

# The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD PUBLICATION)  
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, 65 cents a month.

BOYD GUILLEY, Editor ROY W. HOWARD, President EARL D. BAKER, Business Manager  
PHONE—Riley 5551 THURSDAY, FEB. 18, 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."

## Regulating Utilities

The federal court, through an opinion written by Judge Baltzell, has decided that the law means what it says. The law in Indiana fixes the city as the unit of regulation. As far as the lower federal court is concerned, this will remain the unit.

The victory is Pyrrhic, rather than real. It sends back to the legislature the task of amending the law so that regulation can be accomplished easily and justly and in accordance with the development of utility service.

When the law was written each city was supplied with electricity from a plant within its own borders. The day of the super plant had not arrived. The extensive use of electricity upon farms had not arrived.

The intent of the law was to limit the charges within cities to a decent return upon investment. Since the law was passed the use of electricity has increased enormously. It has supplanted the man who stored ice in winter for summer use. It has replaced the broom of the servant girl and has taken the place of steam and horses in industry and in manufacture.

Electricity, for industrial and domestic use, has become one of the most important factors in modern life.

The utilities, looking always for a chance to capitalize social increments, have found ways of defeating regulation. They quite logically said that service is no longer a local matter, inasmuch as the service is now extended in its physical aspects over wide territories.

Regulation over wide areas, on the other hand, means no regulation. The cost of appraisals would nullify any reductions. Appeals of the public would be delayed beyond any period of time that would give real relief to the people.

Before any decision could be reached, if the usual procedure of the commission were followed, firms and citizens who bear the brunt would probably be bankrupt.

So, while there is rejoicing over the fact that finally a federal court has upheld the law, the people are now faced with the problem of rewriting the law to make it workable.

If the city unit is maintained, there will be no protection for the agricultural and suburban areas which are now large users of electricity.

If the area unit be established, the law becomes unworkable.

In the meantime, relief could be given if both the commission and legislature struck at the real source of most of the injustice.

The holding company is the device used to pry larger profits from consumers. The purchase of coal, for example, by the local light company takes from electric consumers at least a quarter of a million of dollars a year. Its engineering and financing fees take much more.

The water company, using the same corporation device, loots the people of this city of many thousands.

Perhaps, unless the utility interests are much wiser than they have been, the public will finally discover the way out by building its own plants and operating them.

## Prohibition News

Only two murders in Indianapolis yesterday, which recalls the prophecies and hopes of those who believed that prohibition would solve the problem of crime.

Some can recall their hopes. They believed that when national prohibition was enacted that there would be very few, if any, killings by drunken men.

They believed that the jails would be turned to hospitals and the poorhouses into retreats. The insane asylums were to be abandoned. The cost of punishing criminals would be lifted from the shoulders of the law abiding.

The murders in Indianapolis can be traced to the same cause—poison liquor that maddens men and twists minds. So easily is this liquor obtained that no officer of the law, either federal agent or policeman, thinks of attempting to trace its source after such tragedies.

Of course, there were killings in the preprohibition days that were due to drunkenness. When they happened, a saloon was closed. The man who sold the liquor was held responsible. He lost his license in cities where the saloon power did not control government.

Yesterday's killings were identical in their history. In both cases, one of the men had been drinking raw poisons sold as booze.

Next year candidates for the United States senate will again pledge themselves to the dry cause. Some, perhaps, who may get an idea that very many people are beginning to doubt the present system will modify their fidelity to the Anti-Saloon League with weasel promises. There may even be one or two who will promise the people to treat this matter intelligently. Two murders a day ought to be somewhat suggestive as prohibition news.

## Killing the Lame Duck

Of the many barriers to representative government in the United States, one of the worst is the lame duck session of congress, which the house has voted to abolish by constitutional amendment.

The constitutional fathers did not intend to erect this particular barrier against democracy. In those stage coach days it was not practicable for a new congress to meet soon after election.

So it came about that the old congress functioned for several months—that is, until March 4—after the November elections. As there was no provision for a special session of congress without call by the President, the net result was that a congress did not meet until thirteen months after election.

By the time thirteen months had elapsed, of course, many national problems had changed and others grown acute. The effect was that a congress often was elected on one issue, and legislated on entirely new issues not before the country thirteen months earlier.

Meanwhile, the defeated members of congress—the "lame ducks"—were controlling legislation after they had been removed from office, insofar as the voters were able to remove them from office.

