



# The Indianapolis Times

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

## Tax Relief

Semi-public committees which are trying to work out some solution for tax relief should not overlook the demands of Mayor Petro of Mishawaka.

His appeal to the Governor for a special session had behind it a purpose of getting money for the relief of human beings, but it would also accomplish the purpose of giving some relief from taxation.

He proposed that there be a vacation in the construction of concrete highways during the present year and that the millions collected from gasoline tax and auto license fees be diverted to the funds of counties for poor relief.

In every county of the state it is necessary to sell bonds to provide relief for unemployed, distributed through the township trustees.

Some counties are having trouble in selling bonds. In every county the bonds will be a mortgage on all the future, creating a new problem of taxation and piling up more difficulties.

A change in the laws that would send back the gasoline tax to its source during the emergency, spending it on dirt roads where men can be employed and in any event making the money available for relief might help out in the present situation. If Marion county could secure an even modest part of the present payments for license fees and gasoline tax, there would be less discontent over the amount of food that is now given to families which are compelled to live upon the dole.

Surveys show that the discontent is justified. In the race between economy and human needs, economy seems to be winning.

Too many families in this county are living below the minimum of subsistence and decency. A special session to divert present special taxes may be the way out.

## A Challenge to an Industry

In a reference yesterday to the current Fortune's article on America's housing we said:

"No one can face the facts without visioning the tremendous opportunity for social improvement that lies in the housing field, when prosperity does return."

And not only is the opportunity one for social improvement. The opportunity for economic improvement is stupendous, if ways can be devised to put the decent home within the reach of the as yet untouched market.

Were it possible for the building industry to do what the automobile industry already has done, there would be such a lift in the building business as to make the best years of the so-called boom seem skimpy by comparison.

Henry Ford led the way in the automobile industry with a practical application of the economic philosophy of "the cheaper the price, the larger the market."

He figured that so many persons could afford to buy cars at \$5,000, so many at \$1,000, and still so many more at \$500 and on down. He discovered that the total volume at \$500 would be a lot more than the total volume at \$5,000, by a sort of geometric progression.

So Ford's multimillions were made by increasing the number of possible customers through lowering the price of what he had to sell.

Whether such formula can be made to work in the building and selling of homes is a question involving elements not existent in the automobile industry, but certain it is, as pointed out in the Fortune article, that the building industry in the past has depended for its market only on the richest third of the nation's population.

"If the industry could build a good house to sell at \$3,600, it would double its post-war residential output, which in normal years has amounted to three billion dollars," says Fortune.

In other words, it would do six billion dollars' worth of business, even under present conditions, which is three times the volume involved in the government's great reconstruction corporation.

And when it is considered further that the building industry is the nation's major customer for lumber, stone, brick, paper, paint and glass, the second largest purchaser of steel, and in normal times pays America's largest wage bill, the possibilities in terms of national prosperity are almost too great to comprehend.

So that's the problem faced by one industry in this time when all industry is on trial.

How it meets the problem will contribute much toward answering the question of whether our industrial system as we of this generation know it is to survive or perish.

## Honor at Home

A little affair of honor at home, as important in its small way as obligations in Asia, confronts congress.

For generations the score of Pueblos in New Mexico, flower of surviving Indian culture in the west, owned and farmed their communal lands and tended their flocks, unmolested by the outside world. Spain and Mexico zealously honored their ancient holdings.

The United States, their guardian since 1848, was not so zealous. Hundreds of white trespassers moved in, while the white man's courts often blessed the invasion.

By 1920 some of the Pueblos had been squeezed into one-tenth of their former lands. Many faced starvation. In 1924 congress recognized the Indian bureau's neglect and passed the Pueblo lands act.

This act created a lands board to assess the Indians' losses and compensate them, also to pay those dispossessed whites who had occupied the lands in good faith since 1912.

After seven years' work and the expenditure of some \$400,000, the board made its awards. But, instead of standing by its own appraisers' estimates, it slashed the Indians' award from \$1,892,878 to \$559,226.

The pending Bratton-Cutting bill proposes to add, not the full appraisers' award, but about \$150,000 to the Indians' compensation. The Indian bureau has elected to stand by the lands board chairman, H. J. Hegerman, rather than by the Pueblo Indians' counsel and New Mexico's two senators.

While not directly opposing the bill, the administration talks of economy and raises a new legal issue as to water rights.

