to numerous stories of remarkable longevity, but few critically minded investigators give much credence to the tales of these centenarians.

Of all those to whom reference is made, the most romantic was Old Parr, an Englishman of Shropshire, who was first married at the age of 38, asserted his fatherhood of an illegitimate child and had to sit in the stocks in a white sheet at the age of 105, married a widow when

he was 122, and overdrank himself when being presented to the king of England in 1635, dying at the age of 152 years.

Rumor credits him with five children born after he was 100 years old, but his career seems to have been more a legend than a reality.

Since the middle of the last century reforms in hygiene and sanitation coupled with the advances in general medical knowledge, have increased the expectancy of life of a child born in the United States from 40 years to 55 years.

Most of this increase is due to the prevention of death in the first few years of life. In contrast with these figures there has been little if any advance after a person has passed the first 40 years of his life.

The expectation at the age of 50 is today only 21.5 years as compared with 21.2 years in 1925.

It is interesting to know that women are more likely to reach 100 years of age than men. Out of 691 reported deaths of centenarians, 504, or 73 per cent, were women and only 187, or 27 per cent, were men. In 1923 of the centenarians who died in England 74 were women and 22 were men.

Professor Raymond Pearl of the Johns Hopkins university studied carefully the records of 50 persons living beyond 90 years of age. He reports that less than five women out of every 10,000 born alive ever get to be 100 years old.

His figures indicate that persons who live long come of long-lived families. The brothers of the people who lived long lived on an average of 18.1-3 years longer than the general male population and the sisters of the long-lived persons lived at least 9.23 years on an average longer than the average woman in the population.

The common assumption is that the person who lives long is one of exemplary habits particularly so as far as relates to the use of tobacco, alcohol and similar substances.

Professor Pearl found that 54 per cent of the men had used alcohol as a beverage during their lives and 46 per cent had been total abstainers.

Of the 26 men over the age of 50 who were studied, six smoked, five chewed and two both smoked and chewed tobacco. The remaining 13 or 50 per cent, had never used tobacco in any form.

## IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

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

IT was by no means an unmixed evil that a smug and complacent America should have come badly frightened. In the days when orators were fond of telling us that this was the richest country in the world, the cause of social justice lagged lamentably.

Mr. Hoover did make one speech about the abolition of poverty but in the era of pipping prosperity. But it was a vague and sentimental promise backed up by no program whatsoever.

## An Old Story

OF course, even in the days of the bull market, not everybody really had a chicken in the pot or a finger in the Wall Street boom. Even then poverty and distress were far from being unknown. But we took it calmly and paid small consideration, because much of our prosperity was palpable, even flagrant.

We were fond then of waving our good fortune in the faces of less situated nations and rubbing it in with talk of the protective tariff and the pauper labor of Europe.

By now there is no denying that we have felt the pinch. We boast less and tread more softly. And yet it seems to me that there are limits to the good which a scare can produce.

I see no great hope of amelioration coming out of a community which runs about frantically in circles saying, "What will we do?" Still less does salvation lie in that defeatist attitude of crying out from the houseposts, "There is nothing to be done!"

The plain fact of the matter is that we are not as badly off as many headlines would suggest and that there is plenty which can be done immediately.

## Three Cheers for Chase

I NOTE in the papers a prescription offered by Stuart Chase. It seems to me an excellent program. Here is his prescription:

"1. Create a national planning board to co-ordinate facts about basic industries and direct their operations so that supply will balance demand."

"2. Reduce tariffs, cancel war debts, and disarm."

"3. Set up unemployment insurance on an actuarial basis."

"4. Flood at once a federal bond issue of three to five billions of dollars to put men at work this coming winter on public works projects."

The first ingredient needs a little closer definition. A national planning board will have to have its scope clearly outlined. To be sure, some such mechanism is not entirely new under the American scheme. The war trade board loosely fulfilled a similar function.

During the war we were willing to make great concessions to co-operative effort because we realized

that a crisis was on hand. We might as well undertake to make that same realization over again. In fact, it seems to me that the war was of lesser moment than the present industrial situation.

Unemployment is a far more venomous and dangerous foe than we met on foreign battlefields.

The second item in the bolus which Stuart Chase would have us take is simple enough, if only we can get down to clear thinking. It should be evident even to the most elementary economist, that the Hoover tariff was a ghastly mistake.

We might even be graduated to a more advanced position and realize that under the new world dispensation any tariff wall at all is something to be plowed under.

## War Debts Are Snag

THE chief difficulty is going to come in the matter of the cancellation of war debts. Various gentlemen in congress speak as if wiping out the accounts means taking actual nickels and pennies from the pocket of the individual American citizen.

This, of course, is all nonsense. No matter what France pays or doesn't pay, the only loss never will jingle in your hands or in mine.

On the contrary, if the world were reestablished upon a basis where we might both buy and sell in conjunction with our neighbors trade would boom mightily, and even the most obscure American would feel the benefits.

Disarmament takes on a pertinence when one reads that the Navy League of the United States purposes to advocate the expenditure of \$767,000,000 for 113 ships in the next six years. This is an actual expense which will be borne by you and me, unless we have the very ordinary common sense to call a halt.

Debaters on the other side argue that here are millions to relieve unemployment through the use of co-operated shipyards. But it never is remembered that only a small portion of that vast fortune will go actually to the worker.

The rest will be distributed in bonuses and profits to executives of large companies.

Another Form of Insurance

UNEMPLOYMENT insurance is the third ingredient, and it has many friends, although the issue has been confused by the constant cry of "No dole!" It is strange that communities which cheerfully accept the principle of workmen's compensation can not understand that the sudden loss of a job may be just as devastating as the loss of an arm and just as accidental.

Probably there will be sharp dissent in the matter of Stuart Chase's suggestion of a federal bond issue of three to five billions of dollars to put men at work on public projects

## SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Scientists Divide Universe Into Eight Sections at Start of Photographic Survey.

THE Harvard observatory has parceled the universe into "eight major sections" for the sake of the survey upon which it is about to embark.

Thirty astronomers, employing ten photographic telescopes, will take part in this survey of the universe, which represents an extension of the work which the observatory has done during the last ten years.

Dr. Harlow Shapley, director of the observatory, lists the eight major sections as follows:

The solar neighborhood.  
The region of the brighter stars.  
The local system.  
The Milky way.  
The system of globular clusters.  
The clouds of Magellan.  
The super-galaxies.  
The metagalaxy.

The term "metagalaxy" has come into astronomical literature only recently. I am under the impression that the word was coined by Dr. Shapley.

He uses it as an all-inclusive term to describe all of the universe which lies within range of the largest telescopes.

## The Sun's Neighbors

SPECIAL methods and equipment will be used in each of the eight divisions of the survey.

Section One—The survey of the "solar neighborhood" represents an attempt to get as well acquainted as possible with our nearest neighbors in space.

Dr. Shapley proposes to begin with a census of this portion of space. It is by means of the census part of the work since most of the nearest stars are by no means the brightest. In fact, most of the nearest stars are invisible to the unaided eye.