



# The Indianapolis Times

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

## Utility Stupidity

The arrogant attitude of the public utilities of this state has reached the point of stupidity.

When property owners are appalled by the size of tax burdens, when commodity prices have reached the lowest levels for years, when more men are out of jobs than ever before in history, the utilities take the stand that they will continue to collect on valuations fixed at highest prices for commodities and for labor.

The people know that the cost of utilities is in reality a tax on business and industry and a tax on the privilege of living. Modern life can not be supported without electricity and telephones and gas and water.

A leading official of the bankers' association predicts a reduction, nationally, of 30 per cent in rates during the year. In Indiana, the utility magnates insist on no reductions whatever.

The history of utility regulation probably gives them some reason to believe that they can continue with their confiscation of the people's property. What has been denied them by the public service commission has been awarded by the courts. In all cases, there has been delay after delay in getting relief so that they can hope, with some reason, that the protests of hundreds of cities of this state can be held up until the depression is over and normal times return.

But that very attitude of intolerance is causing people to think about the utility problem and is forcing a conviction that regulation, under present laws, is impossible and that more drastic remedies must be found to curb the greed of those who have been so heavy a burden even in prosperous days and an intolerable burden in slack times.

The secret meeting of the officials and citizens committee of Indianapolis with one member of the commission on water and electric rates for Indianapolis may have some results. If it means that rates are to be cut, the public will be satisfied with secrecy. If it means that there is to be no redress, the public is entitled to know the reason for the secrecy imposed upon officials by the member of the public service commission.

The time has come to start a real movement for a change in laws. Cities must have the power to construct new utilities as one way of escape. Cities which now own their utilities must be free from commission domination.

Above all, the utility holding company, a useful system of collecting huge profits and unusual returns, must be put under official scrutiny.

The election of a legislature and Governor free from utility control and influence becomes imperative if these stupid magnates insist on being greedy when all other business suffers.

## The Ground Hog

Another prophet without honor in his own land is the groundhog. His long-established reputation as a weather forecaster is being assailed by Arthur H. Howell, United States department of agriculture biologist.

According to tradition, Mr. Groundhog is due to come out of his hibernation Tuesday, squint his weather eye, and look for his shadow. If he sees it, he returns to his sleep for another six weeks of hard winter; if not, winter's over.

Howell now says there's no record of any groundhog, woodchuck, or weasel or mooncock or wensuk or any of this fellow's many names, ever waking up earlier than later February. So Howell advises us to put our faith in government meteorologists instead of furry mammals.

For ourselves, we still believe in groundhogs. We've watched government prophets at work lately. They have come out of their holes so often to tell us that this winter of discontent is over, and prosperity is around the corner. No groundhog could be a worse prophet.

## Unconscious Humor on the Grand Scale

It is to be expected that man, as the highest member of the monkey tribe, would be a funny animal in the very literal sense of that term. But a large block of human humor is of an entirely unconscious variety. Two conspicuous examples have occurred recently.

A former Kentuckian, Lieutenant Thomas H. Massie, is to be tried for murder in Honolulu. The Kentucky assembly adopted unanimously a resolution calling on the government to insure the immediate release of Lieutenant Massie and the others accused of murder. The assembly asked that, if necessary, martial law be declared.

"If such result can not be secured, that the President declare martial law in Honolulu until such time as Hawaii can be made safe for women and especially the wives of our men in the army and navy, who, not of their own volition, are stationed in Honolulu."

It may seem a little strange that Kentucky, which has convicted two honorable labor leaders of murder because of their organizing activities and economic ideas, should demand the release of a Kentucky naval officer without trial.

Let us, however, accept Kentucky's version of Hawaii for the time being. Can Kentucky, with its Harlan, appropriately cast aspersions on social and moral conditions in our island possessions? Hardly. The mining section around Harlan is an armed camp. Honest investigators can not enter without grave danger to their lives or personal freedom. Low wages are paid to the mine workers. There is a vast amount of unemployment.