The attitude of the administration is disquieting. Senator Frazier's report on the squandering of Mescalero Indians' timber to support a high-priced overhead, the protest of Ft. Peck Indians of Montana against the new grazing policy, and other criticisms, raise the question whether the reforms of Commissioners Rhodes and Scattergood yet have touched the economic issues.

Until the government squares its economic reforms with those in education, health and personnel, it has not done its belated duty toward our Indian wards.

## If Japan Is Wise

Peace in the far east is possible the moment Japan is willing.

Japan has asked the United States and Great Britain to use their good offices in behalf of peace. China has made such requests repeatedly.

The peace result could be accomplished by a simple order from Tokyo withdrawing Japanese troops. But Tokyo needs a face saver. Having bitten off more than she can chew, she apparently wants to give up part of her conquest with as little embarrassment as possible.

We use the word "apparently" advisedly. For the truth is that Japan is acting so irrationally that no rule of reason can be applied to explain her acts or policies or pledges.

Obviously her request for a truce offers no guarantee of sincerity while her troops continue their invasion of the Shanghai international settlement, where they have not the slightest right to be.

But Washington is in no mood to quibble. The United States government has a sincere desire to stop the fighting, which is not only in violation of American treaties, but which is endangering property and lives of American citizens.

Because the American peace proposals were made following specific requests for such good offices by both Japan and China, and because the American proposals are joined in by Great Britain, France and Italy, the Japanese government can not reject those peace proposals without destroying the remaining shreds of world respect for her decency.

Those joint armistice terms are as favorable to Japan as any Tokyo government could expect. They do not even insist on advance Japanese evacuation of conquered territory.

They aim merely to stop fighting on all fronts and to make special provision for the isolation of the Shanghai international settlement from danger, pending discussion of final peace terms.

It is to the interest of Japan to accept and to observe these conditions. The longer she continues her war of conquest, the more she will destroy her future Chinese and world markets, the more she will bankrupt herself, the more she will force the rest of the world to watch and distrust her.

Japan can not win a war against China. She can win military battles near the coast, but the vast China which reaches back from the roads and battlefields will remain unconquered and unconquerable.

Nationalist China can not be wiped out. If Japan drives that mighty and unawakened China into an alliance with Soviet Russia, the more she will come when Japan will be wiped out—or go Bolshevik.

The sooner Japan realizes that fact, the better for Japan. Perhaps that explains her sudden desire for an armistice. We hope so.

## Heartbreak Houses

Unless too many tugs on their heartstrings have strained the sympathies of Americans, they will do more than listen to the appeals of 2,000,000 needy old folks, most of whom are cooped like criminals in county poorhouses.

American public opinion can force removal of these heartbreak houses and substitute, as have seventeen states, an old-age pension system. This is made easy for the states by the Dill-Connelly bill in congress "to protect labor in its old age" by providing federal aid up to one-third of the entire contribution.

"The modern poorhouse is an ulcer in the body politic," recently declared J. B. Brown, secretary of the main old-age pension league. "There always is a heterogeneous aggregation in these institutions."

"They include the young and the old, the feeble-minded and the epileptic, the broken in body and the soul-quenched."

"To continue to send our venerable citizens to these institutions is to treat them as arch-criminals and to condemn them to spend the remainder of their days in loneliness, frequently under the most wretched conditions. It is unjust, inhuman, un-American and expensive."

Old-age pensions no longer are experiments. California cares for 9,500 old men and women, with pensions averaging \$23 a month. This costs only 25 cents an inhabitant a year and is \$16 a month cheaper than maintaining them in poorhouses.

New York aids 50,000 at a cost of only 47 cents a \$1,000 in taxable wealth. Other pension states have found it cheaper, due to do the honorable, instead of the shameful, thing.

The Dill-Connelly bill would appropriate \$20,000,000 annually for federal aid to each state that extends pensions to its indigent citizens of 65 or over, who have no children to support them, and no property worth more than \$5,000.

In view of the increasing hardships endured by American families, the furious tempo of industry that drives wage-earners to the wall after 50, the cheapness of pensions and the inhumanity of poorhouses, here is legislation that should have right of way in congress and quick approval at the White House.

## Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

MOST of our sins against our children are sins of commission. It is better to neglect the family a little than to be overly solicitous about it. Mothers especially are afflicted with an urge to do everything for their children. Nor do I speak in an old-fashioned sense. I mean that we dislike to have them make their own decisions.

