



# The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)  
Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-220 West Maryland Street, Indianapolis, Ind. Price in Marion County, 2 cents a copy; elsewhere, 3 cents—delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week. Mail subscription rates in Indiana, \$3 a year; outside of Indiana, 60 cents a month.  
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PHONE—Riley 5551 MONDAY, FEB. 8, 1932  
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."

**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 untrammelled 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, endorsed 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 the 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 310 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 sure 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 bawls them out before the whole room, and how can we do it with no thread, needles, tapes, darned 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 only hardack.

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-owners."

This man was en route to St. Louis, and my wife advised him to see Central public library, the Scottish Rite building, the fountain in University square and Soldiers' monument.

"But don't look at the war 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 I 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 students' 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 for more efficiency 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 householder?

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.

PLAIN CITIZEN.

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

For the fiscal year 1931, in Chicago 1,531,374 cattle and 6,720,523 swine and 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.

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## Daily Thought

Thus saith the Lord of Hosts: Consider your ways.—Haggai 1:7.

Let us often think of our own infirmities, and we shall become indulgent toward those of others.—Fenelon.

# 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 proved eminently successful. Besides the administration spokesmen, leaders representing organizations with a total membership of 20,000,000 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 misunderstands 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 experimented 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, boy 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 reproach, 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 in circulation.

The people are not looking for 8, or 10 per cent, but for safety. There are very few of them but would be content with a moderate rate if they were sure of protection.

## Risk Must End

WHAT the government should do is offer the public bonds, baby bonds, sold over the counter. That would drag 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.

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## The Nosebag!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## Study Necessary to Cure Backache

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

DR. 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 slight effort to produce 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 down 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 properly.

A brace was planned which helped him to hold himself in the proper position, and when the patient got back on his feet, he was taught how to use his body more correctly in the sitting, standing and bending positions.

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 care properly of a patient with backache.

The diet, the amount of fluids taken and the amount of rest are all important. It is not possible merely to treat the painful point and to take it for granted that that will relieve the condition.

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

NO matter how many human beings are killed or maimed by guns or bombs, Will Rogers must have his little joke. According to Arthur Brisbane, Mr. Rogers "pulled a good one" when he called from Geneva: "Well, we are all here ready for disarmament. The first laugh was when the Japanese delegation arrived."

Somewhere I can't seem to laugh. I don't see how anybody can, and least of all an American. It is true that the world drifts rudderless through angry seas, but a nation which talks brave words about co-operation and then refused to lay as much as a finger on the wheel is not quite the one, to shake with merriment in the face of misfortune.

Or if we must laugh let it be bitterly, for the joke's on us. We would not join the league because we wished to avoid any risk of becoming involved in remote entanglements. Today our marines stand guard along the streets of Shanghai and our fleet rides in the harbor.

conference and say, "What's the use of talking about the reduction of armament when the earth trembles to the sound of guns?"

## Never a Better Time

BUT how can there be a better time to raise the cry of "Drop your weapons!" than in the very hour when there is blood upon them?

They have lied who told us that by raising the drawbridge we could walk happily within our tower and smoke. And out of the gates and fears of men we will build the new world, for we must. The time has come, and our necessities are louder than the guns.

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## Questions and Answers

How can a dance floor be maintained in good condition?

Regular care of waxed dance floors requires only sweeping with a soft broom to remove dust and litter, and the application of powdered wax as needed. At intervals, depending upon use, clean and polish with liquid wax. If excessive mud or dirt makes scrubbing imperative, use very little lukewarm water and mild soap, and rinse thoroughly. After it is perfectly dry, re-wax immediately. Keep large, clean door mats at all entrances to the floor.

Can tree surgery be performed at any time of the year?

As a rule, tree surgery can be undertaken safely at almost any time of the year, but it is not running too hotly, and the weather is not cold enough to freeze cement, if this is being used. In most trees the sap will interfere with the work only while the buds and leaves are expanding in the spring. Cement work will be ruined if it is frozen before it is set. It is not likely to be injured by frost after setting a few days.

Is there any way to remove cod liver oil stains from a baby's dress?

