



The Indianapolis Times

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

A Sickening Farce

When is a drunken driver not a drunken driver? Evidently the answer in the city of Indianapolis is when he is a Republican politician with a pull.

Every day men and boys without friends are sent to the penal farm to serve time in disgrace and worse for driving cars when under the influence of liquor.

Punishment for this offense is a policy on which every one can agree. A drunken driver of an automobile is the worst of offenders. He is a menace to life and safety of every one else.

He is the one argument which the prohibitionists produce that has any weight—and the numerosity of the tribe under Volsteadism suggests that prohibition and the bootlegging era are not the answer to the problem.

But if law can correct individual actions, all will agree that this particular crime must be suppressed.

But with regularity that is sickening, the politicians of the old Republican regime obtain freedom when brought to the city police courts on this charge.

The answer is that the judges of that court are named by the Governor. The trick of calling in some friend to act as a special judge when these cases are docketed serves the futile purpose of attempting to dodge any criticism for expected acquittals.

When a drunken driver can get freedom on the plea that a police warrant charged that a politician was drunk at Twenty-fourth and Bellefontaine, when the truth was that he was drunk at Twenty-fourth and College, the law sinks to the low levels of burliness.

The Governor, could, of course, ask for the resignation of judges who play such tricks with justice, unless such judicial conduct meets with his approval.

One More Rivet

Over the protest of members Ellis and Singleton the public service has driven one more rivet into the shackles which the public utilities are attempting to put on Indiana.

The decision was made in the case of North Manchester, which has but a very few people, unable to fight as vigorously as might a thoroughly aroused larger city.

It would, if allowed to become a permanent precedent, prevent public ownership and competition.

That is the real fear of the utility barons. It haunts their dreams to contemplate the day when the people will compare the records of cities which have privately owned and operated plants with those of the holding company variety.

They fear even more the idea that the day may come when the people will control their public service commission and have public ownership of that body instead of private management.

So it becomes important that precedent be established for the guidance of commissioners who may come into office after some of the present messenger boys are sent back home by a Governor with no secret or other commitments to these interests.

That two members of the commission rebelled against further enslavement is a sign of progress. That helps to break down the growing tradition of insult omnipotence in this state.

About These Slums

Most American cities have improved or abandoned their wretched white tenement districts. There remain the slums in which the country's migrating Negro populations are forced to dwell.

In a report to be made to the coming national conference on home building and home ownership in Washington on Dec. 2 the committee on Negro housing finds that "overcrowding, dilapidated structures with primitive sanitary arrangements, high rents and unusual difficulties in financing home ownership are the rule rather than the exception in Negro housing."

On the one hand Negro populations in urban centers have increased by 32.3 per cent in the last decade. On the other, the colored strangers are denied homes in the new subdivisions and are forced to find shelter in the "run-down districts" abandoned by the whites. In northern cities only 9 to 50 per cent of these buildings meet moderate standards.

Here is a timely and double opportunity for the cities. By razing and rebuilding these dwellings they will provide employment for their jobless citizens; at the same time they will be ending a social nuisance, a health menace and a moral stigma.

Local communities and states last year paid 78 per cent of all unemployment relief costs through taxes. The new community chest report to the Gifford committee shows that in the 131 cities reporting their chest drives only 30 per cent of relief is being met from private funds.

Since jobs are better than charity, the cities would be doing themselves double service by paying out these sums in wages for public works, especially for the conversion of slums.

No public work is more pressing than that of making American cities fit for human habitation.

For the Treaties

Now is the time for the state department to declare publicly that it will hold Japan responsible for any further violation of the (American) nine-power treaty and the (American) Kellogg pact in Manchuria.

Nothing short of the most open and vigorous pressure by the United States, the strongest nation in the world and Japan's richest customer, will preserve international respect for those treaties.

Japan has modified her militarism every time the United States has co-operated with other neutral nations to preserve the world's peace machinery. But just as soon as Washington pulls away, breaking the united front, Japan takes advantage of the division to drive her army deeper into Manchuria.

Ten weeks ago Japan made her first thrust, and then waited to see what the United States would do to uphold the American treaties. When the state department did nothing, Japan made a second plunge. Then, driven by the pressure of American public opinion, the state department belatedly announced that it would co-operate with the league which had begun the task of protecting the neglected American treaties.

