

# UTILITY GOUGERS ASSAILED BITTERLY BY LA FOLLETTE

## FORUM THROG CHEERS WORDS OF 'YOUNG BOB'

Wisconsin Senator Cracks Whip as He Flails Exorbitant Rates.

### HITS FEDERAL POLICY

Tells Kirshbaum Crowd U. S. Treasury Should Help With Poor Aid.

Slashing into the ranks of the private utility owners with a devastating array of figures and statistics, Senator Robert M. La Follette Jr. of Wisconsin opened the Indianapolis open forum season at Kirshbaum center Sunday night before a record forum throng.

"Four giant companies control 95 per cent of the power consumed in the United States," said La Follette. "And these companies have created a perfect nest of holding companies, super holding companies and super-super holding companies. Even the experts are unable to trace these holding firms to their rightful owners."

The forum crowd burst into cheers as La Follette waved his fist and cried:

"Let us have direct municipal and federal competition with these utilities. Let us open Muscle Shoals and demonstrate to the nation just how cheaply power can be manufactured."

#### Has Crowd 'With Him'

"In the city of Tacoma, Wash.," continued the senator, "housewives get an hour of cooking for one mill—one-tenth of a cent—from the publicly operated utility there. How would you housewives like that?"

"Publicly owned utilities in Wisconsin charge 2½ cents a kilowatt-hour for power. Private interests charge 6 and 7 cents an hour."

Speaking on "What Do the Progressives Want?" the nation's youngest senator quite evidently had the crowd "with him" from the start of his lecture.

#### Assails Tariff Bill

"One of the contributing factors to the depression," cried La Follette, "is the Hawley-Smoot tariff monstrosity—the greatest legislative blunder of its kind."

He declared that the Progressives stood for the shorter hour day and the shorter work week and the matching of federal dollar for municipal and state dollar in poor relief.

"The nation's leaders," he said ironically, "declare that a federal dole would break down the rugged individualism of America. A dole is what it is that we have if it isn't a dole from municipal, county and state treasuries?"

"I can not see one iota of difference in a dollar coming from the federal treasury and a dollar coming from the treasury of the city of Indianapolis. The only difference is that in Indianapolis the money comes out of the pocket of the home owner and the taxpayer."

#### Crisis Second Only to War

"From the government it would come from higher-taxed 'big business.'"

"The Progressives are utterly against the policy of standing by with our hands by our side while our American standard of living, built up in a fight of forty years, is broken down by this depression."

"The government has the power to act in this crisis—this crisis second only to a war time emergency." La Follette blamed the present crisis, "the worst since the Civil war," on heedlessness of the Harding and Coolidge conservative administrations to halt the pulling of the public's credit from the industries and the farms to the speculative stock market, "when a downfall of this system was inevitable."

#### Slaps Factory Operations

Industry must be stabilized, said the senator, and declared that the Progressives favor the creation of a national economic staff with the power to go into every industry and factory in the country and obtain the necessary information to regulate the ebb and flow of manufacturing so that there need never be further depression.

"There must be an end to the type of industrial operation which permits a plant to operate day and night for ninety days and then close down for four months," La Follette asserted.

"The Progressives," he continued, "demand unemployment insurance. Why should not the man and woman who labors faithfully for an industry have a reserve to meet these needs when their working days are done?"

#### Want Control Inflation

The final point on the Progressive platform, he said, is for a nation-wide public works program to be financed by public bonds, sold not on the public market, but to the federal reserve system which would be directed by law to issue notes against the bonds to be taken up as business picks up.

He declared this to be "control inflation."

The speech marked the opening of the Open Forum's sixth season. It is sponsored by the Jewish Community Center Association.

