



The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)
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BOYD GURLEY, Editor ROY W. HOWARD, President EARL D. BAKER, Business Manager
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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."

Meeting a Major Issue

The Pittsburgh Press, a Scripps-Howard newspaper, has announced its support of Senator James J. Davis ex-secretary of labor, in the Republican senatorial primary in Pennsylvania. In the past the Pittsburgh Press and other Scripps-Howard newspapers have opposed the brand of conservative and stand-pat party politics with which Davis has been identified in his state and at Washington.

In this instance Senator Davis has declared himself as favoring modification of the Volstead act and repeal of the eighteenth amendment. His opponent, the colorful General Smedley D. Butler of marine corps and Philadelphia police department fame, is a well-known 100 per cent prohibitionist, and is supported chiefly by a no less prominent prohibitionist, Governor Gifford Pinchot.

As senator, Davis voted for, and Pinchot and his friends advocated, direct federal relief for the unemployed. On this matter the two candidacies are pitched, apparently, on even ground.

The Pittsburgh Press expresses no overweening enthusiasm for the mental stature or political courage of Candidate Davis. At the same time, its editors have reason to distrust the attitude toward civil liberties of Candidate Butler, which, from speeches he has made in the past, embraces the military and autocratic rather than the American and democratic ideal.

From the above it is obvious that, to the editors of the Pittsburgh Press, the outstanding question involved in the present contest is that of prohibition. This is the issue that is thought paramount.

Wherever other elements of character and public policy permit, this is the stand that other Scripps-Howard newspapers may be expected to take.

And with good, and sufficient, and well-considered reason!

The problem of amending, if not repealing, oppressive federal prohibition laws has passed out of the realm of academic debate, and into the sphere of quite possible political action. In the recent wet-dry test vote in the house of representatives, twenty-one reversed votes would have meant a prohibition defeat.

This possibility, which becomes almost immediate by reason of the elections this fall, tinges our whole political horizon. Every representative and senator to be elected this year undoubtedly will have the opportunity and the duty, during his term of office, to cast a vote on prohibition that really will count.

Heretofore, this situation has not seemed to exist. Today it dictates only one possible honest course—to meet the issue and to meet it squarely.

The Scripps-Howard newspapers favor immediate modification of the Volstead act, repeal of the eighteenth amendment and return of the liquor problem to the states for the following reasons:

Present statutory definitions of the alcoholic content of "intoxicating" beverages have no scientific basis in fact, while suppression of beer and wines creates a market limited to much more harmful spirituous drinks.

Any federal sumptuary legislation is at variance with the whole spirit of the Constitution, which is that of the widest possible degree of home rule.

Proved ineffective in practice, federal attempts to enforce the prohibition laws infringe police powers of states.

While liquor, some of it poisonous, flows freely everywhere, the federal government foregoes vast sums of revenue from its taxation, and is put to enormous futile expense, the whole making up a large part of the present burden of taxpayers. So federal prohibition goes to the very heart of the present economic crisis.

It is the profits of bootlegging and liquor smuggling that are the "sneaks of war" for the major "rackets" that actually threaten our civilization today, from kidnapping and banditry to ballot box stuffing and police corruption.

The Scripps-Howard newspapers believe that federal prohibition properly will be a major issue in every congressional election this year, and in the presidential election this November, for these reasons:

So long as this question, cutting deeply into the hearts of the people, cuts crosswise through each of our great political parties, as well as through progressive and liberal groups in congress, the development of no sane and logical economic program by any party or group is possible.

Until the question of federal prohibition is settled, other progress, the routing of criminals, the clearing out of political corruption, waits throughout the country.

That the question is far from settled as it now stands, in spite of the eighteenth amendment and the Volstead law, is demonstrated by the expressed dissatisfaction of millions of people, as well as by the continued and "from bad to worse" drinking habits of the entire country.

The Scripps-Howard newspapers have supported the legislative activities and extolled the characters of outstanding statesmen like, for instance, Senators Norris, Cossigan, and Walsh of Montana, whose political fights always have been fights in the interests of the common man and of public decency, but who are known as drys.

Certainly we will support no spineless or simple "organization" office seekers against men of this character in any case where an editorial opinion is demanded.

Nevertheless, other things being equal, or nearly equal, as in the Pennsylvania case, it will be the policy of these newspapers to point out, with respect to each of this year's congressional and senatorial candidates, that his vote in the near future on prohibition probably will be the most important vote he ever will cast in the new congress.