Such a crazy system could not have been perpetuated down through the decades had it not been of great profit to the political bosses. It was duck soup for them.

Most of the lame ducks wanted political appointments to soft jobs. To earn such jobs, many of them were willing to vote as ordered by those controlling the jobs. Thus the political bosses, and the President, when he has wished to use it, usually have held the balance of power in lame duck sessions.

For many years liberals and progressives have fought to remove this barrier to representative government. But always the bosses have won.

In recent years Senator Norris, now grown old

In the service of cleaner government, has devoted much of his time to this fundamental reform. Six times he has put it through the senate, only to have it die in the house. Last year, when victory seemed won in the house, an amendment was attached, destroying it.

Although the resolution passed by the house Wednesday differs in some details from the Norris measure, a compromise should not be difficult. The result will be submission to the states for ratification of a constitutional amendment changing the dates for opening of congress and presidential inauguration from March to January, and abolishing the lame duck and fixed-length sessions of congress entirely.

Final victory will be delayed until the President has been persuaded to sign, and then for several years, until three-fourths of the forty-eight states have been induced to ratify the amendment.

## Our Brahman Bull

All functions in Washington must go on hunger rations this next fiscal year. All, save one. Profane, money-grubbing hands must not be laid upon our American sacred zebu, prohibition.

Major activities of state, commerce, labor and justice departments were curtailed by the Democratic-controlled house appropriations committee by reductions totaling \$14,587,000 under current sums and \$5,375,000 under even budget.

The prohibition bureau received current allowance of \$11,369,000, and had the budgeteers included the Wickersham recommendation of an additional 500 hands for Colonel Amos Woodcock, the committee doubtless would have allowed this, too.

Representative Oliver of Alabama explains that the full allowance for prohibition was made necessary by reason of the "unusual difficulties in enforcement."

The unenforceable and corrupting dry law, which Attorney-General Mitchell admits takes up 50 per cent of his office's energies, will get its regular full nosebag, but—

There will be no salary increases nor advancements and no allowances for new autos of more than \$750.

Secretary Stimson, in spite of ten revolutions abroad, the Chinese situation, the Geneva arms parley and plenty of other extra work, must get along with \$1,500,000 less than this year.

Secretary Lamont must see his new aeronautics branch deprived of another \$1,500,000, forcing the most rigid economy in maintaining existing airways for night flying mail pilots and preventing any expansion of this important service; savings also are forced in lighthouse maintenance and in the census bureau.

Secretary Doak must submit to a cut of \$137,570, of which \$50,000 was for much-needed repairs and construction of immigration stations.

Attorney-General Mitchell himself must get along on \$2,844,000 less than the budget bureau estimate, or \$172,000 less than this year's outlay.

Like the Hindus, we starve ourselves so that the sacred bull may keep sleek and fat.

## Cleveland Goes Democratic

Cleveland, O., went Democratic Tuesday for the first time in seventeen years. In an election that drew more than 200,000 citizens to the polls, a Democrat was named mayor.

All indications are that the voters, however, were more anxious to register their dissatisfaction with the Republican party than they were to elect a Democrat. Of the two candidates, the Republican generally was conceded to be the stronger personality.

Of the party organizations, certainly the Republican was as efficient and as energetic as the Democratic. And normally there are many thousands more Republicans than Democrats in the Ohio city.

Obviously, the people are in a mood this year to vote their protest against the party in power. That would seem to be the lesson in Tuesday's election.

Admiral Byrd plans to build an Antarctic city 500 miles nearer the pole than Little America. Just the place for the American people to warm up to the debt cancellation idea.

Philadelphia may abolish movie censors. Despite high advertising rates, henceforth colorful shows will just have to weather along on their own.

The undertaker in London who advertised free funerals for suicides went broke. He forgot about London's large Scotch population.

Now that the Olympic games are coming up, it might be well to explain that the pole vault is not in a bank at Warsaw.

## Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

SOME of the high-class bunk we put out to the youngsters these days emanates from educational institutions, although fond papers and mamas put their stamp of approval on it.

The fallacy of football as a means of moral development should be established easily, but most of us subscribe to the idea of loud cheers. We pretend to believe, for instance, that a stout young man, by making a touchdown for his alma mater, can by this act gain some virtue that will assist him in conquering what we are pleased to call the "Great Game of Life."

We tell him that when he gets out upon the field before thousands of paid spectators he will learn fairness and a respect for rules and how to bow to defeat with a good grace.

What it does in reality is to instill within the young performer a desire to play to the grand stand. And as a moral asset that is subject to questioning.