A woman may not necessarily spoil her daughter by relieving her too often of washing the dinner dishes, but she can do so by taking upon herself the selection of all her clothes and her friendships. When a small boy starts to school, it is well that he should realize this entrance into a new and enormous world. In a sense, he is leaving his mother, and he should know this, too.

She may advise him about classroom and playground problems, but he should be compelled to decide all issues for himself. If he has not learned to do this in the grades, he never will be able to do it in college, to say nothing of mature life.

THOUSANDS of doting mothers will not permit 15-year-old girls to shop for themselves. They do not trust the younger judgment, they explain. Yet how can they expect girls to develop any judgment if they are not allowed to exercise their own will power?

Better one inappropriate dress selection at 15, with the lesson it will teach, than a complete inability to make selections in after life.

And a girl who knows how to make up her mind in the shops, how to get what she needs with the least money, will be able to make other and far more important decisions for herself in the future.

We harm our children immeasurably when we teach them to depend upon us too much. And we should welcome rather than deplore evidences that they disagree with us.

We should thank God that they are brave enough to have ideas of their own and should encourage them in their own opinions.

## M. E. Tracy

Says:

There Is No Safety for Any One as Long as Quarreling Among Nations Is Permitted to Continue Unrestrained.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—Popular reaction to this threat of war in the Orient is worth studying. It reveals a profound change in sentiment. People no longer are infatuated with the spectacle. What they want most is to see it stopped. That is because they have learned that no nation is safe with a major conflict in progress.

When Europe blew up eighteen years ago, the average American sat calmly down to read all about it in his favorite paper. His chief concern was full information regarding maneuvers, technique and, above all else, the gruesome side. He felt that he was perfectly safe, that no matter what happened, he couldn't possibly be hurt and that it was his privilege to enjoy the show as a disinterested spectator.

## Apprehensive Now

THE average American has no such comfortable feeling with regard to this tempest on the coast of China. Though it is much farther away than was the invasion of Belgium, he has a well formed conviction that it might come too close if allowed to continue.

We have learned something, not only through what we lost after entering the war, but through the bills we still are paying.

The American people do not care to be involved in another war right now, which justly might be described as consistent with their traditions, but they have come to the conclusion that they can not be sure of keeping out of war if it gets well under way, which represents a real revision of their views and opinions.

## Isolation? Bahl!

WHY talk about "splendid isolation" when it generally is believed that a first-class quarrel anywhere in the world can involve the United States?

We did not have an alliance with any European country in 1914. We were not committed to a single obligation. There was no reason to suppose that we could be dragged into the war, yet we were.

It was a bitter lesson, and we would be dumb to forget it. Our reaction to the oriental situation shows that we haven't.

That situation confronts us with the prospect that we could be denied, or evade.

So would any other situation which involved the welfare of our citizens and interests.

## World Grows Smaller

IT is well enough to argue that we might avoid such responsibilities by living strictly unto ourselves, but that is impossible. We can not repeal the laws of progress, especially as manifested in human nature and human achievement.

We are going on with the improvement of the means of travel, trade and communication. We are going to extend our commercial, industrial and social relations. We are going to make more and more investments in foreign lands, and the people of these lands are going to make more and more investments in ours.

## Statecraft's Test

THE only way to stop the ever-increasing inter-dependence of nations would be to stop inventions and discoveries, to prohibit from thinking and imagining. That will not be done.

Statecraft must meet the situation thus created, must provide for peace and order in a constantly widening area of commerce and exchange. If it fails, there will be war, until some power arises sufficiently strong to dominate the field.

In other words, if we can not arrange matters in an intelligent way, nature will arrange them for us. It is for us to choose whether peace for the civilized world shall be brought about by orderly co-operation, or through the development of an imperialistic dictatorship.

We have arrived at a point where most of us can see the utter impossibility of trying to dwell in seclusion, where there is no safety for any one as long as quarreling among nations is permitted to continue unrestrained.

## Questions and Answers

When did the United States enter the world war and where and when was the armistice signed?

The United States officially entered the world war, April 6, 1917. The German armistice delegates were received by Marshal Foch in his special train at Rethondes, six miles east of Compiègne, Nov. 8, 1918, and there were given the terms of the armistice, with a formal demand that they be accepted or refused within seventy-two hours. The armistice was signed Nov. 11, 1918.

What is the war strength of an infantry company in the United States army and how many companies compose a regiment?