Workers live under physical conditions often worse than those which surround the mine mules. They are subjected to extortion at company stores, which sell goods at from 30 to 50 per cent above the level charged by free competing stores in the locality.

Famine stalks. Many die from slow starvation and from chronic diseases induced by inadequate food. Company-controlled deputies intimidate and even shoot down those who attempt to maintain soup kitchens to feed the starving. Court room procedure in the trial of accused labor leaders resembles that in the Mooney-Billings, Sacco-Vanzetti and Centralia trials.

Men are tried for murder on account of their social, economic and political opinions. Newspapers are throttled if they propose to tell the plain truth about the methods of the prosecution.

We have no desire to differ with Kentucky on the question of rape in Honolulu or elsewhere. It is a crime which should be repressed sternly. But let any thoughtful man consider whether all the rape since Eden has been as inhuman or brutal as the conditions now prevailing in Harlan and adjacent districts. Is it worse to mistreat a woman or deliberately to starve her to death or condemn her to die from wasting diseases?

To be more specific, is even the horrible Bischoff case in Cincinnati as staggering as the wholesale starvation and disease among little girls in the Har-

lan area? The murder of Marian McLean by Charles Bischoff was one of the most hideous crimes in the annals of violence.

But her death was relatively humane compared to the prolonged suffering of the starving and wasting waifs in the Kentucky coal fields. Let the Kentucky assembly try to laugh this off before it assumes to dictate social conditions and court room justice in Honolulu.

The second major instance of unconscious humor on the grand scale is the successful persecution of the cast of "Lysistrata" in Los Angeles, until the players finally gave up the effort in disgust and canceled further performances.

This will stir a sardonic smile among those who have followed the persecution of Mooney and Billings, the attempt to railroad Yetta Stromberg to prison, the fierce sentence imposed upon those who would better the horrible conditions among melon workers in the Imperial valley, the labor policies of the Better America Federation of Los Angeles, and the atrocities against elementary American traditions of freedom and justice committed by the Los Angeles red squad.

"Lysistrata" is a classical play of great dramatic merit, though there admittedly are a number of rather "broad" passages. Yet Mae West at her worst could not produce anything to compare with the fundamental immorality of many outstanding social and economic conditions in California. Indeed, it is doubtful if any peep-show ever put on in Paris is as much of an affront to really vital social morality as the unjust imprisonment of Mooney and Billings for fifteen years.

A state which accepts Oxman can hardly reject "Lysistrata."

## Japanese Insanity

In the Shanghai crisis there is one element of hope. The united front of neutral nations has been re-established. It was broken first by the United States in refusing to co-operate with the League of Nations last November, and more recently it was broken by the European powers in refusing to join with the American protest to Japan.

Now the Japan invasion of the international settlement of Shanghai apparently has forced the neutral governments together again.

It is too late now to blame the state department for its gross errors of policy during the last four months, or to harp on the apparent encouragement given to Japan during the last month by France and Great Britain. It is even too late to talk about Japan's imperialistic designs in Manchuria.

The Shanghai crisis can not be attributed to Japanese imperialism or anything else that connotes plan or thought. It is a case of plain madness. Certainly this Shanghai savagery can not possibly profit Japan in any way.

On the contrary, it is turning the world against her. And far from ending a Chinese boycott, it will make Chinese hatred of Japan in the future almost a religion.

Japan has outlawed herself. That act carries its own retribution. No nation can live unto itself alone. Some day—maybe in a month, maybe in a year, maybe longer—Japan will come back and beg to be respected and trusted again.

Then she will pay heavily for this madness. Then she will learn, as other nations have learned before her, that her militarists destroyed her.

Whatever further insanity the Japanese militarists may be guilty of, the United States should not go to war against them. We have no mandate to police the world. We can not protect vast China by force of American arms.

Nor can we preserve American interests by killing Japanese. Even if we were victors in a war, we would lose more than we would gain.