They may be easily removed when fresh from practically all materials by freely sponging with carbon tetrachloride, and washing the garment thoroughly in warm soapsuds. It is important that attention be given the stains as soon as possible after they are made, for in a short time they become extremely difficult to remove.

What airman of the World War is credited with the greatest number of victories?

Baron von Richthofen, of the German air force, the greatest ace of the World War, was credited with bringing down eighty enemy planes.

What are the limits of weight and size of parcel post packages? Seventy pounds, and 100 inches in length and girth combined.

Who invented the vacuum cleaner? H. C. Booth. He made and patented the first successful appliance in 1901.

# SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Flute, Perhaps Earliest Musical Instrument, Older Than History, Declares Student of Sound, Who Has Large Collection of Pipes of Pan.

THE flute was probably the first musical instrument used by man. This is the opinion of Dr. Dayton C. Miller, professor of physics at Case School of Applied Science, and one of the world's chief authorities upon the subject of sound.

At the present time, Dr. Miller is president of the American Acoustical Society. He is past president of the American Physical Society and former chairman of the division of physical sciences of the National Research Council.

Dr. Miller is the inventor of the phonodisk, a device which transforms sound waves into a moving beam of light so that one can "see" his own voice or the sounds of a musical instrument.

Many years ago, Dr. Miller became interested in the subject of the flute and began a collection of flutes. Today, it is the largest collection in the world, containing more than 1,000 flutes.

Some of them are several centuries old. Others belonged to persons of historic prominence. The collection includes one flute of solid gold, another of solid silver and several of crystal. Because of the value of the collection, it is stored in the vault of one of the banks of Cleveland.

## Traces History

THE invention of the flute preceded the dawn of history, Dr. Miller says.

"There are many legends and myths regarding its origin," he continues. "Its infancy was passed in the twilight of fable."

"For our purposes the flute may be defined as any man-made musical wind-instrument in which the sound originates in the vibrations of the jet of air.

"The earliest form of flute is a simple natural piece of bamboo, a few inches long, which may be open throughout its length or may be closed at one end by the natural septum.

"When one blows across the open end of such a tube, a musical tone is produced. The edge of the tube may be blunt or may be beveled to a sharp edge.

"The primitive flutist soon discovered that tubes, or pipes, of different lengths give tones of different pitches, and so he tied several pipes together, side by side, and produced what is now called by the rather poetic name, the Pipes of Pan, or Syrinx.

"This is probably the instrument, referred to in Genesis, called in Hebrew, 'gan'—organ."

"The poetic and romantic legends of ancient writers, and of modern artists, are fanciful, and need not be repeated now.

"The early Pan-pipes had a variable number of tubes—usually three, five or seven—tuned in a more or less capricious manner.

"This type of instrument is so simple in construction, so 'cheap' to manufacture, and withal so musical in its effects, that it survives at the present time.

"Pan-pipes are in very common use by the natives of the islands of the sea, in Australia, Africa, and even for modern music, they are used in the rural districts of central Europe and Italy."

## Used in Bands

THESE pan-pipes, Dr. Miller continues, are made in various sizes, corresponding to soprano, contralto, tenor, bass and sub-bass parts.

"The melody instruments may have as many as twenty-eight pipes, all tuned, varying in length from one and a half to ten inches," he says.

"The instruments used for harmony usually have only one octave of tuned pipes, though other pipes may be added merely for appearance. The largest pipes may be three feet or even five feet in length. They are used in bands, consisting of from twenty to forty performers, and produce music which has the effect of a pipe organ."

Dr. Miller has twenty-two such instruments in his collection.

The flute, as we know it, gradually developed from the pan-pipe, Dr. Miller believes.

"It was probably a very early discovery," he says, "that a simple Jan. 24, replied to the speeches on war aims of President Wilson and Premier Lloyd George."

Von Hertling had addressed the main committee of German reichstag, and Count Czernin had addressed the Austrian delegations of congress. In these speeches both men gave their attitudes on peace, differing vastly with the two allied leaders.

The Ukrainians claimed a great victory over the Bolsheviks at Saray, and the Bolsheviks filed in an attempt to occupy Kiev. Viborg was taken by the White Guards.

## Tom Dick or Harry?

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