



# The Indianapolis Times

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

## The State Rebels

The only interpretation that can be placed upon the gathering of the mayors of eighty-seven cities and towns at Martinsville is that the state has finally rebelled against utility domination.

For many years the utilities have ruled Indiana. They have nominated legislators and Governors. They have dictated appointments to the public service commission. They have written the laws for the state and defeated suggestions that might have interfered with their unbridled greed.

They have entered the councils of both parties and employed, as lawyers and lobbyists, the influential men in both Democratic and Republican organizations.

Now the mayors of cities have declared war to the limit on this sovereignty.

In the next legislature there will be a demand for laws that will make public ownership easy instead of most difficult.

There will be a demand for laws that will take the greedy hands of the utilities out of the pockets of industry and commerce.

There will be a very insistent demand for a new commission composed of men who do not owe their jobs to a secret servility to some agent of the utility interests.

When the mayors of these cities, who, after all, are compelled to play politics in order to retain their offices have reached the conclusion that it no longer pays to play with the utilities, it is time to take notice.

If the utilities wish to escape a growing demand for public ownership, they will at once reduce their rates without waiting to be forced by a reluctant public service commission and then appealing to federal courts.

The people finally know that they have been robbed and are being robbed.

The amount taken from public taxation for lighting and water has become intolerable.

The charges against the home owner and industry is too great to be longer tolerated.

Eighty-seven cities in revolt should be warning enough to the utility managers that the day has arrived to quit sucking eggs.

## Confusing Two Issues

In an effort, apparently, to head off either direct federal relief for the unemployed or an extensive program of public works, conservative members of congress are pushing bills providing for \$132,000,000 worth of federal road work.

The administration has come to their assistance with a statement from the United States bureau of public roads that "at least 85 per cent, and possibly more than 90 per cent of the money, expended for a concrete pavement ultimately is paid out as wages and salaries."

If this statement could be accepted at face value, it would appear that \$132,000,000 spent on roads would go a long way toward providing a living for at least those members of the unemployed who are male and able-bodied.

But closer study of the statement leaves one not quite so optimistic.

It turns out that only 15 per cent of the road building fund goes directly to men employed on construction jobs. Another 12 per cent goes to men employed in quarries, sand pits, mills and factories where materials are produced.

It is conceivable that some closed factories or quarries might be reopened to produce the necessary materials and unemployed men might benefit directly.

But from that point on, the calculation is on a very different basis. Fourteen per cent of the money spent for roads is paid to men employed by transportation companies, principally railroads.

The statement says, "Part of the cost is paid to the men who build the machinery and equipment used in constructing highways. Even more is paid to the men who build the machinery and equipment used in the sand pits, the quarries, the cement mills, and the steel mills where the road materials are produced, and to those who build the equipment of the companies that deliver these materials."

"Some is paid to miners, the men who work in refineries, and those who work on the pipe lines in the oil fields—the industries which provide the fuel that produces the power used in producing materials, in transporting them, and in working them into finished pavements."

In other words, the bureau of public roads supposes that to build \$132,000,000 worth of new highways this winter to aid unemployment, oil companies first would place an order for new pipes, factories would hum, pipes would be laid, oil wells would be sunk, railroads would be laid, new engines would be built, the steel mills would re-equip themselves with machinery, and new cement mills would be constructed.

As a practical matter, the railroads would use their existing crews, and the engines and rails they already have, and so for the most part would the other auxiliary industries so glowingly named.

It is, of course, an excellent thing for the government to spend money for any sound public works project, and thus lend what aid it can to business. But such project should not in any way be confused with providing immediate emergency relief, either through substantial amounts of work for idle men and women, or grants to local agencies feeding the hungry.

## Two Simple Souls

Candidates of the common people is the way Speaker Garner of the house of representatives and Governor Murray are described by friends who want to make them President.

These Democrats, "Happy Jack" of Texas and "Alfalfa Bill" of Oklahoma, are touted as frank sons of the west.

It is curious, therefore, to find that Garner and Murray are virtually the only two Democrats in the race who are not frank about their views on that most controversial of issues, prohibition.

"Alfalfa Bill," in his recent tub-thumping declaration of platform, forgot to mention the subject of prohibition. And "Happy Jack" has refused to answer the question of a Texan admirer as to whether he is wet or dry.

It is possible that these two simple Democratic souls are trying to repeat the trick which Hoover played so successfully in the last campaign, when he ran as a wet to wets and as a dry to dries?

It was a good trick, so good indeed that it now is so widely known that the public is not apt to be taken in by it again.

If Garner and Murray intend to straddle on prohibition, they should find a trick which already has not been exposed.

