



The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

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

Cut Those Rates

Weeks have passed since the people of this city, acting through city officials and the South Side Civic Clubs, asked the public service commission for a reduction of rates on electricity and water.

The first response of Commissioner Cuthbertson was that it would cost much money to appraise the properties of the two monopolies and that when the hearing was over, there was always the danger that rates might be raised. He suggested conferences.

The conferences have been held. The utilities were arrogant and suggested that if the people fought, they would be punished.

In the meantime, the commission itself ordered the electric rates at Marion reduced by 20 per cent. The rates charged in that smaller city were much lower than those in this city. In general, the rates for electricity are lower in large cities. That is the rule of the companies. Small communities pay the most.

If the rates in Marion were too high, then the rates in this city are very much too high.

If Marion was entitled to a 20 per cent reduction, the people of this city should be entitled to a 40 per cent cut.

There is enough in the reports of the electric company to the commission to justify an immediate cut in rates. The cost of coal, purchased from a subsidiary of the holding company which owns the stock of the company, suggests a collusion to extort excess profits from the people.

The charges for engineering and other fees, the high cost of operation management, are factors that would convince a free and untrammeled commission of the justice of this city's demand.

Aside from the holding company gouge, there are other figures in the reports that demand redress.

The people pay for the maintenance of a radio station at a loss in competition with a privately owned station which can not pass along its problems to a defenseless electric consumer.

The people pay for the loss, and it is large, in the retail store for appliances owned by the company. That store operates in competition with the merchant who is thus forced to contribute to the losses of his rival.

The time has come for action and quick action.

The Time Has Come

Americans must not starve. Americans should be fed from the federal treasury if they can't be fed any other way.

On this point, at least, no disagreement exists between Republicans and Democrats, conservatives and liberals, bankers, business men, poor men, victims.

Walter Gifford, of the President's committee on unemployment relief, indorsed it when he was before the senate manufacturers committee. Joseph T. Robinson, Democratic floor leader, said so in the senate last year. James A. Emory of the National Association of Manufacturers said the same thing to a house labor committee.

What, then, stands in the way of the La Follette-Costigan hunger relief bill?

Nothing but a quibble.

"... If they can't be fed any other way," say Gifford and others who oppose the bill. "But the situation is being taken care of."

The situation is not being taken care of.

Within the last few days Senator La Follette and Costigan have laid before the senate an overwhelming mass of evidence to support this statement. Letters from officials of 810 cities and from every important social agency in the country have been put into the record.

The number of unemployed is greater and still growing. Private and public agencies are spending more for relief this winter than ever before, and most of them are scraping the bottom of their chests.

The revenues of local governments have fallen off. Several hundred of them have reached the point where they can borrow no more money. And hundreds of thousands of children, and of men and women, who still are getting scraps of food, still managing to keep alive, are nearer the starvation point.

"... If they can't be fed any other way!"

"What proof do they want? Must they have bread riots? Must they have thousands of human beings lying dead in the streets?" Sidney Hillman asked last fall, and his question is more poignant today.

Two hundred fifteen cities still say they can care for their own. But what of the rest? What of the needy unfortunate enough to live in one of the other cities?

On the basis of undisputed evidence now before congress, the federal government should act at once to save its hungry citizens.

Times Readers Voice Their Views

Editor Times—We are all grateful for the "made work" and appreciate what the township trustee is doing, but it surely would help if they could give some cash, if ever so little. We mothers must keep our children neat and clean in school or the teacher banishes them out before the whole room, and how can we do it with no thread, needles, tapes, darning cotton or the hundred and one other things that every mother needs?

And those without children need brooms, mops, coal oil, washing powder and other things that can not be gotten in the township basket. We get flour, but no baking powder, soda, vinegar, and have to make bread out of flour and water, so it is onlyhardtack.

MAUDE JAMESON.

Editor Times—A Detroit man drove up to my house recently. He had approached Indianapolis from the north. "What a beautiful town this is, I never have been here before. I always thought of it as rather commonplace. Why, it is exactly what President Hoover wants to see—towns and cities of home-memorial if you can help it," she ended.

A city of homes! That is a fine idea and the right idea, but just how long will it be a possible idea? A woman assessor said to my wife: "There are women in town who have rugs worth more than all the furniture in this house. On their list they give in about \$100."

I lately have been told of a man

in town who owns every luxury, besides a lot of stocks and bonds and pays \$300 in taxes. I own a few common frame houses on which up-keep in increasing and rent declining, in which taxes are more than \$1,000 a year. Why must real estate pay 85 per cent of the taxes? A tale of woe was told me by a woman who invested insurance in a house in a college town where there was a fair prospect for student roomers. For a time she succeeded, until a fraternity house was built, commodious and handsome. All her roomers left.