The Water Barons

Despite the fact that Public Service Commissioner Cuthbertson protected the water company from exposure of the extortionate character of their rates as compared with charges in other cities, the public did get a squirt on some of the practices of the water barons at the Tuesday hearing.

The people found out that one of the operating costs of the company is a membership in a political club for a man who lives in Philadelphia.

They discovered that contributions to an organization whose chief function is a demand for reduction of wages of school teachers and policemen are charged as an operating expense of distributing water.

The people found that every "good fellow" gesture of the company in the way of memberships in civic bodies or charitable groups comes directly from the people's pockets and does not reduce the profits of the owners by a single penny.

Of course, the bookkeeping methods for hiding the gigantic profits are entirely beyond the original in-

vention of the public utility law and unjustified under any theory of regulation.

It is not difficult to be a "good fellow" with other people's money. That is the reason this company and other utilities can send their handshakers into public groups to mingle with the crowds and lead them. They can participate in various activities and become prominent. The bill is charged directly to the public.

Just how a membership in a political club for Clarence Geist of Philadelphia can contribute to the delivery of water to citizens of Indianapolis may be understandable to Cuthbertson and to other utility-minded officials. The people may require an explanation.

Mayor Sullivan and his legal staff gathered a large amount of evidence concerning rates charged for water in other cities. That information showed that the rates in this city are high. The mayor believes them to be more than just "high." They are unfair and unjust.

But the city has not been permitted to present this evidence of extortion and greed.

Technical objections prevented this public disclosure. The water company did not dare let its customers know the truth, if the truth could be suppressed.

But enough has been disclosed to demonstrate that the people are entitled to relief. If it is impossible to obtain it by regulation, the people may decide to build a new plant. A concern that charges political contributions to its operating costs deserves little consideration.

City and State Taxes

Throughout America there is a movement for reduction of city and state taxes.

Insofar as it seeks to eliminate waste, it is sound. Activities which are useless or not worth the price should be eliminated. In useful activities, able officials can, if they try, often accomplish the same purpose with expenditure of less money.

But if this movement seeks under the guise of "economy" to eliminate those progressive things which have made life easier and brighter for the workingman, it will not have the support of those fair-minded elements without which it can not succeed ultimately.

The workingman and those interested in his betterment know that public schools, parks, libraries, hospitals, and health work mean more to him than they do to wealthy taxpayers who can obtain similar service from private agencies.

When these services are supplied by public agencies, and paid for out of taxation, the workingman gets more than he pays for in taxes, whether he pays taxes directly through home ownership or indirectly through rent.

Public school education for the average family actually is worth more in dollars and cents than the entire tax bill which the average home-owner pays. He gets all the other local government services free of charge. The difference between actual cost and value is paid for by the big taxpayers, as it should be. This community service paid for by taxation is one means of bringing about a fairer distribution of wealth, something which most thinking people believe is needed imperatively in America.

Those sincere in their desire for governmental "economy" will attack governmental waste, but will not attempt to eliminate those things which have raised the standard of living of the workingman.

Judges and Politics

The petition by 100 leading lawyers asking Judge Harry Chamberlin of the circuit court again to become a candidate for the bench was more than a merited compliment to an excellent public servant.

It demonstrated completely the necessity of changing the system under which judges are chosen so that partisan politics will play no part in the search for justice.

Judge Chamberlin has not been a politician since he went upon the bench. He has been a judge for all the people and his decisions have been free from any suspicion of partisan bias.

Now he is compelled to go into party primaries and a partisan election if the people are to have the advantage of his services.

Under a nonpartisan selection of judges, or in any election of judges in which partisan nominations were barred, there would be no danger of losing Judge Chamberlin. He probably would be unopposed.

Only those who have been disappointed at the smallness of fees allowed in receivership cases would be disgruntled—or those who hoped to use crooked methods in elections and were checked by injunctions.

One of the necessary changes in our political system is the taking of courts out of politics. The sooner that comes, the less chance there will be of losing the Chamberlins from the bench.

Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

DO you remember the mother in the old fairy tale? She sat at her window, sewing, and looked out at the snow. Then she wished that she might have a daughter with white skin, black hair, and cheeks as red as roses, the most beautiful girl in all the world. Every mother has the same secret desire. Stripped of pretence, I imagine we would all be foolish enough to demand, if we could, superlative physical beauty for our girl children.

So perhaps it is rather fortunate that there are no good fairies standing around ready to grant our wishes.

It may be true, but nevertheless I believe it to be true, that more girls have suffered from, than have profited by, rare loveliness of face and form. If beauty always were innocent and uncalculating, like that of the fairy tale child, the story might be different.