Apparently Al Smith, who just has declared for the referendum-state home rule plan in place of his

earlier repeal plank, expects Hoover and the Republicans to attempt a straddle again.

Certainly it looked that way several months ago. But now several administration cabinet members and many G. O. P. national and state leaders are so impressed by the rising wet tide that they are working for and expect to get a moist plank in the Republican platform.

So it would be a mistake for Garner and Murray, or any other Democrats, to be too sure that the Republicans will be dry in the campaign.

## Gentle Mobs

It is the duty of the well-born to maintain civilization's standards.

But down in southeastern Kentucky the other night the Bluegrass Bashaws of Bell and Harlan counties turned themselves into a night-riding mob. In a state where chivalry is traditional, these leading citizens—doctors, business men, officers of the law, lawyers and one newspaper editor—are charged with kidnapping a group of New York writers at midnight and carrying them in autos to the state line at Cumberland Gap.

There, it is alleged, two of the New Yorkers, Waldo Frank and Allen Taub, were brutally beaten on the head. Their crime, it seems, was bringing food into the region for striking miners' families.

This is not the first outrage reported from these terror-ridden counties. Strikers and their sympathizers have been intimidated by law officers and company guards.

To be called a Communist there subjects one to the working of the Kentucky criminal syndicalism law, said to outdo all such laws in its sweeping denial of fundamental rights.

The United States senate has been appealed to, and an investigation may be ordered. With both law and the tradition of fair play apparently lacking, there seems to be no other way.

After all, the soft coal regions of Kentucky are part of the United States.

## Gray Haired League

A commentary upon the callous American attitude toward old folks is the formation in Miami of the "Gray-Haired League." This organization of old folks proposed to eradicate discriminations in industry against people above middle age; educate its members to keep it; encourage among young people "a higher respect for old age"; seek national protective legislation.

If the Gray-Haired League is wise, it will concentrate at once on enactment of the Dill-Connelly bill for federal aid to old-age pension states. This is an immediate relief measure that could be passed at this congress if public opinion were aroused sufficiently.

We are learning lessons in valor and fortitude from our friends, the Chinese. We will might emulate them in another of their national virtues—veneration for the elders.

## Gandhi's Secret

Mahatma Gandhi's recent plea to his followers to get rid of mankind's two greatest fears—the fear of death and the fear of the loss of material possessions—helps to explain how it is that this wizened little man can possess such a tremendous amount of power.

"No power on earth," says Gandhi, "can subdue a man who has shed these two fears."

When you stop to think about it, it is easy to see that he is right. If you have not the slightest qualms about losing everything that you possess, nothing that any one can do to you can frighten you; and when a man who is in that fortunate position puts himself at the head of a great movement, it will prove an uncommonly hard task to stop him.

## Life of the Party

There are two or three adventures about whom we wonder, and one, at least, about whom we are sure.

"They laughed when I sat down at the piano," we wonder if they didn't continue to laugh.

"They were surprised when I addressed the waiter in French." We wonder if their surprise equaled the waiter's.

But we are sure about the boy who read the book on "How to Become the Life of the Party."

That was Pat Hurley, and he still lives!

When a husband and wife have a joint checking account, it's easy to guess who is running the joint.

Now that Gandhi's spinning wheel has been seized for taxes, some enterprising American salesman probably will try to sell him a bedsheet.

## Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

POOR Ruth Judd got a pretty bad break. The people of the United States were far more concerned about legalized wholesale murder in the far east than they could be about any individual crime. Hence the trial took up but small space in the newspapers and it looks as if she will go to the gallows without the usual ballyhoo.

With none of her own sex on the jury, we have the rare spectacle of "twelve good men and true" pronouncing the death sentence on a personable young woman. We are coming along, it seems.

A good many individuals feel that this is indeed a step forward. "Women," they say, "will get their just deserts. Criminals will find that they can not escape justice."

I wonder. The workings of the same mind are indeed strange. Mrs. Judd's crime was a peculiarly repulsive one. But the state of Arizona's law when it leaves her body dangling at the end of a rope. So was that of the civilized Anglo-Saxon, at the end of 1917, when his orgy of murder was over.

FOR the righteous peoples of the earth dress up their homicides with pretty names: Justice, patriotism, the cause. Amid the general wave of hate and destruction that goes on, Ruth Judd's deed is but one small pebble upon a very wide and blood-stained beach.

In a short time she will have been forgotten, but society, unheeding, will go on creating new criminals, over and over and over.

Its bootleggers will sell poisoned gin, its strong will prey upon its weak, its injustices will flourish, its greed will grow, its demagogues will lie, and its tyrants still strive to crush human liberty.