There is no tax on such houses. She still pays taxes whether her house is painted or not. Her house is run down, though her taxes are not. Under the guise of education, many a wily bit of tax-dodging is managed.

Owning one's home is valuable to happiness and thrift. A woman plans and manages far more effectively for her own home. A man feels self-respect increase. Even a child loves this thought of owning a little bit of the earth's surface, but how long is the middle class going to be able to maintain the dignified title of householders?

I went strong for woman suffrage and am glad they have it. I thought they would go in stronger for vital domestic affairs, such as the management of county homes, the drawing of big salaries for small

work, and might prod a little into this tax business.

But it is likely that it is harder than they expected. I really was sorry for the League of Women Voters when it worked for an improvement in our primary election and was frustrated by a high official.

Mystery—Thrills!

Tired of reading about "the depression?" Want to get away for an hour or so from the everyday things of life? Here's a packet of eight of our Washington Bureau's bulletins packed with the stories of adventure, mystery and thrills. The titles are:

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

M. E. Tracy

Says:

Give the People a Chance to Buy Government Bonds and Their Money Will Come Out of Hiding.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7.—President Hoover, has polished off another conference. It was designed to launch a nation-wide campaign against hoarding.

As an out-pouring of the spirit, it was evidently successful. Besides the administration spokesmen, leaders representing organizations with a total membership of 20,000 were present. They expressed themselves with complete unanimity, whether in appreciation of what the administration had done in stating the problem with which they were called upon to deal, or in endorsement of the proposed method for solving it.

There was not a dissenting voice throughout the meeting and, of course, not an original idea. When those "willing to volunteer for service" were asked to raise their hands, every hand went up.

It Listens Well, but—

IT listens well, though no better, perhaps, than did the shouted pledge of that industrial conference held some time ago to prevent wage cutting.

You remember how the great employers foregathered, how enthusiastically they accepted the President's plan to stabilize prices and pay, and how the whole thing fizzled.

The point is, of course, that if we could run this country by conference, we wouldn't need a government.

As a general proposition, public officials hold a conference when they can't think of anything else, or when they shrink from tackling a job.

Verbal Futility

NO one misunderts the danger of hoarding, not even those who are doing it. There are very few people who would not prefer to keep their money in a bank, or invest it in some good security.

The continuous impact of depression, however, has proved too much for their nerves. They are scared. They have seen so many things go wrong, that they don't know which way to turn, and are harking back to elemental methods of safety.

It is reassuring to imagine that they can be worked out of this state of mind by a little good advice. One likes to believe that such problems can be solved by talk, especially if other folks can be induced to do the talking, but haven't we experienced enough with that idea to realize its futility?

Socks for Safety

IT goes without saying that we need not only all the cash available in circulation, but, maybe, a whole lot more.

No White House palaver is required to inform the people that hoarded money adds to their troubles that industry can't run on capital in the toe of a sock.

Any man, or woman with enough money to count knows the desirability of keeping it moving, particularly if it can be made to draw interest while on the go, but that's only half the story.

The rest of it is that average people do not feel competent to invest their money, and when their faith is shaken, they just tuck it away in some safe place.

Act, Uncle Sam!

THE most effective remedy for hoarding would be an opportunity for average people to invest their money in securities beyond reach, and the federal government is about the only institution which they trust to that extent right now.

Give the people a chance to buy government bonds and their money will come out of hiding. Loosen up the postal savings bank restrictions, and open up every other channel which Uncle Sam can guarantee. That's the way to get money on the persons entering it.

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Risk Must End

WHAT the government should do is offer the public bonds, baby bonds, sold over the counter. That would draw the money out and put it to work.

The administration at Washington might just as well realize that something dramatic is needed to restore confidence, something of tangible value, something that will give people a chance to make use of their money, without risk.