Patience is required of us now, more than anything else. As the world's most powerful nation and as the world's credit control, the United States can wait. Soon or late, Japan must come to us.

When she does come to us, there is bound to be an accounting under the American treaties which the Japanese militarists mistakenly think they have destroyed.

Detroit has followed Philadelphia's suit in closing museums and recreational centers. Anyway, jobless men can stand outside and marvel at the beautiful buildings.

Pittsburgh averaged a murder a week in 1931. But with women having the privilege of making mistakes, too, this leap year, maybe they can bring up the average a little in 1932.

Chicago officials are taking big pay slashes. If this keeps on politicians will have to let out Al Capone to bring back prosperity.

## Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

IS there such a thing as the curse of Eve? If so, I can name it for you. It is that woman is doomed forever to pick up after man. And each new freedom she obtains adds to the difficulty and number of her tasks.

In countless homes each morning, women go washing dishes, putting away shaving things, straightening the disarray that men have made at their nocturnal rites.

And in countless offices each evening, other women put away letters in files, gather up documents and tie up the tangled threads of business that the day's doings have sundereed. And scrubwomen crawl upon sore knees brushing ashes away, hunting down cigarette stubs and bits of paper carelessly scattered.

Yet these, my sisters, are the easiest of our jobs. Today, when the governmental structure is tottering, and man, with reckless disregard for consequences, has undermined the financial foundation of his land, he begins to cry for women to come to his aid.

It is cleanup time now. We must wash up after the great stock market feast. The national dinner plate is empty. He is asking us to fill it. There is filth in Uncle Sam's house. Let women begin their scrubbing.

EVEN at this job, helpless as we feel before it, we would not rebel. But there is a task, the weariest of them all, over which we have grown impatient. It is our role upon the battlefields of the world.

For here, too, without having been given a voice in its making, we must pick up after men. And as the wisdom of the male.

Periodically we watch him go, like a small boy at play, marching prettily, drums beating a wild tattoo, bent upon his madcap escapade, engaged in his deadliest mischief, war.

Carelessly, recklessly, as he tosses down his worn linen and scanned newspaper, he scatters devastation and death in the sweet, clean places of the earth. And after his lust has passed, he comes back, bidding us call him hero.

Is this woman's doom? Must hers forever be the job of cleaning up a house, a city, a country, a world, that her men have shamelessly dirtied?

## M. E. Tracy

Says:

There Is Temptation in the Feeling That One Possesses the Power to Kill or Conquer, and That Feeling Has a Vital Bearing on War.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—The disarmament conference which opens at Geneva Tuesday is the first of its kind ever held. Others have been called to deal with some particular phase of the problem, or to consider its bearing on some particular area, but this one includes the whole world and is without restraint as to what it may study, or recommend.

Sixty-four governments will be represented, nine of them not members of the League of Nations. It will remain in session as long as there is attendance feel that it is worth while. It will be free to entertain any kind of plan and propose any kind of reduction with regard to military establishments.

The fact that all governments could be persuaded to participate in such a conference marks a great step in advance.

## Deep-Seated Faith

IN several respects the atmosphere appears singularly unfavorable to disarmament. With a depression on, with the war debt problem unsolved and with war threatened in the Orient, people are in no mood to make drastic moves in discarding their traditional means of protection.

But if there were not deep-seated hope and faith back of it all, the conference would have been abandoned, or postponed.

That humanity should be willing to go through with it, in spite of all the difficulties and discouragements, bespeaks the presence of a new and powerful attitude.

No matter how dimly the peace movement may have failed in some of its plans and efforts, one can not review what has occurred during the last fourteen years without being convinced that the desire for a new order has been born.

## A New Viewpoint

WHATEVER else may be said, humanity has reached a point where it can visualize unrestricted armament by individual governments as a menace and the unrestricted power to make war as a danger.