At once Japan tempered her policy. But a few days later the state department reversed its brief policy of international co-operation, and the Japanese army promptly moved forward as the Japanese government and press cheered the state department for its hands-off policy.

This week, under pressure of public and press opinion and forty-one peace organizations, President Hoover has swung back to a very timorous and mild form of co-operation with the league council in trying to salvage the violated American treaties. Japan

at once registered her sensitiveness to such a united front of neutrals by starting to talk peace.

But Japan has talked peace before, has promised to withdraw troops before, and each time she has been able to wiggle out of any peace agreement because the neutral nations could not count on the United States at the critical moment.

Now, in the midst of Japan's latest armistice talk, the Japanese armies are driving onward in violation of Tokio's pledges. Will the state department withdraw support from the neutral nations again, or will the state department definitely, permanently and publicly cut loose from the Japanese war lords? It is one course or the other.

If the state department publicly will inform Japan that America will not continue friendly relations with any violator of American treaties, Japan will think twice before becoming an outlawed nation.

It is not our job to side with China against Japan. It is our job, our definite pledged responsibility, to side with the American treaties against Japan or any other violator. If America herself will respect the treaties they can be saved.

That is the issue. What happens to Manchuria is of minor importance. What happens to the world's peace machinery is terribly important.

Cunha's Conscience

When a man nurses a consuming hatred for another for fifteen years it's a pretty good sign that he has wronged that man and knows it.

Edward A. Cunha, former assistant district attorney of San Francisco, took part in the attempt to hang Tom Mooney on perjured testimony. Today Cunha is the only one of the old anti-Mooney prosecution who openly opposes pardon for the man he wronged. Displaying the old savagery of trial days he swears he will crash the Walker-Wals-Sapiro hearing before Governor Ralph on Dec. 1 and oppose the pardon "if I have to fight my way in."

Cunha should let time bury his hatreds—as have his ex-chief, Charles Flickert, and Billings' prosecutor, James Breman, who confessed himself "blinded by the chase" and sorry.

The record against Cunha is sordid enough to discredit him before he starts. For instance:

Cunha to Flickert (as heard by the Wilson dictator)—"Chief, if you can get a witness who will put Mrs. Mooney at Stewart and Market streets I and oppose the pardon if I have to fight my way in."

That is the real fear of the utility barons. It haunts their dreams to contemplate the day when the people will compare the records of cities which have privately owned and operated plants with those of the holding company variety.

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Indirect Censorship

The case of Dr. Antonio Barcelo proves that the same eternal vigilance that has kept the press free through the years is required to safeguard freedom of the air.

Dr. Barcelo, former president of the Porto Rican senate, was refused the right to broadcast a speech in Porto Rican independence. Although this subject has been discussed freely for years in the newspapers and an official appeal for independence once was carried by Colonel Lindbergh from the island to President Coolidge, station WMCA and the Columbia broadcasting system refused to carry his talk on the ground that it violated "the principle of the federal radio commission."

The national council on freedom from censorship protested to the radio commission, and was told that he was refused the right to broadcast a speech in Porto Rican independence. Although this subject has been discussed freely for years in the newspapers and an official appeal for independence once was carried by Colonel Lindbergh from the island to President Coolidge, station WMCA and the Columbia broadcasting system refused to carry his talk on the ground that it violated "the principle of the federal radio commission."

But the important point is that we are able to do things we couldn't do before, and that there is always romance in achievement. Indeed, there isn't much romance in anything else, when you come to think about it.

Whether in diving, war, banking or raising flowers, men get their greatest kick out of doing something now, something different, something better.

But the important point is that we are able to do things we couldn't do before, and that there is always romance in achievement. Indeed, there isn't much romance in anything else, when you come to think about it.

According to Professor Hatcher Hughes, chairman of the national council, cases are numerous in which stations and the commission evade responsibility for censorship, but nevertheless continue to impose censorship.

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Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

ON Nov. 28, 1918, the text of an alleged secret treaty between France, Great Britain, Russia and Italy was given out at Petrograd.

The "agreement" sanctioned the annexation by Italy of certain territories in return for entering the entente alliance.

The "agreement" also engaged to brand as inadmissible the intervention of Pope Benedict with a view to stopping the war.