I have no doubt that a large part of our present plight in the civic, industrial and political field is the direct result of this false instruction. Far too many college gradates seek the limelight, that would fit him for a splendid life of helpfulness to humanity.

We need right now more mental and fewer physical gymnastics in our schools.

WE claim, of course, that in football, as in other sports, the boy is taught that winning or losing does not matter, and that the only thing that counts is how he conducts himself in the game. But the boy, if he is not a nitwit, easily can see how the winners are lionized and how chilly is the attitude of the student body and the alumni after he executes his fourth consecutive fumble.

Football, as it is conducted today in most high schools and colleges, has become a refined racket. And grandstanding is a national weakness.

It is hard to understand how a fine sport that has degenerated into one of our major industries, and in which the student is used for exploitation purposes, can help either the cause of education or ethics.

Moreover, the money we waste annually on tough-muscled morons could, if rightly applied, enable many a worthy boy to acquire knowledge that would fit him for a splendid life of helpfulness to humanity.

We need right now more mental and fewer physical gymnastics in our schools.

## M. E. Tracy

Says:

There Comes a Time When No One Can Play Safe by Pussyfooting. That Time Is Here With Regard to Prohibition.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—Regard less of who is nominated, or what the platform says, prohibition will be an issue in this year's national election.

Many political leaders would like to evade it, but they can't. The best they can do is to gag candidates and emasculate party declarations. Popular opinion has broken away from their control.

It is absurd to suppose that the American people will go on much longer pretending to uphold a law which they violate and sneer at every day in the week.

It is even more absurd to suppose that they will go on paying bootleggers \$1,000,000 a year to make a joke of the Constitution, especially when the government needs the money.

## Pussyfooting Passe

BOTH parties are split on prohibition, and that scares the politicians. Unable to guess which way the cat would jump, politicians prefer to play safe.

Well, there comes a time when no one can play safe by pussyfooting. That time is here with regard to prohibition.

People have been thinking and talking about this monumental farce for more than a decade. Nor has the thinking and talking been without effects. Millions of minds have changed since war fever swept the eighteenth amendment into being.

The illusion that prohibition would reduce crime has been dissipated in the worst era of gang rule, racketeering, murder, theft, wife desertion and broken homes from which this country ever suffered.

## Law Made Mockery

DEPRESSION has blasted the final hope that prohibition made prosperity, no matter what its other faults.

We know now that business can go broke and men lose their jobs without the saloon.

What is more dismaying, we know that the general violation of one law leads to the wider violation of all laws.

It will it disloyalty, uncontrolled appetite, pure wickedness, or what you will, but the fact remains that a sufficient number of people are ignoring prohibition to make it mockery.

## Official Winking

THIS nonsense about not getting discouraged, since no phase of law enforcement ever attained perfection, has little to do with the case.

Violations of the prohibition law are occurring not in spite of the best our officials can do, or sincere opposition on the part of the public. As a general proposition, they are winked at, if not encouraged.

The thousands of speakeasies which flourish from one end of this country to the other do not suggest a criminal minority. The income tax returns of bootleggers do not suggest lack of patronage.

The people are against prohibition. If they weren't, it could be enforced.

## Stamped for Repeal

PRIDE has caused us to hesitate. It's humiliating for a great nation to admit a mistake, particularly in so short a time and after all the shouting.

The American people don't like to be humiliated, but they do like to be honest. They have adopted a law which they can't stomach. But that is better than to hide behind a smoke screen of nullification as they now are doing.

Prohibition has been changing with regard to prohibition ever since it went into effect. Each succeeding year has seen fewer and fewer advocates of the dry cause. During the last two years, the drift away from it has verged on a stampede.

Prohibition is being recognized as a source of political corruption, an agency of crime and a breeder of social disorder, especially among the young.

The demand for a show-down grows more and more insistent, and political leaders would do well to heed it.

## Let the People Buy!

BY ROBERT F. PAINE

WASHINGTON'S latest move indicates inflation, and in such policy there is danger, just as in an emergency case there always is some danger in surgery.

The phraseology of the new measure is "to provide for advancement of funds by federal reserve banks to member banks that have no further eligible paper," and one of the most important provisions permits government securities to be used as the basis for issuance of new currency to an estimate of about \$2,500,000,000.

But, United Press informs that it is the intention to issue the new currency in denominations as low as \$10. Fine!

