



# 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 place a 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 now is 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

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.

## Details Demanded

"I believe in making Indiana the most respected state 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, he must be 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 booming 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 on 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 were 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 slipshod morality 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 if her lover abandoned her.

Never could she hope to escape from the clamor 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. And this, it seems to me, is something which we should praise rather than condemn.

## 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.

Billions in Beer

TWO cents a pint on beer would produce \$300,000,000, according to the lowest estimate. Who doubts that the remaining \$200,000,000 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.

Cowardly Confusion

BALANCING the federal budget requires no greater economies, or readjustments on the part of the federal government than private business has been obliged to make. There is not, and never has been any mystery in the problem.

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

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 the cause of one or the other, no matter what damage is done to the country.

Resentment Mounts

IT requires no sage to realize that a great wave of resentment and discontent is forming throughout the United States, not because of the depression, not because of low prices and wage cuts, but because the federal government has failed to meet the people half way.

All the people expect is that the federal government will do what they have had to do, will adopt economies such as they have had to make and meet this emergency with such methods and measures as they have had to adopt.

They ask no originality. All they ask is plain common sense.

Wages Down; Taxes Up!

THE people do not expect tax rises with their earning capacity down by a third, or a fourth. Neither do they expect tariff boosts when foreign trade is lower than it should be.

They do not expect those drawing five, or ten thousand dollars a year from the public treasury to kick at a reasonable cut when stenographers, scrub-women and common laborers are working part time, or no time at all.

They do not expect to provide capital for big business by relieving it of a just portion of the load, nor pay for avoidable extravagance by going without the necessities of life.

Questions and Answers

How is the name Marcia pronounced and what does it mean? It is pronounced 'mar' shah, and means 'laundress'. It is of Celtic origin.

Can a beam of light start a machine and fire a cannon? A 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 firing 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 3,793,393 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 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 FISHER

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 these groups rather than attempting to take in all the people.

Tuberculosis is much more prevalent in the industrial population than in farmers, business men, and professional workers.

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

the United States for 1929 was 76 per 100,000 people.

If deaths from tuberculosis of the industrial population were excluded, this rate probably would be much lower than 76.

When figures for industrial workers are analyzed, we find the disease is concentrated primarily among men and Negroes. The rates for the sexes are not different under the age of 10.

From 10 to 15, the rate among girls is much higher than among boys, and from 15 to 20 it is twice as high among girls as among boys.

It is 35 per cent higher among girls than boys from 20 to 25, but after 25 begins to be lower among women. At the ages from 45 to 55 the rate for tuberculosis among women is one-third as high as among men.

Negroes seem to be particularly susceptible to this disease, although

this susceptibility may be due to the crowded conditions under which they live and to the poor nutrition from which many of them suffer.

Highest rates for tuberculosis are found among workers exposed to silica dust, such as those in mines, grinders and buffers, stone workers, pottery workers and workers in clay and glass industries.

Obviously the attack should be made especially on groups which have a high rate.

In this endeavor it is important that early diagnosis be made and that the manner in which the disease is distributed be given wide-spread publicity.

Death rate from tuberculosis today is less than one-half what it was a few decades ago.

It is conceivable that concentration of the attack at the points where the condition is most virulent will bring about another halving of the rate in the next twenty years.

Ideals and opinions expressed in this column are those of one of America's most interesting writers and are presented without regard to their agreement or disagreement with the official attitude of this paper.—The Editor.

## IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

A NEW book called "Sir Billy Howe" throws a novel and useful light upon the American revolution. The subject of this biography, by Bellamy Partridge, is, of course, the British general who charged up Bunker Hill and later opposed George Washington in several major engagements.

When I first heard of him in the history books during my adolescence, he seemed the blackest of the villains. Not only was he the vicious foe of American institutions, but a gross and gluttonous man who lingered at Mrs. Murray's farmhouse drinking Madeira when he might have been up and doing in the business of capturing the continental army.

Strangely enough, I blamed him for his sloth even though it marred his effectiveness in a bad cause. And now it seems, according to the researches of Mr. Partridge, that maybe General Howe wasn't very anxious to win the war. The author does not quite suggest that the various battles of the conflict were in the bag, but he notes the fact that the heart of Howe was not precisely in the endeavor to conquer the colonists.

Only a Political Promise

THE general, according to his biographer, was a Liberal in home politics, and when he ran for parliament as a Whig he roundly declared that if offered a command in a British army against America he would refuse it.

But when the appointment came it was not an offer, but a royal mandate. Moreover, Howe had won the election, and so he grudgingly accepted the appointment to foreign service.

He swung into action first at Bunker Hill, and it is Partridge's contention that this might have been a decisive British triumph if only Howe had followed up his victory. In school they said the result was a draw, but the fact is that the rebels finally quit because they grew weary of looking into the whites of British eyes.