The war strength of a company is six officers and 250 enlisted men, and an infantry regiment is composed of three battalions of four companies each, or twelve companies in all.

Does the Mediterranean have high tides?

Owing to the narrow channel which connects the Mediterranean with the ocean there is very little tide, though in some places, as in the Ionian sea, the Adriatic and on parts of the African coast, it sometimes rises about six feet.

Under what President was the Chinese exclusion act passed?

It was passed during the administration of President Chester A. Arthur in 1882.

Are brother and sister closer blood relations than parent and child?

The consanguinity of brother and sister is closer than that of parent and child because the blood of both parents flows through the brother and sister, whereas the child has only half the blood of each of its parents.

## The Shanghai Gesture



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## Chill, Dampness, Fatigue Cold Causes

This is the third of five articles on prevention and treatment of the common cold. Since colds are prevalent at this time of the year, the information in these articles is particularly valuable.

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN  
Editor Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.

IT is extremely difficult to prove any facts concerning the building of resistance against colds because of the tremendous incidence of the condition and because the factors involved in the lives of all civilized human beings are so numerous.

Dr. Campbell B. Howard, who has recently surveyed the subject, feels that the common impression that chilling, dampness and fatigue are predisposing factors to colds is supported by a considerable amount of good scientific evidence.

The manner in which chilling and

dampness induces a cold is through the disturbance of the heat regulating mechanism brought about by sudden evaporation of moisture from the surface of the body.

This causes a strain on the heat producing mechanism to keep the temperature up to normal.

When individuals are exposed to drafts from an electric fan, there is chilling of the surface of the body and a change in the circulation of the membranes of the nose and throat.

Numerous investigators have made a search for the germ cause of the common cold. Unfortunately, no single organism has yet been absolutely incriminated, so that it is difficult to take specific preventive measures.

In a review of the ways in which one may do this best to prevent frequent colds, Dr. Howard lists as items of importance:

(1) Private dwellings should be

heated to 68 or 70 degrees, and large halls to 60 or 65 degrees Fahrenheit as a maximum.

(2) The air in the home, the office, or the hall should have a sufficient amount of moisture in it. Moisture can be obtained either by devices associated with the furnace, or by special electric devices that have been developed for moistening the air.

(3) The clothing worn in winter must be planned according to the life of the individual. If he must be outdoors briefly and indoors for long periods of time, a heavy coat may be worn outdoors and the clothing indoors should be planned according to the temperature of the room in which the person works.

Modern transportation methods make it possible to dispense entirely with heavy underwear and to wear the same weight underwear all year round.

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

## IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

SENIOR classes hereabouts have been in the habit of indicating a belief that Mussolini is the greatest man in the world. George Bernard Shaw praised him, and a New York song writer has composed a ballad built around the Italian dictator.

These things must have gone to his head. It was not impossible for the Duke to indulge in delusions of grandeur for a little while and imagine himself to be the trey or even the six spot. But he can not long exalt himself into the entire pack without running the risk of having somebody call for a new deck.

And this dictator, like many others, has erred in his attempt to interfere with Eve. Sooner or later they all make this tragic mistake. Napoleon had his Josephine and Antony his Cleopatra.

History is strewn with the skeletons of great men who came to believe that they could run an advice-to-the-lovelorn column as well as an empire.

Trains Not So Stubbhorn

MANY think it is a miracle that Mussolini managed to get the trains of Italy to arrive and depart on time. But he will have a much more severe task if he persists in his determination to make the women of Italy live up or down to specifications set by him.

That is precisely what he is doing. The latest edict concerns the female figure. In a speech to the doctors of his country, the Duke informed these physicians that they must fight against the dictates of modern style.

"You must correct," he said, "the distortions which are the prejudices of fashion. Excessive reducing weakens the race and has repercussions in social economy."

In other words, slenderness is sedition and anti-fat no better than anti-Fascism. Now, no man or woman for that matter, justly can complain if Benito likes them plump. A dictator has a right to whims just as much as the humblest of his subjects. But he should not confuse a private passion with a public policy.

Soon, I suppose, there will be a drive throughout Italy, with orators on every corner, I suppose you might even call it a community chest campaign. Fingers of scorn will be pointed at lovely ladies who are slackers and failed to drink the daily quart of milk.