An entering wedge can be driven far into the depression and a strong pull made on hoarding, by taking the people into partnership in applying remedies. That is exactly what has been done, to highest advantage, in other national financial emergencies.

Why follow the usual channels of inviting proposals made to the federal reserve through bankers, brokers, etc.? Why not invite popular subscription to the government obligations, enormous quantities of which the government surely has to offer?

Let the people in!

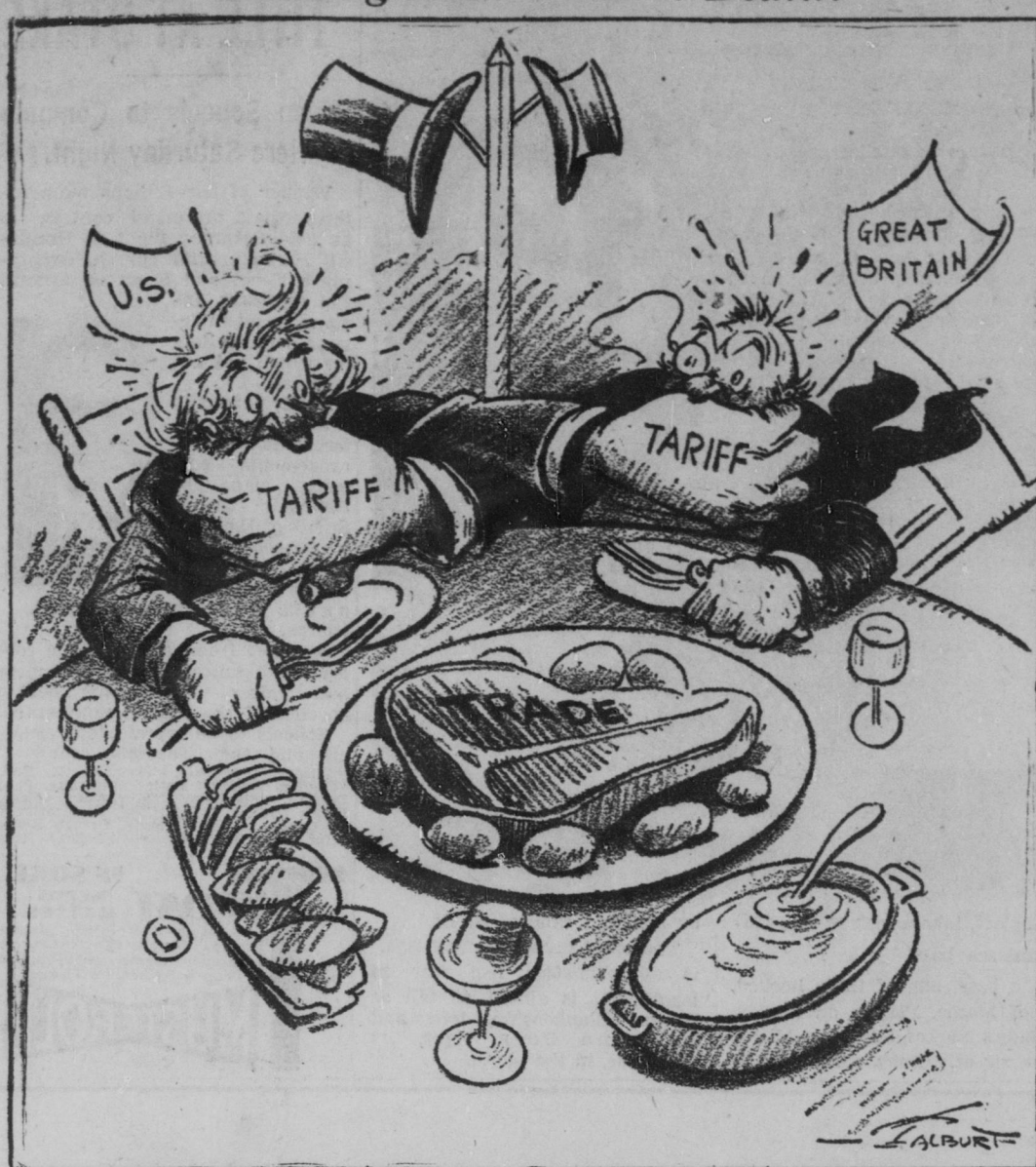
IN the fierce panic of the '70's, when Secretary John Sherman brought about resumption of specific payments, congress authorized him to issue \$10 and government bonds of as low denomination as \$50. The people bought the resumption bonds.