That is not only a new, but a very big idea. It stands for little less than a revolution in the general conception of national rights, international relations, state sovereignty and patriotism.

Even the more civilized portions of humanity will not accept all the changes, concessions and surrenders such an idea involves, without protracted discussion and, possibly, conflict.

At present, we merely are dealing with details of the experiment. The League of Nations is a detail, and so are the world court, Kellogg pact and disarmament.

## Power to Conquer

NO one but a child thinks of disarmament as a cure-all for war. Men have fought without the advantage of modern weapons, and they could do so again. If we were to scrap every gun, battleship or airplane, we still could have war, and murderous war at that.

But arms exercise a psychological influence on the people. If Japan did not believe that her well-equipped and well-trained army were capable of beating China's vastly superior numbers she would be far less ready to resort to force.

There is temptation in the feeling that one possesses the power to kill, and that feeling has a vital bearing on war.

## Still Need Police

THE thought that we can scrap our armies, or that it would be wise to do so if we could, is chimerical. We are still a long way from that ideal state of mind where we can hope to maintain order without a police force even in small and highly intelligent communities.

The problem of maintaining order throughout the world rests on the same fundamental principles that apply to the village of a thousand souls.

Anti-gun-toting laws will help, but not to an extent that solves the problem. Primarily, they stand for a new and healthier idea of social relations and responsibilities.

To that extent, they serve an essential purpose, but no one should accept them as an excuse to ignore the larger task that still remains.

Disarmament, whether as applied to a little town, or to the whole world, merely clears the way for constructive action. At best, it is a negative remedy.

## Questions and Answers

The first telegraph company was organized by Samuel F. B. Morse and associates in 1845, under the name of the Magnetic Telegraph Company, which constructed a telegraph line between Philadelphia and Morristown, N. J.

The following year this line was extended to New York. In 1856 the Western Union Company was formed by combining the Erie and Michigan Telegraph Company and the New York and Mississippi River Valley Telegraph Company. In 1862 a telegraph line across the North American continent was completed and put in operation. In 1885 the Postal Telegraph Commercial Cable system was established by John W. Mackay, beginning with a few wires between the largest commercial centers in the eastern and western states, and one trans-Atlantic cable.

How many bones are there in the bodies of adult males and females. Two hundred fourteen in both sexes.

What is the total value of the chemicals contained in a human body? It has been estimated that they would cost slightly less than \$1.

What is the maiden name of Alexander Hamilton's mother? Rachel Fawcett.

## Not Very Exciting for the Spectators



## DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## Colds Related to Serious Ailments

This is the first of five articles on the prevention and treatment of the common cold. In these stories, written especially for NEA and The Times, Dr. Morris Fishbein, eminent medical authority, will explain the causes of the common cold, how to avoid infection, and what to do if you get one.

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEGIN  
Editor Journal of the American Medical Association and of Eyeria, the Health Magazine.

THE common cold continues to be one of the most serious of all the conditions that affect mankind, not because of the actual distress that it may cause in itself, but frequently because of its relationship to the breaking down of resistance and to other diseases.

It is the most frequent infection of the respiratory tract, and it is responsible for a tremendous loss of time from industry. Moreover,

it bears some relationship to the onset of pneumonia and bronchopneumonia.

The average man is content to say that he has a cold. Scientifically, the condition has been called acute catarrhal fever, acute coryza or what is commonly called a head cold, acute catarrhal rhinitis, which means inflammation of the nose and refers to the way in which the nose runs, and the most general term, acute infection of the upper respiratory tract.

The symptoms commonly associated with a cold frequently are seen previously to such diseases as influenza, measles, scarlet fever, and most acute infectious diseases.

There has been much argument as to whether or not the common cold is in any way concerned by changes in temperature.

Epidemiologists who keep track of

the incidence of disease find that the common cold is far more frequent during the changeable weather in spring and early winter than at other seasons.

