



The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)
Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 21-23 West Maryland Street, Indianapolis, Ind. Price in Marion County, 2 cents a copy; elsewhere, 3 cents; delivery by mail, 2 cents a week; mail subscription rates in Indiana, \$3 a year; outside of Indiana, 50 cents a month.

BOYD GURLEY,
Editor

ROY W. HOWARD,
President

EARL D. BAKER,
Business Manager

THURSDAY, FEB. 4, 1932.

PHONE-Riley 5551

Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Newspaper Information Service and Audit Bureau of Circulations.

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

Regulation by Silence

Citizens who expected to see their water and electric light bills reduced after the secret conference between a member of the public service commission and city officials have thus far been disappointed.

While the commission voted for a reduction of rates in the city of Marion to the extent of one-fifth, no action has been taken in Indianapolis, where rates are higher and the methods of operation somewhat more questionable.

The burden placed upon the industries of this city through various devices of exacting tribute has become insupportable to many of the smaller institutions who find that money which should go to employees is being taken to support the holding company which owns the common stock of the company.

The householders of the city find their bills steadily increasing while the statements sent out by the Clark interests to stockholders show increased revenues in the face of a greatly reduced volume of general business.

The charity funds are being called upon to pay for those who are unable to pay and must have utility services in order to live.

The methods by which the huge profits of this concern are hidden are easily discoverable. The one trick of buying all coal used by the power company in the manufacture of electricity from a subsidiary of its holding company at a price far in excess of market prices takes away thousands of dollars from Indianapolis patrons.

The charges for engineering and financing have run into unconscionable sums while the admitted dividends on common stock show upon their face an unreasonable return.

The rates which were reduced in Marion were 20 per cent lower than the rates charged in Indianapolis.

Contrast the situation in this city with that of the city of Washington, where the light company announces that it voluntarily reduced its rates and still makes a huge profit.

The new rates, a voluntary rate fixed by the company which understands that public service means serving the public, call for \$1.95 for the first kilowatt hour. The rate in Indianapolis is \$3.30.

As more electricity is used, the rates are lowered until Washington domestic users, after the first 100 kilowatts, are buying juice at less than is charged in this city for power for factories.

The reason, of course, is obvious. The local concern is apparently well entrenched. Regulation by silence and secrecy or abject pleading has supplanted the theory of justice.

The people pay.

Mellon in London

The announcement that the President is going to transfer Andrew Mellon from the treasury department to the court of St. James has surprised the country. Some people think that the cabinet will have a hard time getting along without Mr. Mellon.

Others point out that the secretary of the treasury outranks the ambassador to Great Britain, which suggests that Mr. Mellon is being offered a demotion.

But the case of Mr. Mellon is not so simple.

He has not been very active as secretary of the treasury during the last two years. Undersecretary Mills recently has done most of the work. Whether that has been because of Mr. Mellon's advancing age, or because of his inability to meet conditions so different from the Coolidge-Mellon speculative era, or because of a difference of opinion between him and the President, we do not know.

At any rate, his departure from the cabinet now will mean much less than it would have two or three years ago.

As for the treasury post outranking the ambassadorial, the job of our new envoy to London can be as big as he makes it. Apart from general issues pending, such as armament competition and the serious strain on the entire world peace machinery, there is the specific foreign debt problem. Before next summer there must be negotiations on the expiring Hoover moratorium.

We would not pick Mr. Mellon for the key London post. But, after all, an ambassador is a spokesman for the President, carrying out the President's policies. So, if the President wants Mr. Mellon in London he should have him there.

A Candidate's Speech

Governor Roosevelt's speech on foreign affairs and the tariff was far from satisfactory, considering that he is a presidential candidate.

About the only definite thing to be gathered from his grange speech is that he is against American participation in the League of Nations; on the other issues, apparently, he is on the fence.

His reasons for opposing the league are absurd. He says it is not the same league he supported in 1920, but a league that has grown away from the conception of its founder, that has failed to preserve peace and bring disarmament, and that has become a mere meeting place for the political discussion of strictly European political national difficulties."

It is, of course, not true that the league is devoted to strictly European matters—as witness its Asiatic and African mandates, and its intervention in the far eastern crisis.

It is true that the league has been ineffective in settling the Manchurian quarrel and forcing disarmament—as ineffective in these matters as the United States and American treaties.

But surely a man of half Roosevelt's intelligence could not have expected the league to bring the millennium in one short decade, at least not with the world's strongest nation blocking the way.

We can understand, even though we can not accept, the argument of the isolationist against American participation in the league. But Roosevelt claims to speak as an advocate of international co-operation. We simply can not make sense out of what he says.

His league statement, however, is much less important than the rest of his speech, because the league is not a campaign issue. Whether Roosevelt or any other candidate is for or against league membership, there is no likelihood of the United States entering the league during the next administration.