We will continue to put bayonets into the hands of our boys and tell them they must go forth and maim and destroy other boys against whom they have no grudge.

The state will go right on dealing death to the individual who has dealt death. And thus we shall be no better than the criminal whom we slay.

Until we come to see that two wrongs never can make a right, we shall have crime and murders and hatred and bitterness and social chaos.

# M. E. Tracy

Says:

Judge Seabury Has Jeopardized His Probe of Tammany Hall by Dragging the Investigation Into National Politics.

NEW YORK, Feb. 29.—Rightly or wrongly, most people construe Judge Seabury's speech as a bid for the Democratic presidential nomination. That is what makes it so unfortunate, so inopportune and so likely to spoil an otherwise promising effort to clean up politics in New York City.

It was no time to drag a local investigation into national politics, particularly in such a way as would give the chief prosecutor an appearance of trying to capitalize it. The investigation never had but one chance of success. That chance lay in keeping it on such a high level as would remove the handicap of suspicion and distrust which always arises when partisan prejudice, or personal ambition appears to be the dominant motive.

## Nonpartisan Probe

THE investigation of New York City affairs was authorized by a Republican legislature and approved by a Democratic governor. The auspicious start which that gave it was increased by the selection of Judge Samuel Seabury as chief counsel.

The fact that Judge Seabury was a Democrat was accepted generally as a guarantee that the investigation would not be run by and for Republicans.

Every one recognized that Tammany Hall would be brought under fire, but hoped that the investigation would confine itself to individual offenders and let the voters attend to the larger issue at the next local election.

## Embarrassing

WITH presidential campaign in prospect and with the Democratic party moving heaven and earth to take advantage of an unusually favorable situation, the danger of making a grand assault on Tammany hall, especially before the investigation had been completed, was obvious.

Such a move could only embarrass Governor Roosevelt and suggest a drive for party solidarity by leaders of all factions.

The idea that Judge Seabury had accomplished enough to warrant his stepping out as a candidate for the presidential nomination was not taken seriously, except by those who interpreted it as unfriendly propaganda designed to discredit him.

## Too Much Zeal?

ONE finds it hard to believe that a man of Judge Seabury's poise and caliber would go out of his way to take such a hopeless flyer in politics.

It is far pleasanter to suppose that he has been misunderstood; that his attack on Tammany hall was due to an excess of zeal, and that his inferential criticism of Governor Roosevelt was unintentional.

Considering the good work he has done and the foundation he has laid for a worth while reform in New York City, it is unthinkable that he would spoil it all by the injection of personal ambition at this time.

## Bolsters Criticism

PARTISAN prejudice is the great weakness of every investigation in this country.

Whenever a probe begins, it is taken for granted that one party is out to get the other, and that politics can be depended on to play a superior part to justice.

In this respect, the New York investigation enjoyed a singularly happy send-off. Tammany leaders have said that it was the same old thing, that the probe was out to make political capital, that Governor Roosevelt's hand had been forced, and that Judge Seabury's real concern was to make a name for himself, but they have found few sympathizers.

Judge Seabury has put plausibility into their argument. It is most unfortunate.

# Questions and Answers

How cold was it and how deep was the snow during the month of March, 1906? What day of the month was the biggest snow?

The coldest temperature for the month was 6 above on March 17. The biggest snowfall for 24 hours was on March 18 and 19. When 12.1 inches fell during the 24-hour period. Since there was 2.5 inches of snow on the ground at the time it started snowing, this made a total of 14.6 inches.

Who took the place of Knute Rockne as football coach at the University of Notre Dame? Hearty (Hunk) Anderson.

How old is Billie Burke, the actress? Forty-six.

What was the maiden name of the first wife of Woodrow Wilson and when were they married, and when did she die?

She was Ellen Axson of Savannah, Ga., and they were married June 24, 1885. Mrs. Wilson died at the White House, Aug. 14, 1914.

What is the calorie value of a piece of butter, one inch square and one-fourth inch thick? 100 calories.

What were the largest gate receipts for a prize fight? The record was \$2,658,660, at the Dempsey-Tunney fight at Chicago, Sept. 22, 1927.

Is Justice Holmes of the United States supreme court related to Oliver Wendell Holmes, the poet? He is a son of the poet.

What is the derivation and meaning of the name Flavius? It is from the Latin flavus and means yellow.

What proportion of the total population of the United States is of the Negro race? Out of a total 1930 census population of 122,775,046, those of the Negro race numbered 11,891,143.