The Jokes of a General

BILLY HOWE loved to talk. I do not think much of his conversation has been preserved for posterity. It would be interesting to know what jests passed across the table.

Of course, there is a legend that Mrs. Murray purposely set out to charm the general and delay his departure. I think it is more likely that she merely listened. That is the best way with generals.

Undoubtedly somebody said, "Let's have one more last round," and as they drank Putnam and his forces were hurrying north along some wooded road which led across the wilderness of Union Square.

A song, a toast, an epigram and now the unders of the republic are well past what used to be Madison

Square Garden and almost out of danger.

If Billy Howe had his life to live over again I wonder what he would have done. His inaction in the time of crisis was, I think, conditioned by his conscious mind. In some less accessible cranny of the brain there lingered a devastating "What the hell!"

The Madeira was of the best, mature and fragrant—in fact, just off the boat. And there sat Billy Howe—Sir William to his soldiers—with his feet stretched out in a glass in his hand, saying, "If you'll heard this before, please stop me."

Now, nobody ever stops a commander-in-chief, no matter how ancient the anecdote. "It seems a traveling salesman came to an inn and General Howe loved the jest heard round the world."

But suppose one of the aids had been a seventh son and endowed with prophetic vision. He might have leveled an accusing finger and exclaimed, "While we dawdle, a nation is being born which in a century and a half will know Brookhart and prohibition and Hoover and the sales tax."

And what would the general have done in that case? How should I know? Perhaps he would merely have called for another Madeira and replied, "Well, aren't they traitors to the king? God save him! Let 'em go and get what's coming. They deserve it."

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People's Voice

Editor Times—Prohibition has had a hard time. The backward influence was the war. War always is a demoralizing influence. The victor and vanquished alike lose in every war.

America has lost twenty-five years of moral achievement by the way, through moral letdown which has taken place. Life has been cheapened and murders have greatly increased; property rights have been rendered less secure, and thefts and racketeering have developed enormously; respect for all standards has been lessened, with consequent violations of law.

All this is not the result of prohibition, though the liquor forces have striven desperately to make men think so. For every war has shown these same after results. They followed our Civil war, when there was no eighteenth amendment.

Prohibition has been far from a failure, though so successful has been the propaganda handed to us that some people honestly believe prohibition has failed utterly. The reason men believe prohibition has failed is because we have accepted the statements of the subsidized newspapers and the politicians.

Granted that prohibition has not been the success that we had hoped, what shall we do about it? Violate the law? Repeat the law and go back to the days of the open saloon, when there was a saloon for every 275 of Chicago population, and the debauching of boys and girls and politics much worse than it is now?

Modify the law in favor of light wine and beer? The people who argue for this are not drinking light wine and beer now, but cocktails and hard liquor. The plea for modification is merely a subterfuge.

Let us go on with prohibition and

## SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Nature's Protective Devices Fail to Save Insects From Their Bird Enemies.

PROBABLY no living creature is immune from the melancholy fate of serving as the dinner of some other creature. The conclusion reached by Dr. W. L. McAtee of the United States biological survey.

Dr. McAtee made an investigation for the Smithsonian institution, paying particular attention to the insects eaten by birds.

His conclusion is that so-called protective mechanisms fail to protect insects, and that all are eaten in proportion to their numbers.

Dr. McAtee not only examined the stomachs of birds, but of fish, reptiles and mammals as well.

His studies strike a blow at the old Darwinian theory of evolution, which contended that protective mechanism aided certain species to survive in the struggle for existence and hence accounted for the progress of evolution.

Saturday I commented on the relations of Dr. McAtee's work to the older theories of evolution. Today I want to give in detail a few examples of his findings.

A striking example of the failure of protective devices is afforded by the termites, Dr. McAtee says.

Popular Dish

THE termites pass most of their lives concealed from their enemies in galleries in wood or underground, or in well-built nests," Dr. McAtee says. "They have a 'soldier caste,' well armed with strong jaws."

"They emit a corrosive secretion. Some of them have warning colors. Yet enormous numbers of them fall prey to birds. They even are eaten by man."

Frogs, rats, jackals, mongooses, jungle cats, and all that all eat, ants devour them. Their protective mechanisms appear to be failures, but, the study shows, they are not eaten out of proportion to their abundance.

"The 'walkingstick' family, according to the protectionist theory, has reached the acme of protective mimicry. Various species look like sticks of grass, bits of moss or pieces of lichen-covered bark. Some are covered with strong spines, like thorns."

"Yet many of them are eaten by birds and their sluggishness makes them the victims of grazing animals whose huge mouths engulf indiscriminately great quantities of grass and insects."

Colors Don't Help

MOST members of the great insect sect which include grasshoppers, locusts, and crickets supposedly are protected by colors almost indistinguishable from the background of soil or vegetation," Dr. McAtee continues.