In the World War, emergency subscriptions were opened, through the postoffices, in thrift stamps of 25 cents, war savings stamps of \$5. There were United States bonds at \$50 and the banks even "carried" on the installment plan scores of thousands of the purchasers thereof.

The people bought Liberty bonds till it hurt.

Today, France issues its obligations

## Starving Each Other to Death!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## Barber Shop Sanitation Essential

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

A BARBER shop, conducted with some conception of what constitute sanitary regulations, is a safe place for any one and a most satisfactory concomitant to modern existence.

Conducted without proper safeguards of the customers' health, a barber shop may be a menace to the whole community.

For this reason, several states have adopted rules regulating the conduct of barber shops and beauty parlors, but many communities are completely without such regulation.

In Ohio, the public health council has issued regulations which very well might be followed by every other community. In the first

place, the regulations point out that no one shall act as a barber who has any communicable disease or any communicable infection of the skin.

The barber must wash his hands with soap and water before serving each customer. Shaving mugs, brushes and combs, are to be immersed in boiling water before being used on each customer.

Each customer is to have a new clean towel and the head rest is to be covered with a clean towel or paper, changed after each customer. Towels known as steamers must be fresh and used only once without rebelling.

Alum or other materials used to stop the flow of blood may be applied in powder or liquid form only.

This regulation is of greatest importance, since the old alum stick with dried blood on it permits the growth of germs which are transferred from one customer to another.

Such a transfer can not occur when a powder or liquid is used. The cloth used to catch hair and prevent its falling on the clothing is not to be pressed directly against the neck of the customer.

The neck should be wrapped with a paper neckband or clean piece of gauze and the towel is put against this neckband, which is to be used only on one customer and then discarded.

Barbers should refuse to give service to any person whose skin is badly infected, or whose skin shows this presence of eruption, unless the customer brings his own shaving brush, lather cup and razor.

Ideals and opinions expressed in this column are those of one of America's most interested 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

POKER isn't a good game. I've played every month or so for several years, but it's the companionship which attracts me.

Most of the others in the group feel the same way. Dealing a hand and righting himself without any outside aid. Even though all those who cruise about bleed for his sufferings and long to see him again on even keel, the storm-racked one persists in regarding them as his enemies.

## Poker Isn't So Much

POKER is completely dreary without talk. This alone is enough to indicate its inferiority to contract. After I have seen the dealer in general conversation, the whole company spellbound while he discoursed for ten or twenty minutes upon some music which he had lately heard or the technique of one of the newer painters out of Paris.

It is very difficult to get a loser even. His judgment slips away with his chips. Folly takes hold of him, and at times he sinks even deeper into the hole, in spite of the best efforts of his fellows.

If a winner merely could say at some reasonable hour, "Let's call all deficits off," that would be the simplest and pleasantest road out of the difficulty. But you can't do that.

To offer freely to forgive his debt might madden him, and very possibly any such generosity I grant you

(that all this is supposition) would be regarded as an insult. It is risky even to play hands badly and to lose on purpose.

The victim of harsh fate wants to feel that he has weathered the gale and righted himself without any outside aid. Even though all those who cruise about bleed for his sufferings and long to see him again on even keel, the storm-racked one persists in regarding them as his enemies.

Unfortunately, such a cessation occurs infrequently. Material considerations war against wish fulfillment. Some are likely to insist that play, once resumed, go on, and this is not because they love poker but only because they hate to lose money. This, again, is evidence that poker is structurally weak and imperfect.

Contract can be played for no stakes at all. I am told that it is the best of fun, even under such circumstances. A tenth of a cent a point readily holds the attention. And I have played most passionately for prizes when the capital prize was a novel by Mary Roberts Rinehart, with knitted slippers for the runner-up.

As far as I know, poker never is played for anything but actual money or promises to pay, and I have known those who felt the evening wasted if they came away from the table with no more than a doubtful lien against the future fortunes of some good friend.

Let the people buy Confidence bonds!

What a glorious thing, what a lever to lift the lid off gloom and distrust, would be an opportunity given the youth of our land to purchase government securities, thus to serve as did the whole people, but fifteen years ago, to serve in the spirit that inspired millions of our youths to offer their lives, to dare death, mutilation, blindness and dependence for subsistence upon one or another sort of dole!

Begin to create confidence in the banks, not solely through measures advertising that they are weak, but also by giving the people a chance to help in the restoration.

Let the people buy Confidence bonds!

Let the people in!