## Still Looking for a Clew!



## DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

# Rest, Not Exercise, Relieves Fatigue

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

THE hardest advice to make people follow in times of economic stress is the advice to rest.

The trend of modern life is toward speeding up to a greater mental strain and almost ceaseless activity. As a result, the life expectancy of man over 40 is less than it was twenty-five years ago.

Many a business man feels that the proper procedure for relieving his restlessness is exercise in the form of handball, squash, calisthenics, or golf. When one is tired, relief will not come through physical exercise, but through rest.

The chief value of exercise is to provide stimulation to the activities of the body, not to relieve a fatigued mind.

The fatigue that occurs in industry involves usually very little of physical fatigue, but a great deal of mental fatigue. Emotional factors play a large part in fatigue.

Machinework, specialization of jobs, and increased speed in industry have brought about fatigue due to monotony. When monotony becomes intense, exhaustion of the nervous system is likely.

The time to take exercise is after rest. Therefore, the business man, the white-collared worker, or the industrial worker who has felt the strain of his day's activities should precede any exercise at the end of that day by 15 to 30 minutes of rest.

He then will take his exercise, following it with a warm shower bath and have another fairly long rest period before getting up for

the evening program, or before going to dinner and then to bed.

This advice to rest is not necessarily to indicate that one should give up his activity.

The best life is a useful one. Dr. C. E. A. Winslow refers to the advice given by Nietzsche to "live dangerously."

"Life is to be used, not hoarded," says Winslow, "but neither should it be wasted through unintelligence."

One physician, asked by a patient how to live long, said, "Get a slight chronic disease and take good care of it."

In all our activities, health must be uppermost in our minds, because without health there can be no happiness.

Next: Diet.

# IT SEEMS TO ME

BY HEYWOOD BROWN

CERTAIN admirable qualities can constitute a nuisance and even a danger if pressed beyond the breaking point. Mr. A. A. Milne, for instance has managed to expand whimsicality into a pain in the neck, and Will Rogers seems to be bent upon doing a similar disservice for naivete.

Among the most gifted of stage performers, Mr. Rogers has carried with him into journalism a theatrical precept which betrays him on occasion into gross and unseemly error.

When he takes his pen in hand, Mr. Rogers often seems animated by the actor. "The show must go on." And so he clowns and capers, even down among the dead men and across the face of war.

Life, he says in his quaint homespun way, is just a bowl of chestnuts, and neither blood nor agony is rejected as grisly for the Rogers mill. It is true that Nero fiddled, but he did not syndicate his tunes.

The Cud of Contentment

THE quality of being homespun can be strained, and there are mornings upon which I could wish that Will would cut up his galluses and quit chewing so blatantly the cud of contentment. He urges us not to take very much to heart the travail in Shanghai, for it is his opinion that the writers have to "kinder exaggerate it all to keep it readable." He thinks they "are putting it on pretty thick."

The death of a coolie or of a thousand is nothing much to the amiable Oklahoman who passes by. Laugh, cowboy! Laugh!

"In addition to the army's casualties, General Tso's estimated that 5,500 Chinese civilians, including many women and children, have been killed by bullets, bombs, shrapnel, and fires."

But, as Will Rogers says, maybe they "kinder exaggerate." Perhaps it was no more than 4,500. Something of imagination is

needed to see and feel with any clarity such tragedy as lies well beyond the distant rim of the sky. The earth is round, and emotional sensitivity is flat. As the sea falls away in a gentle arc, our hearts may not dip with the curve, and that is why the homespun man, the hortatory hick, may come to stand as a symbol of cruel callousness and harsh indifference.

## The Cult of Being Simple

BUT being naive is with Rogers a cult rather than a condition, for he has seen the plains of Manchuria and watched the huddled misery of Chinese cities. It should not be hard for him to make a mental picture of what happens when a small bomb falls from the air into the streets of Chapel.

He has seen the feet-bound women and observed their slow and swaying walk, and so he has some idea of the potential spectacle when they totter for their lives out of the range of the guns. A sort of panic in slow motion. And not, I should think, particularly funny.

Will Rogers in his role of Maine Street commentator saw some of the earlier phases of war, but the material inspired him to few of his happiest contributions. He has been more screamingly funny in dealing with other matters.

There is a minor virtue called good taste which might have restrained Rogers from intimating that his professional associates in the far east could be set down as liars when the pressure of conflict came upon the task of news gathering. Reporters, as well as actors, value certain adages and ideals.

The gifted amateur in the newspaper field should not be expected to know them all, but it might be well for him to tread a little cautiously. Will Rogers may pass the terseness test, but he has flunked in accuracy. He advances as one

reason for discounting Shanghai news the fact of censorship, and there is none in that international settlement.

