



## The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

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

### A Great Speech

Al Smith has done it again. With his speech demanding federal relief for the unemployed and for business revival, Smith has stepped far out in front of most of the political and business leaders of the country.

He has taken the relief and reconstruction program of the La Follette-Costigan Progressive minority and put it squarely before the timorous Democratic politicians. And by putting it up to the Democratic political machine in congress, he also has put the Hoover do-nothing policy on the spot.

Speaking at the Jackson day dinner in Washington—which traditionally opens the presidential campaign of his party—Smith thrust into a general ballyhoo affair the sober and crusading spirit of a leader determined to bring relief to his suffering country.

As he rose to address a meeting crowded with his party opponents, he was expected to dwell chiefly on prohibition. His opponents long had accused him of trying to make prohibition the major issue, to the neglect of economic issues. But his remarks on the folly of prohibition were as brief as they were effective. The same was true of his description of the bankruptcy of Republican administration leadership.

He was not there to talk party politics. He was there to talk human misery and the way out.

He proceeded to declare this a war-like emergency, in which the federal government must carry the load which has become too heavy for exhausted private and local agencies alone. He appealed for another great Liberty loan—not only to save the 8,000,000 unemployed and their hungry families, but to save the whole business structure which can be revived by this new purchasing power of the masses.

We ask all our readers—not as Democrats, or Republicans, or Progressives, but as Americans—to study Smith's discussion of unemployment and business relief. It is not a cure-all. But it does point the way.

Until congress enacts some relief program of this type—now before it in the form of the La Follette bills—there is little chance of breaking the back of the depression.

Smith's statement of the case is based on the facts—facts that have been investigated and vouched for by the long list of charity workers, relief experts, and economists, who have appeared at the La Follette committee hearings.

Here are the Smith highlights:

"I am in complete sympathy with all constructive and workable plans for international adjustments and expansion of credit, but these can not be worked out in time to solve the immediate problem of unemployment.

"With respect to the third (unemployment relief), the federal government plan is to pass it along to the states, their localities, and to private charities. As to this problem, I consider the attitude of the administration to be indefensible, inasmuch as it already has been proved that the states, localities and private charities can not cope with it. Cities and localities have exceeded their debt limit and face constantly decreasing revenues..."

"I have served on all the (New York) committees so far brought into existence, whether public or private, for the relief of this situation and I am prepared to state definitely that, notwithstanding an appropriation of \$10,000,000 by the city of New York, \$8,000,000 by the state of New York, and \$20,000,000 more by private gift for our citizenship, we are able only to scratch the surface in New York City, and only for a short time at that.

"We are a long way from bringing any full measure of relief. I am informed reliably that this condition prevails throughout the United States. The direct results of this (present) form of relief are two. One is to extend charity to people in their homes, and the other is to provide work of no lasting benefit to the taxpayers whose money is appropriated. It is nothing more or less than a disguised dole..."

"We absolutely must forget politics and we must regard the United States to be in a state of war. It is a war against unemployment, disease and malnutrition..."

"I suggest, first, an issue of federal bonds for necessary public improvements, as distinguished from so-called made work... I believe they should be offered direct to the American public exactly as the Liberty bonds were offered, through an appeal on an honest desire to take care of the men, women and children who are in distress, whether they have been blacklisted by a coal company, belong to a union, or have been handed a radical pamphlet.

"Tragedy Blundering

"A program of reconstruction will amount to anything if based on coal. Coal never will put all the people in this district, or anywhere near all, back to work. The all-important question is to find other resources of wealth and other operators for work. While it can not be solved overnight, it will have to be solved before the people of this district can be made self-supporting to a reasonable extent."

"Wilbur J. Carr, assistant secretary of state, who received newspaper correspondents in the absence from the department of Secretary Stimson, referred them to Moore's Digest of International Law, and that contains prominently the assertion that 'insults by a foreign government to a consul or encroachment by it on his rights will justify a demand that, in addition to other redress, the flag of the United States shall be honored with a salute!'"

"Is Memory So Short?

"D O we have to go through all that again? Distinctly I remember the controversy which raged between us and Mexico about just such a demand. And when it was all over the dead of both nations lay along the streets of Vera Cruz, and not a single living man can say that any good came of it.

"The most pacific are less than wise if they maintain that war can not come again. Certain steps exist which can be pressed to rouse the fighting feeling. It seems to me that before this stage is reached we should sit calmly and consider the human and the international values involved. When the bugles blow only those completely insulated can keep a tight rein upon their emotions."

"Just now scareheads have been written because Culver B. Chamberlain, an official representative of the United States, was struck several times by a civil interpreter

"V ERY probably it is true that the Japanese do not like us and have no disposition to be overeager in saluting American pride. Yet it is true that we have done almost nothing to create a warmer feeling of comradeship between the countries."

"It is from such that we get the demands for salutes and fanatics."

"The man who cries 'All for America and the world well lost!' is the very one who would have our armies and our navies on the scent of insults real and fancied."

"I am sorry that Culver B. Chamberlain was slapped around by soldiers on a lonely road near Mukden in the early morning. But I do not believe for an instant that such an incident or even a more flagrant one is worth the life of any farm boy in Nebraska."

