



The Indianapolis Times

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

The Water Compromise

Properly speaking, the people won no victory in its contest before the public service commission for fair water rates. All that it got was a concession, the terms of which were dictated by Clarence Geist and accepted by the city because there was no chance of obtaining more from the public service commission.

The city will reduce its tax rate. That was the concession. The water company will cut down its outrageous bills to the extent of \$65,000 and collect \$11,000 of this back from big consumers.

The other change is that of policy. The company will abandon its practice of robbing the poor to pay the bills of the more comfortable and now play no favorites among citizens as to the source of its revenues.

The minimum rate is cut to \$1.08 a month. That saves 42 cents. But larger users of water are expected to pay what is saved to these small consumers. Heretofore, the little fellow bore the unfair charge.

All that the water barons promised was that they would cut down their charges against the city. They expect to take all they have been taking except \$55,000.

The company asserts that it has the right to say how much each citizen must pay for this necessity of life and that there is no escape because it has title to all sources of water for this city.

The situation is monstrous and absurd. It should be the signal for a fight in the next legislature to set this city free from such control. There must be laws making public ownership of water supplies easy and not difficult. There must be laws that will permit the people to free themselves from this bondage.

There was no demand from the public service commission that this company quit its larcenous practice of charging club dues, contributions to civic organizations and charities, payments to groups that have public influence as an operating expense.

There was no demand from the public service commission that the company show a reason for paying, as an operating cost, a salary of \$1,000 every month to Geist, the president, who seldom visits this city. The people pay this tribute. What he does to earn this, in the face of the fact that he has high salaried managers to run the plant, must remain a mystery.

There are ways of escape, of course. The most obvious is public ownership and the building of a new plant if there is insistence upon a high valuation. The other is to revert to primitive sources and methods of supply, such as was adopted by a large downtown hotel. Wells can still be dug. Men are idle.

The people can save themselves. The ballot box next November is the path. The people need a Governor who is under no secret obligations to the utility crowd.

The people need a legislature staunch enough to withstand the blandishments of the campers at the Claypool, who represent organized greed.

The fight has just begun. One crust has fallen from the table. But as yet nothing like justice has been obtained.

Futile Politics

Equally futile are the latest gestures of the President and the house of representatives toward balancing the federal budget. The house passed an oil and coal tariff disguised as a tax bill.

The President ordered congress to cut expenditures, but not to touch the military-naval budget, the one large cut is possible.

While we can not agree with partisans who hold Hoover chiefly responsible for the depression, certainly he and his administration are responsible for acts such as the tariff measure, which intensified the depression, and are responsible for the two years of dangerous delay in facing the facts of the depression.

Having failed to the extent of two and half billion dollars to balance the last two budgets, the administration might at least have cut to the bone its estimates for next year.

Instead, the President is now blaming the Democrats, who already have taken several sizable chunks off the Hoover budget.

There is no chance of balancing the budget, however, without military cuts. The President and every one in Washington has known this for a long time.

Hoover started out with much ballyhoo about the reductions he was going to make in the army and navy, and each year, when the White House battle of the budget is over, the Hoover military economy plan turns out to have been camouflage.

Now the President goes a step further, in addition to refusing to make military cuts himself, he virtually orders congress not to do so.

"Our army and navy costs about \$700,000,000," he says. "We should not reduce the strength of our defense further."

He admits that more than half of the budget of four billions "can not be reduced; it is largely an inheritance of the great war through increase of payment on government obligations and the care of veterans and their families."

When he adds the \$700,000,000 current war budget to the total which congress must not touch, there remains out of the four billion only one and one-third billion dollars for the entire operation and services of the civilian government.

To expect congress to make the necessary saving entirely out of that restricted civilian budget, without wrecking vital government functions, is unreasonable. It can not be done. And Hoover knows it can not be done.

While the President was issuing his statement a high tariff bloc of Republicans and Democrats in

M. E. Tracy

Says:

Congress Has Gone From One Crazy Extreme to Another, While the Hoover Administration Has Twiddled Its Thumbs.