The document was said to have been signed in London on April 26, 1915, by Sir Edward (later Viscount) Grey, former foreign secretary; Paul Cambon, French ambassador to Great Britain, and Count Benckendorff, Russian ambassador to Great Britain.

It was also said to contain a memorandum from the Italian ambassador at London to the foreign office and the allied ambassadors.

According to the Bolshevik revelations, Italy was to have the assistance of the French and British naval forces until the Austrian navy was destroyed.

Yet the author of "The Sirens of Washington" probably is correct in all her theories. I have no doubt that not one of all these men who rule the destinies of the nation but would prefer his party to drive her army deeper into Manchuria.

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At once Japan tempered her policy. But a few days later the state department reversed its brief policy of international co-operation, and the Japanese army promptly moved forward as the Japanese government and press cheered the state department for its hands-off policy.

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M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Now a Submarine Builder Proposes to Walk Down a Spiral Stairway to the Very Deck of the Lusitania!

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—Of course you have read about Simon Lake's plan to visit the wreck of the Lusitania, take photographs of the main dining saloon and salvage some of the treasures and trinkets that have lain submerged for sixteen years.

What wouldn't you give to participate in the adventure, or, at all events, be present.

Salvage is an old, old trade, but an exploit like this comes only once in a blue moon. A World war was required to make it possible, as well as such apparatus as only modern science can produce.

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Sunken Millions

IT'S a far cry from that day when a naked diver came back to tell Sir William Phipps that he had "seen great guns down there," and when, after infinite labor, thirty-two tons of encrusted silver had been lifted from the wreck of a Spanish galleon sunk decades before, but the treasure hunt, especially at the bottom of the sea, remains the same old fascinating adventure.

Over off the coast of France, an Italian firm has been at work on the wreck of the Egypt, 400 feet down, blasting through deck after deck, ripping off steel plate by twenty-foot strips, all because there is known to be \$5,000,000 in gold in her strong room.

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Dreadnaught Fleated

IN Scapa Flow, even greater operations have taken place, with thirty ships which once belonged to the German navy and which were scuttled by their crews after surrender, already brought to the surface, among them the 28,000-ton dreadnaught Hindenburg, largest vessel ever to be raised.

We haven't heard so much about this enterprise, chiefly because it centered around junk, instead of treasure. Somehow, it doesn't seem quite the same thing to raise a ship for scrap iron that it does for gold, though it may take more skill.

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A Half Mile 'Down'

WETHERET in the form of scrap iron, gold, or pearls, and whether put there as a result of human cussedness, or natural force, treasure at the bottom of the sea has lured men, causing them not only to take great risks but to make great improvements.

Beebe has been down half a mile in his hollow steel ball designed to withstand the enormous pressure, and now Lake, inventor and builder of submarines, proposes to walk down a spiral stairway enclosed in a five-foot steel tube to the very deck of the Lusitania.

At the lower end of this tube will be a steel room, eight feet wide, eight feet high and twelve feet long, which can be converted into an air-lock, and from which divers can go out into the water, but which will not be under pressure at other times.

Lake says that he expects to enjoy a smoke in that room, and to experience no more discomfort than he would at the surface.

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Romance in Achievement

SUCH performances seem quite out of line with the diving traditions on which us older folks were brought up, and which included little but a rubber suit, brass helmet, air hose and pump.

Some will have it that romance has been driven out of another field, and sigh for those "good old days," when a diver took his life in his hands every time he went down 100 feet or more.

But the morale of the team was undermined by those who loaded it too heavily with laurel wreaths before the remark had gone unchallenged. But the morale of the team was undermined by those who loaded it too heavily with laurel wreaths before the remark had gone unchallenged.

A good eleven became a great deal less than that in its critical encounter because of the lack of skill of the young divers.

But the important point is that we are able to do things we couldn't do before, and that there is always romance in achievement. Indeed, there isn't much romance in anything else, when you come to think about it.

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Heavy Burden of Praise

AND in particular the Harvard captain, Barry Wood, was rendered less than effective by being made the target for too much praise.

He was pictured in the press and sometimes on the air as a sort of cross between young Shelley and Machiavelli.

He was credited with practically a magical skill in tossing the ball. The legend grew that Wood could not lose and that he must prevail at the eleventh hour.

As a result, a pleasant young man and skillful player became self-conscious in the Yale game and held his best attacking weapons until it was too late. He