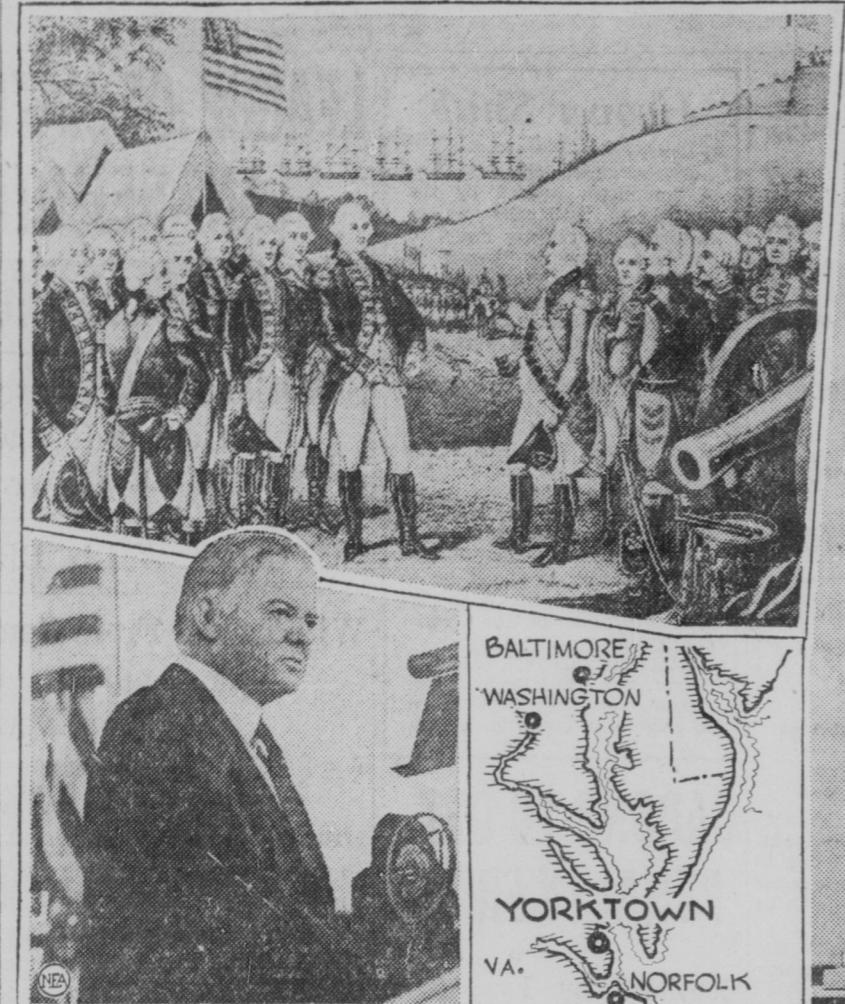
#### CONGRESSMAN IS DEAD

Ernest R. Ackerman, New Jersey  
Died, Was Elected in 1919.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., Oct. 19.—Funeral services for Representative Ernest R. Ackerman (Rep., N. J.) who died here Sunday, will be Tuesday afternoon at the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church.

Ackerman, elected to congress in 1919, was an ardent dry. His hobby was stamp collecting and he traveled 700,000 miles and spent thousands of dollars on rare issues. He exchanged stamps with King George V of England and King Victor Emanuel II of Italy, and other prominent philatelists.

## Fleet Thunders Welcome to Hoover at Yorktown Pageant



President Hoover and many other notables attended a gala pageant at Yorktown, Va., today when the surrender of Lord Cornwallis to George Washington was re-enacted before thousands on the 150th anni-

sary of the historic event and on approximately the same spot where it occurred. Above is the surrender, as shown in an old painting, the \$250,000 government monument marking the spot, and Mr. Hoover at the microphone, making a radio address to the nation.

### Five-Mile Battleship Array Fires 21 Guns as President Passes.

BY PAUL R. MALLON  
United Press Staff Correspondent

ABOARD U. S. S. ARKANSAS, YORKTOWN, Va., Oct. 19.—Fifty mighty fighting men of war thundered a battle welcome to President Hoover upon his arrival here today.

A proud five-mile line of blue-gray cruisers and destroyers unleashed their twenty-one gun salutes simultaneously as the Arkansas, bearing the presidential party, pushed her prow past the first ship in line at 8 a. m.

Black smoke and thunder filled the air and shook the sea before the eyes of the President, who stood on the bridge of the Arkansas. It was the first time he had witnessed the rare spectacle of a whole scouting fleet honoring him as its commander-in-chief.

#### French Cruisers in Line

First to catch his eye was the flagship Augusta, heading the line drawn up at the right side of the York river. On the bridge of the Augusta was Vice-Admiral Willard, who gave the order for the terrific Sunday night, escaped and were hunted today by police. One of the pair was wounded, police think.