Roosevelt's discussion of tariffs and foreign debts consisted of generalizations. Doubtless he is leaving until a later occasion an outline of his detailed position on these issues. But since he is an avowed presidential candidate, soon he will have to cast aside generalities and get specific.

Voters in the primaries, who are asked to pass upon him, will want answers to such questions as the following—to take only two subjects he discussed so inadequately in his grange speech:

"Does he favor repeal of the Hawley-Smoot tariff? How far would he lower the tariff, if at all? Would he transfer the flexible tariff power from

the President to congress, as proposed in the pending Democratic bill?

Does he favor extension of the Hoover foreign debt moratorium, and for how long?

Does he favor reduction of foreign debts?

Would he follow Hoover in refusing to connect debts and reparations as one problem, or would he try to settle the two together, and thus break the long deadlock?

Would he trade debt reduction for armament reduction?

Roosevelt can not expect the American voters to follow him without knowing where he is going. His national and international policies may be known to himself, but to date the public has not been let in on the secret.

Conscription Menaces Peace

The dangerous violence now under way in China puts a new emphasis on the old question of the limitation of armaments.

Japan, throwing a highly-trained and exceedingly capable conscript army into the fray, proves once more that treaties to avert war are not of much use as long as no limits are put on the size of the armies which the signatory nations can maintain.

Furthermore, the chief villain in the piece seems to be conscription—compulsory military service for all young men. The device that the French invented after the fall of the Bastille, when the "levy en masse" appeared the only possible way of preserving the revolution from the armies of jealous European monarchs, has got entirely out of hand. For militarists everywhere it provides an implement which no treaty fully can curb.

Among the chief powers of the world, only three—the United States, Great Britain and Germany—rely on volunteer armies in time of peace. All the rest have conscription laws and call to the colors each year a certain number of young men of military age.

These young men, kept in service for one, two or three years, constitute the standing army. When they are called to civil life they become the trained reserve—a huge body of skilled soldiers, ready for use at any moment, and vastly more important, in numbers and potential effect, than the standing army itself.

The rates which were reduced in Marion were 20 per cent lower than the rates charged in Indianapolis.

Contrast the situation in this city with that of the city of Washington, where the light company announces that it voluntarily reduced its rates and still makes a huge profit.

The new rates, a voluntary rate fixed by the company which understands that public service means serving the public, call for \$1.95 for the first kilowatt hour. The rate in Indianapolis is \$3.30.

As more electricity is used, the rates are lowered until Washington domestic users, after the first 100 kilowatts, are buying juice at less than is charged in this city for power for factories.

The reason, of course, is obvious. The local concern is apparently well entrenched. Regulation by silence and secrecy or abject pleading has supplanted the theory of justice.

The people pay.

The methods by which the huge profits of this concern are hidden are easily discoverable. The one trick of buying all coal used by the power company in the manufacture of electricity from a subsidiary of its holding company at a price far in excess of market prices takes away thousands of dollars from Indianapolis patrons.

The charges for engineering and financing have run into unconscionable sums while the admitted dividends on common stock show upon their face an unreasonable return.

The rates which were reduced in Marion were 20 per cent lower than the rates charged in Indianapolis.

Contrast the situation in this city with that of the city of Washington, where the light company announces that it voluntarily reduced its rates and still makes a huge profit.

The new rates, a voluntary rate fixed by the company which understands that public service means serving the public, call for \$1.95 for the first kilowatt hour. The rate in Indianapolis is \$3.30.

As more electricity is used, the rates are lowered until Washington domestic users, after the first 100 kilowatts, are buying juice at less than is charged in this city for power for factories.

The reason, of course, is obvious. The local concern is apparently well entrenched. Regulation by silence and secrecy or abject pleading has supplanted the theory of justice.

The people pay.

For example: Japan's peace-time army strength is rated at approximately 230,000 men. But to get an army many times that large, ready for instant service, Japan needs only call up her reserves. The job can almost be done overnight.

These young men, kept in service for one, two or three years, constitute the standing army. When they are called to civil life they become the trained reserve—a huge body of skilled soldiers, ready for use at any moment, and vastly more important, in numbers and potential effect, than the standing army itself.

The rates which were reduced in Marion were 20 per cent lower than the rates charged in Indianapolis.

Contrast the situation in this city with that of the city of Washington, where the light company announces that it voluntarily reduced its rates and still makes a huge profit.

The new rates, a voluntary rate fixed by the company which understands that public service means serving the public, call for \$1.95 for the first kilowatt hour. The rate in Indianapolis is \$3.30.

As more electricity is used, the rates are lowered until Washington domestic users, after the first 100 kilowatts, are buying juice at less than is charged in this city for power for factories.

The reason, of course, is obvious. The local concern is apparently well entrenched. Regulation by silence and secrecy or abject pleading has supplanted the theory of justice.

The people pay.