One of the statisticians of a large life insurance company found that a sudden drop of 10 degrees in the temperature brought an increase of 18 cents per week among 6,700 employees in the office.

Vast numbers of people who are fairly good observers of their own condition are convinced that some colds begin when there is some sudden strain on their heat regulating mechanism.

An investigation made by Professor E. O. Jordan of the University of Chicago indicated that 90 per cent of colds occur at a time when there is less ventilation both in public and in private dwellings and a greater tendency to overcrowding.

## IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

NEWTON D. BAKER'S statement on national issues suggests to me that here is still another Democratic aspirant who would rather be candidate than candid.

It is true that Mr. Baker reaffirms his personal faith in the League of Nations, but that it is well known he hardly could afford to deny it. And he does distinctly suggest that the whole matter can be left in abeyance, for this year's campaign at any rate.

In justifying this attitude, he explains that he wants to take the League issue out of politics. That is precisely what all the prohibition puffyooters say in regard to that problem.

It seems to me that the brilliant gentleman from Cleveland has added his weight to an extremely harmful error. It is the custom for presidential candidates to avoid all contentious issues and to compete in platitudes.

## It Seems There Was—

THERE was once upon a time a puffed Methodist preacher who accepted a call to a city church. He came to his new charge filled with zeal and fire, and the senior deacon visited him to talk over the subject of the first sermon.

The preacher announced that he intended to strike out from the shoulder against dancing. The deacon wasn't much for that. Some of the young folk were in the habit of meeting in their own homes and turning on the radio. It would be just as well not to alienate this group.

Gambling was next suggested, but that might annoy the contract bridge crowd in the church. In desperation, the young minister exclaimed, "But what can I preach against?"

"Preach against the Moabites," said the old deacon. "Give 'em hell; They haven't got a friend in town."

It begins to look as if we were going to be in for a Moabitis campaign this autumn.

"Will prohibition be the big issue?" a reporter inquired, and Mr. Baker answered, "Obviously not." And that leaves out another ticklish question which can cut both ways in the matter of vote getting.

Of course, it won't be possible to take out of politics the biggest issue of all. We will hear a great deal from both Republicans and Democrats about unemployment. But that does not necessarily mean that there will be intelligent discussion of its causes and the remedies.

Like Moabitis, this is a safe issue. Nobody favors unemployment, so it will be entirely possible for both rivals to denounce joblessness on the same evening and lose no votes at all. It will be denounced in ringing tones, and the successful aspirant may merely be the one who chimes more sweetly on a national radio hookup.

## If I Were King

"I WOULD not take the United States into the league if I had the power to do so," said Newton Baker, "until there is an informed and convinced majority sentiment in favor of that action by the United States."

Mr. Baker could not take us into

pen as long as leaders are willing to keep this or that vital issue "out of politics."

I grant the ability and the fervor of Newton Baker, but I can't forget what a Cleveland friend of his once said.

"Newton," she remarked, "is a functioner. Put him at the head of a peace conference and he'll do a swell job. Make him secretary of war and he'll swing your conflict as you as well as any man. It doesn't matter where you drop him—Newton always will function."

And so I think we have a right to ask, "In what direction, Mr. Baker?" (Copyright, 1932, by The Times)

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## MARCH MADE CHIEF

ON Feb. 1, 1918, Major-General Peyton C. March was appointed chief of staff of the United States army.

Major-General March succeeded General Bliss, who continued on furlough as American military representative on the interallied war council. At the time of his appointment Major-General March was chief of artillery under General Pershing.

The Ukrainian republic was recognized by Germany and Austria-Hungary. The Bolsheviks captured Odessa and Orenburg, and took the Alexander Nevsky monastery in Petrograd.

A counter-revolutionary movement headed by Sinebrukoff and Wolk was discovered in Petrograd. Wolk was arrested and killed.

The Tartars held a constituent assembly in the ancient Tartar capital, Bakhtchisarai, and announced the establishment of an autonomous Crimean republic.

## SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

The Growing Importance of Chemistry in Industry Makes Outlook Bright for Students, Says Professor.

COLLEGE students now preparing to become chemical engineers and wondering what the depression has done to their chances of finding employment will be cheered up by the opinion of Prof. Alfred H. White of the University of Michigan.

With a potential demand for 2,600 new recruits each year, industry will find places for all present students of chemical engineering, according to Professor White.

He just has completed an analysis of the occupations and earnings of chemical engineering graduates for the American Chemical Society. He also finds that the salaries of the chemical engineers are in general a little ahead of those of other engineers.

Chemical engineers with B. S. degrees earn approximately \$1,800 their first year, \$2,700 after the fifth year, and \$4,000 by the end of the tenth year, according to figures for the median salaries of about 1,000 members of the profession.

Teachers and analysts are the poorest paid groups. Men with professional training usually are compensated for their additional study, Professor White says.

## Field Is Growing

FOUR groups employ almost half of all the chemical engineers in industry, Professor White finds. They are petroleum and steel industry, chemical products, chemical and allied products and food products.

He believes that eventually every industry will find the need of employing chemical engineers and that the saturation point for the profession is still in the future.

He holds this opinion in spite of the fact that during the last year there has been unemployment in the chemical engineering profession.

"The demand for chemical engineers during the prosperous years of 1924-1929 was much greater than the supply," Professor White points out.

The subsequent depression caused a sharp decrease in the demand and brought unemployment to a considerable number.

"The number of chemical engineering students in the United States has increased rapidly in recent years. In the year 1930-31 there were 9,667 students following chemical engineering and they formed one-eighth of the total students in colleges of engineering."

"There were other smaller groups following curricula labeled 'petroleum' with 691 students, ceramics with 627, and textiles with 300, which are evidently very closely related to chemical engineering."

"There were also a larger group in mining and metallurgy with 2,944 students, who, in so far as they become metallurgists, will enter chemical engineering fields. The number of seniors in chemical engineering proper was 1,277."

## 1,600 to Graduate

THE number of freshmen shown in the same table was 3,433, and it may be expected that from them there will be in 1934 about 1,600 graduates from the courses labeled 'chemical engineering' with several hundred additional coming from the specialized and closely related curricula," Professor White continues.

"This is a large number to be absorbed by industry, and the question may well be raised as to whether industry can use so many new recruits."

"It is notoriously unsafe to prophesy, but from the statistics presented it seems probable that even this number will find employment during periods of normal business activity. Almost all of the large industrial plants need for chemical engineers, either in large or small numbers."

"Some of them just are awakening to their needs, and it is in these as yet undeveloped fields that many of the future chemical engineers will find spheres of activity."

Highest salaries are paid to chemical engineers in the division of plant operation, general engineering and sales.

It is apparent that the chemical engineering curriculum should plan to fit its graduates for research, plant development and operation, and general engineering. Since 60 per cent of the graduates of these fields, according to Professor White,

## Daily Thought

Violence is risen up into a rod of wickedness; none of them shall remain, nor of their multitude, nor of any of their's: neither shall there be wailing for them. —Ezekiel 7:11

For never, never wicked man was wise.—Pope.

What is the nationality and meaning of the name Arnette? It is an Italian feminine name derived from the German and means, little eagle.

## Bridge Parties

Everybody and his grandmother are playing bridge—auction or contract. And there is no form of entertainment that a hostess can select that so easily solves the problem of a number of guests as a bridge party. It lends itself to the simplest or the most elaborate functions, and may be a feature of a luncheon, tea, afternoon or evening party. Our Washington bureau has ready for you its new bulletin on Bridge Parties that contains suggestions that any hostess will appreciate. It suggests score cards, prizes, tells how to run a progressive bridge party, auction or contract; covers the etiquette of bridge parties, benefit affairs, teas, luncheons and club affairs. Fill out the coupon below and mail as directed.

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