But in these knowing days, a girl especially dowered with perfections is subjected to undue attention and therefore is the victim of more than ordinary temptation. Nine times out of ten she spoils her life before she is old enough to know better.

The tragedy queens of history, the sirens, the "powers behind the throne" were accounted beautiful. And they almost invariably suffered dire disappointment and often met tremendous downfalls. They were the stormy petrels of femininity. Though they sometimes may have altered the course of nations, they did not in any case sustain stability of a world.

The girl with ordinary good looks has a better chance for a successful career, a better chance for getting a good husband, a better chance for living a normal, satisfying life, and a better chance to enjoy a contented old age than any beauty.

I think one of the most harmful things that has developed in our era of exhibitionism is the emphasis that we have placed upon physical attractiveness. We have crushed truth to earth to sell cold creams.

M. E. Tracy

Says:

We Are Beginning to Understand That New Work Must Be Found for Millions of Men and Billions of Capital.

NEW YORK, March 23.—This country faces a greater readjustment than most people realize. More than anything else, the crash of 1929 revealed a situation that could not, and should not, be restored.

Had it been the genuine article, it would not have collapsed. While the depression justly can be attributed to worldwide conditions, it should be remembered that this country played a major part in bringing about those conditions.

Since 1914, the United States has been recognized as the world's financial and industrial leader. We can not deny a large share of responsibility for what happened.

Wealth Dissipated

MUCH that happened was due to mistaken policies right here at home, to overproduction in certain basic lines, to overconfidence in the security of our position, to an unreasonable inflation of values, to an unwise dissipation of our surplus wealth.

Major industries were overbuilt, capital was wasted and stocks were boomed. People were crowded into our cities and given jobs, with little concern as to whether the set-up would be permanent. Apartments and hotels literally were thrown together for their accommodation.

Everybody was going to live in a rented room or flat and get a pay check each Saturday night. Taxes mounted and rents rose. It was a beautiful system, and no one wanted to believe it could go wrong.

Inflation Not All

THERE was more wrong with the system than inflation. It took no account of those changes which occur as the result of invention, or mere caprice. It was not prepared for what oil did to coal, or electric refrigerators did to the ice man.

At the rate farms were being abandoned, it looked as though every acre of food would go up in price, but the reducing of acreage, rather than the reduction of acreage, closed cars and steam-heated houses played havoc with the textile trade. Safety razors wrought a revolution in the barber trade.

Movies put the legitimate theater out of commission. Talkies lost the local orchestra player his job. And so one might go on ad infinitum.

Our own figures are worse. They indicated that 32,500 were killed and 962,325 injured in 835,250 automobile accidents in 1930.

All sorts of analyses have been made as to the causes of motor accidents. They are beginning to be taken for granted.

Newspapers conduct serious campaigns without much effect, and then decide that motor accidents are hardly news.

Studies have been made of records, but it is hard to understand why, in the city of Chicago, during

recent months, by far the most frequent and the most serious accidents occurred on two of the city's boulevards so wide as to allow both motorists and pedestrians ample opportunity for maneuvers.

The case of running modern motor cars deceives drivers. The car steps up its pace without an adequate realization by the driver that increased speed has developed.

Unquestionably, fatigue plays a part in many serious accidents in which drivers fall asleep at the wheel, or become so fatigued that their judgment as to distance and pace is perverted.

Some tests should be made to establish the outside limit of the capacity of drivers to stay at the wheel and some limitation should be placed on the number of continuous hours of driving permitted.

Coroners' figures in Great Britain show that 15 per cent of fatal accidents were primarily due to excessive speed.

Editor Times—The lower middle class, composed of small merchants and professional people, maintains in the present crisis a very unusual position. Thoroughly frightened by the rapid shrinkage of their investments and of their incomes, yet fighting desperately to maintain their respectable front, they clutch frantically at every offering of the current quacks of "economic medicine." Every panacea, no matter how preposterously utopian, is taken eagerly to their bosoms.

In consequence, we see them zealously embracing anti-hoarding campaigns, job-finding campaigns, and the multitude of other campaigns initiated by their overlords. The bulk of the financial and industrial capitalists in a vain attempt to stem the tide of rapid disintegration.

Blinded in their fright, by the need of some hope and assurance, they fail to see the futile inadequacy of all these campaigns.

The anti-hoarding campaign, to begin with, is a fake from start to finish. The mass of the people, it is obvious, can not be hoarding. They already have been milked dry. And such hoarding as the middle class itself has done it undoubtedly will continue to do, for while its hopes are very general, its fears are very precise and specific—fears, that is, for whatever cash remains.