For example: Japan's peace-time army strength is rated at approximately 230,000 men. But to get an army many times that large, ready for instant service, Japan needs only call up her reserves. The job can almost be done overnight.

These young men, kept in service for one, two or three years, constitute the standing army. When they are called to civil life they become the trained reserve—a huge body of skilled soldiers, ready for use at any moment, and vastly more important, in numbers and potential effect, than the standing army itself.

The rates which were reduced in Marion were 20 per cent lower than the rates charged in Indianapolis.

Contrast the situation in this city with that of the city of Washington, where the light company announces that it voluntarily reduced its rates and still makes a huge profit.

The new rates, a voluntary rate fixed by the company which understands that public service means serving the public, call for \$1.95 for the first kilowatt hour. The rate in Indianapolis is \$3.30.

As more electricity is used, the rates are lowered until Washington domestic users, after the first 100 kilowatts, are buying juice at less than is charged in this city for power for factories.

The reason, of course, is obvious. The local concern is apparently well entrenched. Regulation by silence and secrecy or abject pleading has supplanted the theory of justice.

The people pay.

For example: Japan's peace-time army strength is rated at approximately 230,000 men. But to get an army many times that large, ready for instant service, Japan needs only call up her reserves. The job can almost be done overnight.

These young men, kept in service for one, two or three years, constitute the standing army. When they are called to civil life they become the trained reserve—a huge body of skilled soldiers, ready for use at any moment, and vastly more important, in numbers and potential effect, than the standing army itself.

The rates which were reduced in Marion were 20 per cent lower than the rates charged in Indianapolis.

Contrast the situation in this city with that of the city of Washington, where the light company announces that it voluntarily reduced its rates and still makes a huge profit.

The new rates, a voluntary rate fixed by the company which understands that public service means serving the public, call for \$1.95 for the first kilowatt hour. The rate in Indianapolis is \$3.30.

As more electricity is used, the rates are lowered until Washington domestic users, after the first 100 kilowatts, are buying juice at less than is charged in this city for power for factories.

The reason, of course, is obvious. The local concern is apparently well entrenched. Regulation by silence and secrecy or abject pleading has supplanted the theory of justice.

The people pay.

For example: Japan's peace-time army strength is rated at approximately 230,000 men. But to get an army many times that large, ready for instant service, Japan needs only call up her reserves. The job can almost be done overnight.

These young men, kept in service for one, two or three years, constitute the standing army. When they are called to civil life they become the trained reserve—a huge body of skilled soldiers, ready for use at any moment, and vastly more important, in numbers and potential effect, than the standing army itself.

The rates which were reduced in Marion were 20 per cent lower than the rates charged in Indianapolis.

Contrast the situation in this city with that of the city of Washington, where the light company announces that it voluntarily reduced its rates and still makes a huge profit.

The new rates, a voluntary rate fixed by the company which understands that public service means serving the public, call for \$1.95 for the first kilowatt hour. The rate in Indianapolis is \$3.30.

As more electricity is used, the rates are lowered until Washington domestic users, after the first 100 kilowatts, are buying juice at less than is charged in this city for power for factories.

The reason, of course, is obvious. The local concern is apparently well entrenched. Regulation by silence and secrecy or abject pleading has supplanted the theory of justice.

The people pay.

For example: Japan's peace-time army strength is rated at approximately 230,000 men. But to get an army many times that large, ready for instant service, Japan needs only call up her reserves. The job can almost be done overnight.

These young men, kept in service for one, two or three years, constitute the standing army. When they are called to civil life they become the trained reserve—a huge body of skilled soldiers, ready for use at any moment, and vastly more important, in numbers and potential effect, than the standing army itself.

The rates which were reduced in Marion were 20 per cent lower than the rates charged in Indianapolis.

Contrast the situation in this city with that of the city of Washington, where the light company announces that it voluntarily reduced its rates and still makes a huge profit.

The new rates, a voluntary rate fixed by the company which understands that public service means serving the public, call for \$1.95 for the first kilowatt hour. The rate in Indianapolis is \$3.30.

As more electricity is used, the rates are lowered until Washington domestic users, after the first 100 kilowatts, are buying juice at less than is charged in this city for power for factories.

The reason, of course, is obvious. The local concern is apparently well entrenched. Regulation by silence and secrecy or abject pleading has supplanted the theory of justice.

The people pay.

M. E. Tracy

Says:

If This Plunge Into Extreme Thrift Is Taken as a Dose of Castor Oil, All Right; if as a New Kind of Bread, All Wrong.

NEW YORK, Feb. 4.—In spite of all the fine talk about public work in times of stress, extension of credit when business is under pressure and the scientific readjustment of industry to meet changes in the consumer market, we appear to have fallen back on the penny-pinching idea as a cure for this depression.

Wages are being cut, prices reduced, crews shortened and production curtailed. Naturally enough, unemployment is increasing, while mass buying power grows less and less.

</