NEW YORK, March 28.—This tax rumpus started with the assertion that an annual increase of \$1,100,000,000 in federal revenue was needed to balance the budget.

The sales tax was expected to produce about one-half that amount.

Since the sales tax has been defeated, congress faces the task of raising something like \$500,000,000. That is the problem in a nutshell.

The house was trying to make water run up hill by a tax on oil imports.

This tariff measure, which has no place in a tax bill and which was defeated during the last high tariff legislation, would "yield no revenue" because it virtually would embargo imports, as Secretary of the Treasury Mills has pointed out.

Of course it would make consumers pay more for gasoline; it would enrich oil companies with large surplus stocks, though it would not help the country or the government.

Having voted tariffs on oil, coal and coke imports, the house listened to glib demands for tariffs on a score of other commodities—all in the name of tax legislation.

The Hoover administration already has prolonged the depression to the point of desperation by its billion-dollar high tariff law of 1930. If the best the Democratic house can do is to raise the trade-killing Hoover tariff wall even higher, the country no longer can expect aid from either the Republican or Democratic leadership.

The American people will go right on drinking about so much beer whether it is taxed or not. Also, they will go right on paying for a lot of stage stuff in connection with the government if congress fails to interfere.

Billions in Beer

TWO cents a pint on beer would produce \$300,000,000, according to the lowest estimate.

Who doubts that the remaining \$250,000,000 could be taken care of by cuts in government expenses?

Unenforced prohibition and unnecessary extravagance are the real obstacles.

The American people will go right on drinking about so much beer whether it is taxed or not. Also, they will go right on paying for a lot of stage stuff in connection with the government if congress fails to interfere.

Details Demanded

"I believe in making Indians the most respected in the United States, so that Hoosiers everywhere may always take just pride in their commonwealth."

The statement comes from James Ogden, attorney-general of the state, in his announcement that he might be urged to accept the governorship.

It will find a response in all hearts and minds. All citizens would like to see this accomplished.

But the statement seems to be lacking in something for which the people have been listening.

Why has Indiana not been respected above, or at least on an equality, with other states?

Will the attorney-general please tell the voters what in his opinion has brought about this unfortunate condition of affairs?

The implication of course, is that its government has been in bad hands or been badly directed by its governing powers, and by inevitable inference, that the Governor, being able to correct this situation, has been responsible for it.

In just what way would he, as Governor, proceed to correct the situation?

Of course, he would change the highway commission and get rid of some of the suspicion that attaches to the spending of twenty millions a year. That would be obvious.

But would the new Governor proceed to toss out the public service commission, such as was pledged by a candidate for the nomination on a different party?

Would he make it respected by liberating the people from the control and the looting by public utilities? Or would that be a job for the next attorney-general?

Would he become the vigorous advocate of income taxes to relieve the farms and the small home owners? Or would he talk of tax justice and let the sheriff become the greatest of realtors?

The people will agree with Mr. Ogden that the thing he pledges should be accomplished. He may be the man to do the job. But before he, or any other candidate, receives the commission from the people, he must give details.

Step forward, Mr. Ogden, and all others. The cause is just. The state is not respected by Hoosiers anywhere instead of everywhere. Just how will you bring it back to self-respect?

That Hollywood scenario writer who is reported to be working on four plots at once could save himself a lot of trouble by making three carbons of the first one.

The consumption of beer in England has declined so far they're considering passing a prohibition act to bring a return to normalcy.

A man in Poland claims he can change sand into gold. If many more countries go off the gold standard they'll be working to make it the other way around.

Celebration of April 14 as Pan-American day will have at least one good point. It will remind everybody that Charlie Curtis still is Vice-President.

The dining room is the most inefficient part of the house, an architect says. And if this depression gets any worse it may become totally superfluous.

Now they're boozing Gene Tunney for the United States senate. If that Chicago referee could do the counting Gene ought to be a cinch.

An Ohio woman was awarded a divorce because she found lipstick marks on her husband's shirt front. Just another argument in favor of red silk shirts.

Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

A READER wants to know whether I do not agree that a larger percentage of married people are unfaithful than ever before. I do not.