IN the fierce panic of the '70's, when Secretary John Sherman brought about resumption of specific payments, congress authorized him to issue \$10 and government bonds of as low denomination as \$50. The people bought the resumption bonds.

In the World War, emergency subscriptions were opened, through the postoffices, in thrift stamps of 25 cents, war savings stamps of \$5. There were United States bonds at \$50 and the banks even "carried" on the installment plan scores of thousands of the purchasers thereof.

The people bought Liberty bonds till it hurt.

Today, France issues its obligations

What were the names of the children of Abraham Lincoln?

There were four sons and one daughter. Robert Todd Lincoln died in 1926; Mary Harlan and Edward Lincoln died in infancy; William Lincoln died in childhood and Thomas "Dad" Lincoln died at the age of 18.

Has Texas adopted a state bird? The meadow lark has been officially adopted.

can well understand, an impossible situation. Here is the unfortunate equation: It is no fun to play except with valued friends, and it is bitter business to win money from them. Night after night I have gone home heartbroken, and occasionally this was because I had lost, but more often because I had won.

And at such times I have tossed wakeful almost till noon wondering whether Dave could afford to lose so much, and, in fact, the agony has gone deeper, for I have even wondered whether he had it to lose.

Too Many Discards

THE chief trouble with poker is that there are not enough good hands. Too much of the game is consumed in looking at cards, cursing and tossing them away. If there were a person who played simply to win and for no other reason, he probably would not come into more than one pot out of every six or seven.

Save for the dullness and mean spirit of the proceeding, one might do excellently by following the rule to cast aside anything less than a pair of queens.

But this is not intended to sound an utterly pessimistic note. Poker can be reformed, and from within. The remedy is easy. Nothing more is needed than the simple expedient of making the deuces wild. Some would also include the treys and one-eyed jacks.

But I'm against that. Civilization isn't ready for such radicalism. Four jokers are enough.

(Copyright, 1932, by The Times)



## FRENCH REPULSE RAID

ON Feb. 18, 1918, the German armies resumed operations on the Russian front, crossing the Dvina river.

This move came as the hour of the end of the armistice between the central powers and the Soviet government came. Austrian troops did not participate in the new offensive.

French troops repulsed a raid on their trenches on the western front, in the Butte du Mesnil sector.

German planes made their third raid in as many nights on London, but there were no casualties. In so lately had set an entire poker crowd in roars of merriment.

Here we have another necessity which hedges poker and does not apply to bridge. It seems to me almost essential that people participating in the former game should be friends—at least, when the evening begins.

Bridge may be played, not at all unhappily, even if every one concerned except yourself is a devastating bore. In fact, I don't mind playing with my enemies if the stakes are reasonably high and the opponents possessed of little skill but without comradship, poker is no more than nervous strain.

The Thantopsis has adopted the excellent practice of including in its membership one or two actors, on the ground that these droll fellows may serve to make the night tolerable by rendering specialties.

The facts of poker create, as you

## SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Galileo Laid the Foundations for the Modern Machine Age.

THREE hundred sixty-eight years ago, on Feb. 15, Galileo was born. Physicists throughout the world celebrated his birthday this year. The National Broadcasting Company, in honor of Galileo, invited Dr. R. A. Millikan to make an address over the radio.

It was appropriate that Dr. Millikan, America's foremost experimental physicist, should be chosen to speak in memory of Galileo. For experimental physics had its beginning with Galileo.

Galileo is best known to the world as the first man to turn a telescope upon the heavens. But his work in the realm of physics was equally as important as his work in astronomy.

It was Galileo who laid the foundations of the modern machine age. Dr. Dayton C. Miller, former president of the American Physical Society and professor of physics at Case School of Applied Science, begins one of his lectures to his students by writing upon the blackboard a mathematical formula: F equals m multiplied by a, F stands for force, m for mass; and a for acceleration. That formula, which the world owes to Galileo, is the basic formula of the machine age.

Dr. Miller tells his students, Every machine in the world is based upon it.

And so, with the help of a secret telescope and turned it first to the heavens. Wonder after wonder met his sight. He was the first to behold the mountains upon the moon, the four moons of Jupiter, the crescent phase of Venus, the individual stars of the Milky Way. By his observations he established firmly the Copernican theory that the sun, and not the earth, was the center of the solar system.

But tragedy as well as success came to Galileo. In 1637 this same Galileo, now a lonely prisoner at Arcetri, his mind and body worn by his astronomical beliefs, went blind.