A national burlesque theater will be endowed, and the first show will be the Italian equivalent for "Billy Watson's Beef Trust." With a stroke of the pen, Mussolini means to abolish ankles and re-establish contours. No longer is Italy to lie beyond the mountains of Nebraska.

A Challenge to Mussolini

BUT I will lay twelve, five, and even money against the success of Benito's effort to make all charms bountiful. He underestimates the forces against which he fights, if he idly supposes that the slim, boyish figure represents nothing more than the vision of some Polart.

The dream is one more deeply rooted. The New York impresario in the matter of trimmer lines undoubtedly was Florenz Ziegfeld. It

represents a change of heart, or policy at least, upon the part of the theatrical producer.

In his early stage ventures, Mr. Ziegfeld was associated with Anna Held. Against her Mussolini could have had no complaints whatsoever. No, only did she drink milk, but, according to her press agent, she bathed in it. Miss Held was buxom in her best and certainly the highest sense of the word.

But when her day was done, a new star arose, named Marilyn Miller. This delightful dancer was modeled in a manner which would have induced Mussolini to declare martial law. A wisp of a person from head to toe, she met none of the measurements set by the tradition of Lillian Russell and the Venus of Milo. After centuries of subservience, Sparta had conquered Athens.

Twilight of the Amazons

IN glorifying Marilyn Miller, it seemed advisable not to set her in front of any bevy of the billowy. The show girls and the chorus girls had to be as pleasingly slim as the star herself.

There was a brief revolution on the part of the Old Guard, but after a little street fighting the new day won its triumph. Within a decade the meanest thing any girl could say about a friend was, "Poor Peggy—she's got hips."

The effect of art upon nature has been demonstrated frequently. If first nights preferred the boyish form it became a biological necessity. Only the fittest survived. Rich men who could not themselves pass through the eye of a needle sought and found playmates who could.

But even if Mussolini is powerful

## People's Voice

Editor Times—It is amusing to hear some of our best minds lay stress on the cause of the depression of the world.

In this country we have the gold, we have the food, the wealth; in fact we have everything a country needs to make a prosperous, happy country. This depression is caused by the financiers of this country, who have made a mess of the financial system in their greed for profit and power, and now are passing the buck.

The business men of this country are hibernating or dead from the shoulders up to allow a depression from existing causes to extend over the period of time it has. The business men of this country with their various organizations could, in a short time, relieve this condition and in thirty days could have the business of the country on its way to prosperity.

A step in the right direction would eliminate any future financial or unemployment crisis and business would always be at par.

A DREAMER.

How is mother-of-pearl cleaned and polished? Make a thick paste of finely ground rotten stone with olive oil, and add sufficient sulphuric acid to make it a thin cream. Apply the polish with a cork covered with velvet. When polished, wash the shell in clear water.

## SCIENCE

—BY DAVID DIETZ—

Researcher in Biochemistry  
Rewarded by Presidency of  
American Association for  
Advancement of Science.

THE American Association for the Advancement of Science, the nation's largest scientific organization, has conferred its presidency for the present year upon one of the world's most distinguished workers in the field of medical research. He is Professor John J. Abel of the Johns Hopkins University medical schools.

He has made important researches into many fields. These have advanced the world's medical knowledge and won him many honors.

Professor Abel was born on May 19, 1887, on a farm near Cleveland. At the age of 19 he entered the University of Michigan. He interrupted his college career to become a teacher at La Porte, Ind., teaching Latin, mathematics, physics and chemistry.

After three years, however, he returned to college and received his degree in 1888. He then went to Johns Hopkins university for a year's post-graduate study in physiology and biology.

The year at Johns Hopkins only marked the beginning of Abel's training. The next six and a half years he spent in study in Europe at the Universities of Leipzig, Strassburg, Heidelberg, Bern and Vienna.

He also managed, during vacation periods, to do some studying at the universities of Wurzburg, Berlin and Paris.

In 1891 he returned to the University of Michigan to become professor of materia medica and therapeutics.

## Research in Hormones

IN 1893, Professor Abel joined the Johns Hopkins medical school, and for fifteen years was head of both the departments of physiological chemistry and pharmacology. (Pharmacology is the science of drugs and its use in medical practice.)

In Europe, during his years at various universities, Professor Abel had come in contact with the leading medical men of the continent. He had attended lectures by leading research men and made the rounds in the hospitals with the leading clinical authorities. He had acquired a practical knowledge of the preparation to become one of the leaders in American medicine.

Professor Abel's chief interest