The thieves were interrupted while taking a suit of men's clothing from the Askin & Marine Company store, 127 West Washington street. Murman trailed the pair to the Market street steps of the Statehouse, where he opened fire. One of the men dropped and opened a knife, but jumped to his feet and escaped with his companion.

A bandit Saturday night held up Warner Fitch, 37, of 417 Limestone avenue, manager of a Standard grocery at 933 West Michigan street, escaping with \$100 of the store's money. Fitch reported to police.

The Arkansas did not return the fire but steamed along at ten knots past its sisters of the fleet. All hands were drawn up on deck at attention, facing the fleet.

Over at the left were two French cruisers Duquesne and Suffren which brought a distinguished group of Frenchmen to the celebration of the 150th anniversary of Cornwallis' surrender at this quiet little Virginia hamlet.

They looked on in awe as did the old restored frigate Constitution, hero of many sea battles. The Constitution was the third ship in line on the left side of the river.

#### Arkansas Returns Salute

Behind it, on the high banks, the President could see towering over scrubby pines, the monument dedicated by President Arthur to commemorate the Revolutionary war victory of the American colonists.

The Arkansas slid into anchorage beyond the Constitution, about 1,000 yards off shore. Soon there appeared bouncing over the waters of the river an admiral's bark, bringing Willard over to pay an official call of welcome. His appearance was the signal for the Arkansans to try her hand at the trigger and she burst out in thunder with the vice-admiral's salute of seventeen guns.

Hoover appeared impressed by the ceremony. It was possible that he recalled the serious dispute he has had the last few days with the now over reduction of the naval budget next year—a dispute being arbitrated by the budget director and the navy budget officer in Washington.

Police said he is charged with taking the money from the Commercial Auctioneers, Inc., with which he was connected in Indianapolis.

Records here show Bernstein is under indictment in Ft. Wayne.

### N. Y. NABS CITY MAN

Indianapolis Seeks Custody of Jack Bernstein.

Sought by county authorities for alleged embezzlement of \$400, Jack Bernstein, Indianapolis auctioneer and florist, today was under arrest in New York, according to word received here.

Prosecutor Herbert Wilson said police probably will be sent to New York with extradition papers for Bernstein and the suspect has told attorneys he will fight return to Indianapolis.

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### SEWER SUIT IS OPENED

150 Property Owners Fight to Avoid Assessment Collection.

Suit of 150 property owners, seeking to enjoin collection of assessments by the city for the construction of the \$246,000 sewer at Thirtieth street and Hillside avenue, was opened before Judge William Pickens in Superior court three.

The property owners, represented by William Bosson, David F. Smith and Emanuel Wetter, charge there is a double assessment and declare advertisements for the improvement were published in the Indianapolis Commercial, not a newspaper of general circulation.

### SCOUT HEADS TO MEET

Meeting of Masters Called to Clarify Requirements.

Indianapolis scouts will meet Tuesday night at Tabernacle Presbyterian church, home of troops No. 72 and 36, to clarify scout requirements.

A supper served by ladies of the church will be followed by the meeting at 7:30. Patrol work by troop No. 72 will be a feature of the program. District group sessions will be in charge of district chancery.

The land welcoming party included Governor Pollard, Senator Swanson and Representative Eland of Virginia. Mingling around them were tattered continentals and brilliant clad "red coats." Some Revolutionary ladies with powdered wigs and hoop skirts all were waiting to re-enact the historic event.

Symbols of a more modern era, however, were hot dog stands, toy balloon salesmen and airplanes skirting overhead.

Reports \$755 Jewelry Theft

Theft of jewelry valued at \$755 from his home over the weekend was reported today to police by T. W. Ayton of 2155 Wildshire road.

The loot included a diamond ring valued at \$700, a watch and a ring valued at \$55, Ayton said.

Value of Jewelry \$755

Business Branch Library Lists Group of Latest Works

New books this week at the Business Branch library include:

"Writer's Market," by Mathewson;

"Drug Store Business Methods," by Pearson;

"Mathematics of Self-Study," by Thompson;

"The New York City Directory and Proceedings of the Eighteenth National Foreign Trade Convention."

Value of Jewelry \$755

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