## Looking From the Heights

SOMETIMES I wonder whether there is such a thing as the flying mind. It may be that aviation creates a new set of human values. Certainly all the bitter books about war have been written by the infantrymen from the trenches. I have never heard a bomber confess any great concern after the event as to where his roc's eggs landed. You see, he didn't aim at men and houses, but hurled his bolts instead at ant hills.

Will Rogers in pursuit of his favorite hobby has had of recent years mostly a birdseye view of this world we live in. And so it might be well to appoint a reception committee to wait upon him when he comes down to earth.

And I think the spokesman of the committee should walk across the field and tap the mind of the man upon the shoulder and tell him, "Mr. Rogers, it really isn't funny any more."

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## People's Voice

Editor Times—The plan, advanced by the American Legion to alleviate suffering in this country, caused primarily by widespread unemployment, is the only real attempt so far by any well organized group that promises results.

It is entirely fitting that the same man that fought to secure for our country justice in the eyes of the world should gird themselves to cope with a situation just as serious as that which confronted the nation in the stirring days of 1917.

This movement possibly can restore some of the confidence the workingman has lost in those he elected to serve him, a dangerous condition for any country, the first step toward anarchy, which perhaps will serve as a warning to our so-called statesmen, that their first duty is to their own people.

We believe the common people of this country, on some given date, should hold mass meetings in every town represented by a chapter of the Legion and pledge themselves to support this movement. Such a gesture as this would be all that is necessary to warn our lawmakers that results, not quibbling over the means, are expected of our public servants; that confidence among the people must be restored by our financial leaders; that the great industrial corporations treat their employees not as mere chattels, but with a fairness and consideration that is their due.

Let the captains of industry forget their "Andrew H. Brown" complex and much of the present serious situation could be solved.

G. L. DEVINE.

How old is Al Capone and has he any children? He is 33 years old and has one son 10 years old.

Is it bad luck to have a black cat cross your path? This is an old superstition, but there is no foundation for such belief.

# SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Space Absorbs Sun's Energy and Turns It Back Into Electrons, Belief of Astronomer.

SPACE is pictured as a sort of cosmic factory which absorbs the energy radiated by the sun and stars and in time turns this energy back into the electrons of matter, in the newest scientific theory.

The theory is advanced by Dr. William D. MacMillan, professor of mathematical astronomy at the University of Chicago.

Dr. MacMillan disagrees with the proponents of the theory of relativity, who believe that the universe is expanding. The notion of an expanding or exploding universe is based upon observation of the distant nebulae.

The spectrum lines of these nebulae show a shift toward the red, which is interpreted by many astronomers as meaning that the nebulae are receding from us at immensely high rates of speed.

Dr. MacMillan rejects this explanation and prefers to believe that the apparent shift is caused by absorption of the light from the nebulae by space.

Dr. MacMillan's position in one respect resembles that of Dr. R. A. Millikan. Dr. Millikan disagrees with Jeans and Eddington and other followers of relativity, who say that the universe gradually is running down. He sees in the cosmic rays evidence that the universe is "going concern."

Dr. MacMillan also believes that the universe perpetually is regenerated by the transformation in space of spent radiation back into the electrons of matter.

## Sub-Electronic Systems

DR. MACMILLAN believes that the electron, to date considered the smallest unit in existence, is in itself a complex organization.

He believes that the light emitted by the sun and stars and distant nebulae consists of particles, or quanta, as they are sometimes called.

He believes further that as light speeds toward the earth, some of the particles or quanta in the stream fall behind and are trapped into the units which in time will join together to form electrons. He calls these hypothetical units the "sub-electronic systems."

"On the basis of an energy leakage supposition, and the observed shift of the spectral lines, a light quantum loses 1 per cent of its energy in 17,600,000 years," he says. "It requires 1,210,000,000 years for half its energy to escape."

"If you picture a quantum of light as consisting of a flock of 100 birds flying toward the earth," Dr. MacMillan says in explaining this statement, "then one would fall—presumably into the sub-electronic systems—every 17,600,000 years."

"This would not be noticeable in the light coming from stars in the own galaxy, but the scale of the outer galaxies is so tremendous that it does account for the observed loss of energy."

"Under such hypothesis it becomes unnecessary to regard the universe as expanding, much less exploding."

"This not only answers the question, 'What becomes of the energies which the stars are pouring forth so lavishly?' but also its antithesis, 'Where is the origin of the amazing quantities of energy locked up within the atom? When energy is locked up it is an atom, when it is free it is radiant energy as we know it.'"