The bulk of the money, however, remains in the hands of the banks and big corporations. Read the corporation reports today, if you will, and always note the boast of a "strong, liquid position."

Our capitalist rulers, therefore, in initiating the anti-hoarding campaign, merely were starting a sham battle against a practice of which only they were consciously guilty. And this capitalist hoarding will go on, for our big banks and corporations still must maintain a "strong liquid position."

Furthermore, the purpose of this campaign was announced as that of providing the funds and credits necessary for starting up the wheels of industry again. But now it appears that our big industrialists are our most conspicuous hoarders.

They therefore have all the funds and credits needed for starting up the gigantic machines they control. But they will not use them, because the output of these machines would have no markets, and the industrialists would have no profits.

To speak of the anti-hoarding campaign is to speak of the biggest hoax ever perpetrated on the American people.

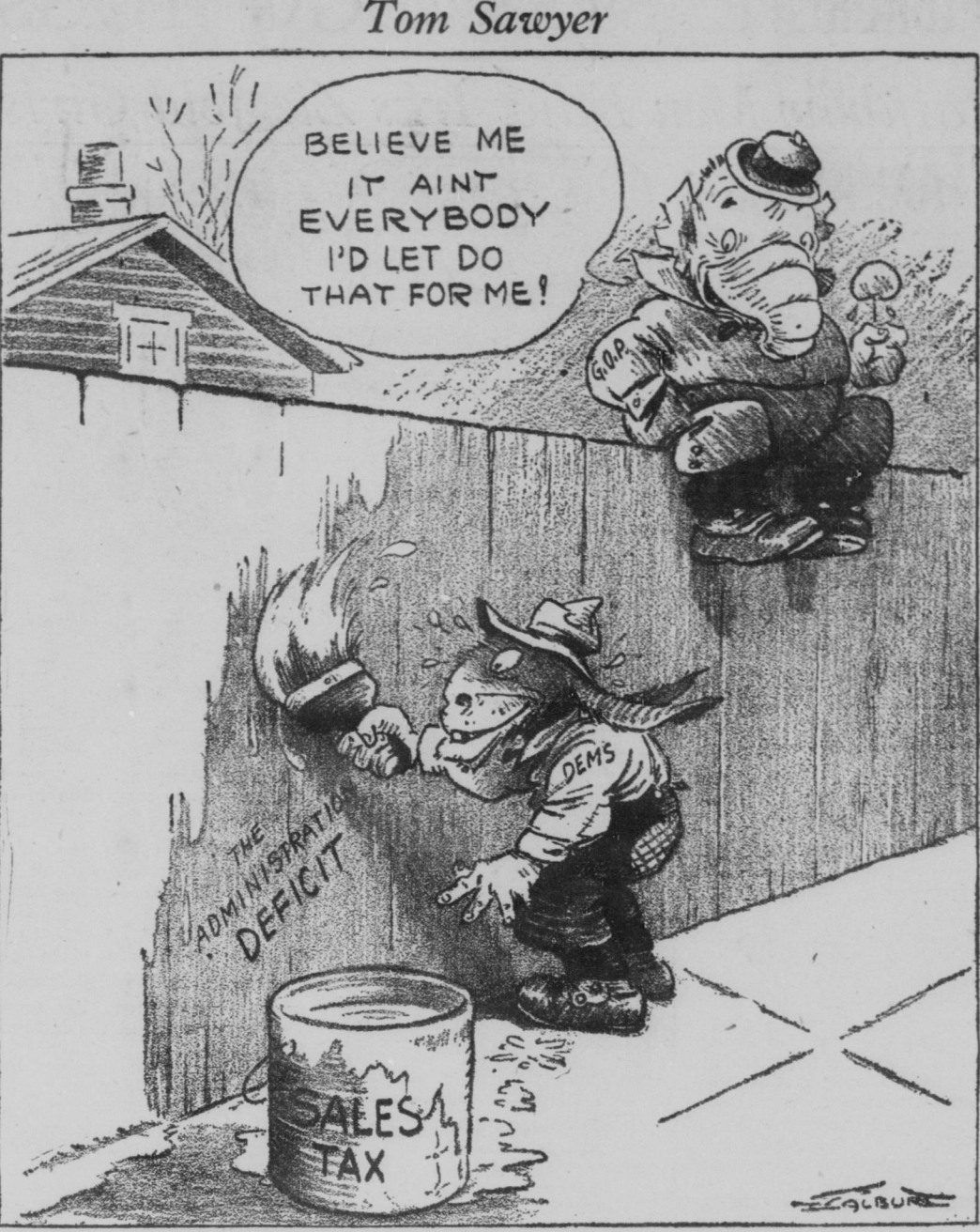
WILLIAM AYERS, Box 242 C, R. R. 14.