There may be more philandering wives right now than statistics could show forty or fifty years ago, but I believe there is no appreciable increase in the male side.

There might, indeed, be a slight decrease. For when the double standard of morals was regarded as a sacred code, wives were forced to conduct themselves carefully, since if they slipped even so slightly their husbands could divorce them without any trouble whatever. The men, of course, were immune from any punishment for the same offense.

Now, however, since we have begun to see the flaws in such a system and believe that morals are made for men as well as women, there is a great change in thinking upon the question.

The boys of this generation, while they may prefer wives of unimpeachable chastity, do not condemn so harshly the same behavior in girls and women in which they themselves indulge. Love, therefore, has a new and deeper meaning.

AND much as we may deplore the slippish moralities of the present, we can console ourselves with the thought that out of these changes will come a saner and happier relationship between the sexes. Morals really are on the upward rather than the downward trend.

The loss of a girl's virtue, no matter how young or guileless she may have been, once was the mark of everlasting disgrace. A mistake, even though prompted by the highest love, sounded her doom for her lover abandoned her.

Never could she hope to escape from the clasp of slanderous tongues. Today we have grown in Christian charity, if not in decorum. We no longer condemn such a girl to perpetual ignominy.

Men are beginning to understand at last that girls, too, are subject to temptation and that though they may fall they still can preserve their soul's integrity.

Men are beginning to understand at last that girls, too, are subject to temptation and that though they may fall they still can preserve their soul's integrity.

And this, it seems to me, is something which we should praise rather than condemn.

Questions and Answers

How is the name Marcia pronounced and what does it mean?

It is pronounced mar' shah, and means languid. It is of Celtic origin.

Can a beam of light start a machine and fire a cannon?

Metallic selenium is a nonconductor of electricity when in the dark, but on exposure to light it becomes a conductor. This remarkable property has led to the selenium cell, the basic principle of which depends upon coating with a thin film of selenium, a conducting metal such as copper. When a selenium cell is connected in the circuit of a motor or in the driving circuit of a cannon, it acts as an open switch as long as it remains in the dark. When light falls upon it, it becomes a conductor and permits current to flow to the motor and to the cannon.

What is the land area of the Union of Soviet Socialist republics, and how does it compare with the area of the United States?

The total area of the United States, including territories and dependencies, is 3,733,393 square miles, and the land area of the Union of Soviet Socialist republics is 8,144,228 square miles.

What position did Governor Gifford Pinchot of Pennsylvania hold in the administration of President Roosevelt?

He was chief of the United States forest service.

What President of the United States was known as "Old Public Functionary?"

James Buchanan.

Daily Thought

Let not your heart be troubled.

—John 14:1.

It is not work that kills men; it is worry.—Henry Ward Beecher.

The Leaning Tower



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

'T. B.' Takes Heavy Toll in Factories

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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

SINCE tuberculosis is concentrated in certain groups, the campaign against this disease must be centered on those groups rather than attempting to take in all the people.

The series of schemes by which it was attempted to thrust this burden on ultimate consumers present nothing but the cheapest kind of.

The real extent to which cowardice and confusion reign in congress was revealed when Democrats began to vote for unreasonable tariff boosts after having helped defeat the sales tax.

Too Much Politics

DURING the last two months, congress has gone from one crazy extreme to another, while the Hoover administration has twiddled its thumbs.

The treasury department has no plan, except the one sketched out by Mr. Mellon just before he resigned.

The President is reported as so anxious to give congress a free hand that he has not taken time to read the Glass bill.

Call it by any name you like, but what it amounts to is a rotten game of politics in which a few progressive leaders honestly are trying to find a way out, while Democratic and Republican wire pullers try to shape the performance so that it will help one party, or the other, no matter what damage is done the country.

People who live in cities and in towns and who draw their support from employment in industries are the ones primarily concerned.

In 1930 the death rate from all forms of tuberculosis among industrial policy holders in a large insurance company was 81.3 per 100,000.

In contrast, the death rate for ordinary policy holders for that year from tuberculosis was only 48.7 per 100,000. The death rate for tuberculosis among all of the people in