"It's a long way to Mukden. Let's keep the camphor jammed down the mouth of the trumpets and the cotton in the fifes."

(Continued, page 2)

"Less Than Conciliatory

"T HE Japanese do not like us and have no disposition to be overeager in saluting American pride."

"The honor of the United States is a thing which ought to be rooted in our deeds and aspirations and not in any consular cuticle."

"All Nations Know Them

"A ND it would be idle to deny that jingoes exist across the waters. Mr. Hearst, for all his avowed devotion to a complete attitude of isolation and first page patriotism, is an international symbol. His counterpart exists in Britain, in France and in Japan."

"And it seems to me that these men who argue for a complete pro-Americanism are the very ones who betray their own theory. They do not actually mean what they say, for there is no so truculent as the avowed advocate of complete isolation."

"It is from such that we get the demands for salutes and fanatics."

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(Continued, page 2)

"The Movies

"If you are interested in the movies—as most people are—then you will enjoy reading and keeping for reference, a packet of five bulletins on the subject that our Washington bureau has ready for you. They are:

1. Directory of Motion Picture Stars
2. Popular Men of the Screen
3. Popular Women of the Screen
4. Picture and Radio Stars
5. The History of Motion Pictures

If you want this packet of five bulletins, fill out the coupon below and mail as directed:

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I am a reader of The Indianapolis Times. (Code No. \_\_\_\_\_)

## M. E. Tracy

SAYS:

Coal Never Will Put All the People in Kentucky's Mine District Back to Work. Other Resources Must Be Found.

K NOXVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 8.—The coal district of southeastern Kentucky includes all of Bell and Harlan counties as well as a small area at the western tip of Virginia. Roughly speaking, it is a long, narrow strip of land, running from northeast to southwest, containing about one thousand square miles and 100,000 people, and inclosed by two parallel mountain ranges. Between these ranges are spurs, peaks and hogbacks, cut by deep, crooked valleys through which run brooks, creeks and rivers.

In prehistoric times, this region was the bed of a great lake or marsh, supporting the gigantic jungle lush, which eventually decayed and was converted into coal by the pressure of earth and rocks which succeeding ages accumulated above it. Then came a long period of rain and flood, with endless volumes of water cutting channels for drainage, not only down through the accumulation of earth, but down through the coal beds themselves, leaving the latter some 300 or 400 feet above the bottom of the valleys as they exist today.

Poor in Prosperity

M INING operations consist of opening the mountain side where the coal bed shows up, digging straight in on a level and delivering coal to the valley below in chutes.

In these valleys are located the company offices, company stores and company houses, where the miners live for a nominal rent, and through them run the railroads by which the coal is delivered to outside markets.

Even in prosperous times the average mining camp would strike an outsider, especially if he came from a modern city, as very poor. The houses are small, consisting of only two or three rooms, cheaply built, seldom painted and wholly without those conveniences which have come to be looked upon as necessary in even the poorest dwellings of an ordinary, up-to-date village.

They are poor, even when compared to the houses where laborers dwell in such towns as Harlan, Pineville or Middlesboro. With one-third of the miners idle and the rest getting only two or three days' work each week, these camps present an unusually distressing appearance.

Probes, Talk Futile

O BVIOUSLY, such a situation calls for something more substantial than strikes, agitation, or a ruthless exercise of legal authority. It presents problems that are only made more difficult by political crusades and industrial disturbances.

Scratching the raw spots does no good. Such investigations as have been made and such stories as have been published will not accomplish their full purpose unless they lead to a program of immediate relief and permanent reconstruction for this district.

In order to be effective and helpful, such relief measures as are adopted must be free from a controversial aspect, and must be based on an honest desire to take care of the men, women and children who are in distress, whether they have been blacklisted by a coal company, belong to a union, or have been handed a radical pamphlet.

"More land has been brought under cultivation than can be farmed, if farming is well done, without creating burdensome agricultural surpluses. Public policies now taking shape to rectify with forest lands on which agriculture no longer can be practiced successfully, and cut-over lands formerly thought to be destined for agricultural use."

In view of the plight of the farmer and the steady dwindling of our timber supply, here is a proposal that deserves a great deal of thought.

Fewer Farms, More Forests

The annual report of Robert B. Stuart, United States forester in the Pacific northwest, contains an idea that is well worth consideration in a land where agriculture has been ailing for so long. For it is Mr. Stuart's idea that the nation needs fewer farms and more forests, and he says:

"More land has been brought under cultivation than can be farmed, if farming is well done, without creating burdensome agricultural surpluses. Public policies now taking shape to rectify with forest lands on which agriculture no longer can be practiced successfully, and cut-over lands formerly thought to be destined for agricultural use."

"Jake the Barber" is being extradited to England to face a swindling charge. He hardly could expect to get away with that in these days when England wouldn't even give Gandhi freedom.

And, while the United States is said to be the largest producer of sole leather, it's evident that the depression is making a little record of its own in producing leather souls.

Alexander Pantages, the showman, threw a party for the jurors who acquitted him, but four did not attend. Perhaps in planning his entertainment, he should have been more forward.

Now it transpires that monkey glands will not do it habitually. But after all that's happened since the Garden of Eden it doesn't make much difference whether or not that snake had the

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