Editor Times—United action for employment is winning throughout the nation, proving that the consolidated forces of all America can achieve any task for common good. Our organization is throwing its full strength into this campaign in the belief that one million jobs can be found in America for one million workers now unemployed.

Nationally, the American Federation of Labor has endorsed the united action campaign and is a part of it. But the campaign is not labor's campaign or the legion's campaign, or the campaign of any particular organization. We are not seeking jobs only for union men, or only for legion members, but for all who are unemployed.

My particular message to the people of this community is, "Do not leave this work to be done by the labor organization alone, or by the advertising men alone, or by any group or organization alone." It is the task of every man and woman in this city and in the nation. It is a task calling for united action, with all organizations and all men and women working together.

Great strength of the campaign lies in the fact that it is the campaign of a united America—it is everybody's campaign against unemployment. At last we have gone about meeting this issue as we would go about winning a war. A



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Fatigue Causes Many Auto Crashes

This is the second of two articles by Dr. Fishbein on automobile accidents.

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

IN the last year for which figures are available, 6,000 people lost their lives and 150,000 were injured in England as the result of motor accidents.

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Invariably in fatal accidents there are people who will testify that cars were going much slower than they actually were going.

Statistics for one year in Great Britain show that more deaths were caused by cars going less than ten miles an hour than by the cars going at a much faster pace. But it is hard to credit such statistics.

The head of the Safety First Association in Great Britain is authority for the statement that one-third of the casualties occurring in London were due to children running across roads and 10 per cent to children playing in the roads.

We seem indeed to have come to the time in relationship to motor accidents when they are looked upon in a fatalistic manner and when no one is taking the problem with sufficient seriousness.

If this point of view is permitted to persist, the number of deaths, accidents, and injuries must inevitably increase.

Times Readers Voice Their Views

Editor Times—The lower middle class, composed of small merchants and professional people, maintains in the present crisis a very unusual position. Thoroughly frightened by the rapid shrinkage of their investments and of their incomes, yet fighting desperately to maintain their respectable front, they clutch frantically at every offering of the current quacks of "economic medicine." Every panacea, no matter how preposterously utopian, is taken eagerly to their bosoms.

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SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Scientists Still Are in Conflict on Structure of the Universe.

A DEMONSTRATION of the unity of the universe has been, from one point of view, the chief triumph of modern science.

It has been shown that our bodies and the distant stars are made of the same stuff. The laws that control the falling of a stone also control the motions of a double star.

As the late Dr. E. E. Slosson said, "Science means simplification. It substitutes a single rule for a million miscellaneous observations."

To the savage, Nature was full of caprice. The modern scientist finds that the behavior of Nature is predictable in many instances.

The chemist has reduced the stuff of the physical universe to ninety-two chemical elements. The physicist has reduced these further by showing that the atoms of the chemical elements merely represent different combinations of two elementary particles, the positive and negative electron.

"It is strange," as Sir William Bragg has said, "that the immense variety of nature can be resolved into a series of numbers."

But modern theoretical physics goes even further and regards both the positive and negative electrons as manifestations of energy, "bottled energy," as it is sometimes called.

"All the life of the universe," says Sir James Jeans, "may be regarded as manifestations of energy masquerading in various forms, and all the changes in the universe as energy running about from one of these forms to the other, but always without altering its total amount."

Mysterious Universe

BUT while scientists agree upon the essential unity of the universe, there still are conflicting opinions about details of the structure of the universe.

A number of eminent scientists have undertaken to give pictures of the physical universe. One of them, written in language which is understandable to the average layman, is given in Sir James Jeans' excellent book, "The Mysterious Universe."

This book, which enjoyed wide circulation at the time of its publication, has been reissued by the Macmillan Company in a dollar edition.

Personally, we like the dollar edition better than the original edition, since it is printed in a better type face. It also is worthy of note that the new edition has been revised and otherwise brought up to date by Jeans, so that it contains many pages of new material not in the original edition.

The book is divided into five chapters. Four deal with the universe from the viewpoint of the scientist. The fifth represents an excursion into philosophy.

It is this last chapter, perhaps, which has stirred up the most comment. Among those who have attacked it is Bertrand Russell, who takes both Sir Arthur Eddington and Jeans to task for their recent excursions into philosophy.