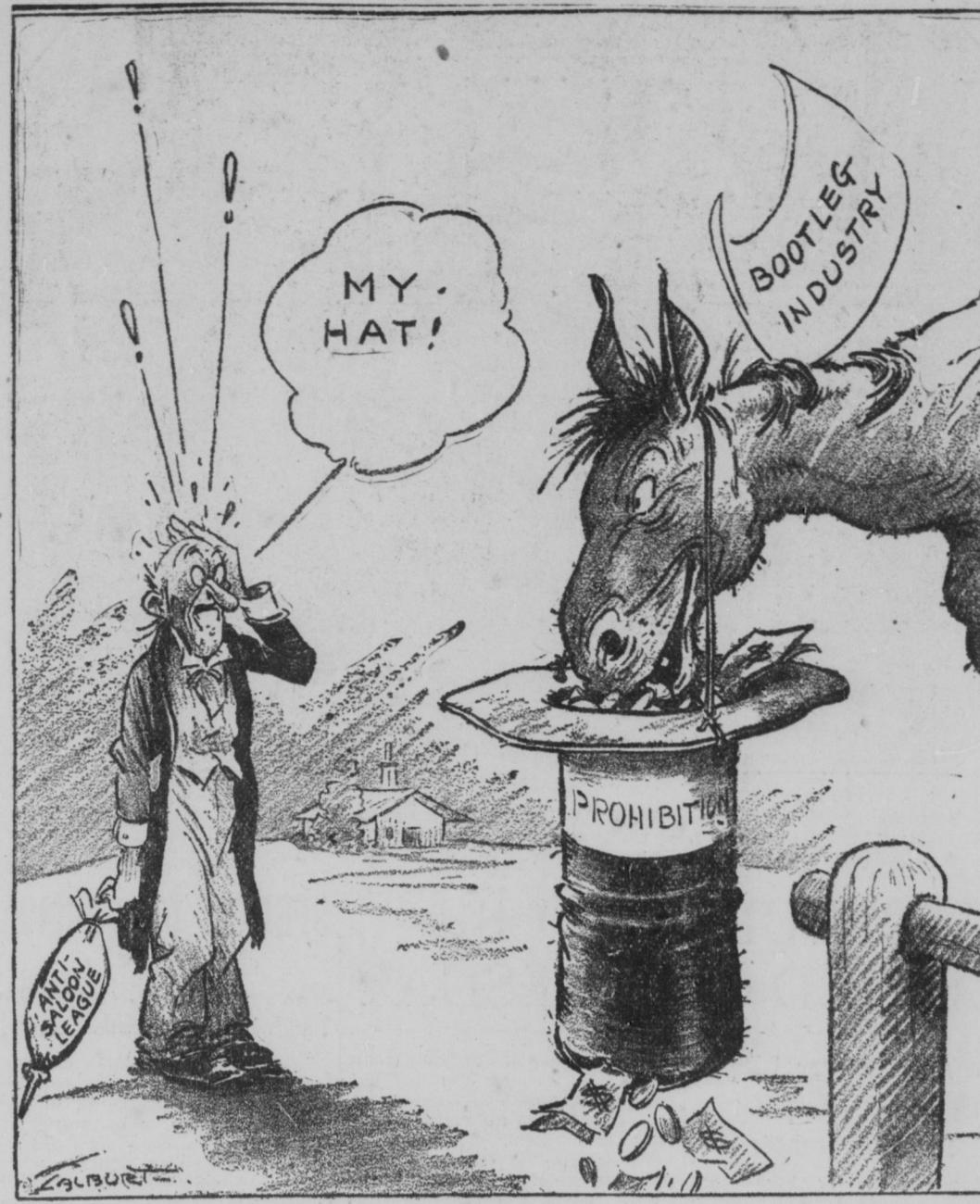
How many cattle and swine are slaughtered in Chicago and St. Louis annually?

For the fiscal year 1931, in Chicago 1,513,374 cattle and 6,720,523 swine, in St. Louis, 163,163 cattle and 1,542,998 swine. These include only those animals slaughtered under federal inspection.

When was Philadelphia, Pa., founded?

In 1682 by William Penn.

The Nosebag!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Study Necessary to Cure Backache

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

Editor Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.

D. BROWN describes the case of a man who had suffered for some ten years with frequent attacks of pain in the back. Finally he could not ride in an automobile, lift anything, or even lean over to put on his shoes without getting a catch in his back.

It was found that the habitual position of his body was in the extreme range of motion of his spine, particularly low down on the back, and that as a result it took but little effort to realize a strain.

Associated with the backache there was a long standing record of indigestion, difficulty in action of the bowel, headaches, and nervousness.

The man realized that he had been overworking and that he was in general fatigued.

At first it was difficult for the man to lie in bed because the back was more uncomfortable in bed than when he was on his feet.

However, he was able to get good rest by placing one or two pillows under his knees, taking the strain off the lower part of his spine. Sitting in bed in an erect position put more strain on the spine than when he was on his feet.

If the spine can be rested by having the patient lie face downward with pillows under his hips, the opportunity may be used to apply hot packs to the back to relieve the pain and the inflammation.

The patient was taught to breathe properly and efforts were made to strengthen his abdominal muscles so as to help distribute his weight.

The man realized that he

had been overworking and that he was in general fatigued.

When he finally learned how to sit and stand correctly, his backache and indigestion cleared up, and he was asked to change his routine of life so as to overcome his constant fatigue.

This record is an indication of an immense amount of study and the care necessary in order to take proper care of a patient with a backache.

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