



The Indianapolis Times

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

The Bonus Bill—A Warning to You

The painful process of budget-balancing moves forward. It leads the list of solemn problems that beset us in this worst of all depressions.

Cut expenses, raise taxes, sacrifice, all are prerequisites to economic recovery. Without a balanced budget we are lost.

Appeals to patriotism are sounded, for this peace-time need is as great as are the needs of war. Our nation is in the red. That is the picture in Washington today.

Into the picture steps the two billion dollar bonus. That such a proposition should be brought forth at such a time seems unbelievable, but it is a fact.

And by all the precedents of politics the bonus stands a 50-50 chance of passing, unless voters back home are heard from.

Those same legislators that now are wrestling with the deficit are more than likely to turn and, in their next breath, undo all they have accomplished by the recent sweat of their brows, by their match-box taxation, their 3-cent stamps, their chiseling here and their chiseling there. For those lawmakers are scared.

They are scared by a ghost that has stalked through all the pages of our history—a ghost that has never been laid—but one that can be laid when and if the great rank and file of American voters speak.

It is regarded as political gospel that the veteran gets what he wants when he wants it. So it was after the revolution, the war of 1812, the Mexican war, the war of the rebellion, the Spanish-American war.

It is that delusion among politicians, with its accompanying fear, which makes possible the proposal of this fantastic two billion dollar expense at a time when this nation, unless its budget is balanced, goes broke.

Two billion dollars! The word billion falls trippling from the tongue.

It sounds much like a million. If one's enunciation is not clear the listener may confuse the amounts. But a billion is a thousand millions!

If a million were an inch, a billion is seven stories tall.

If a thousand dollars a day had been paid out, starting 500 years before Christ—a thousand every day since then, \$11,998,000 of the billion would be left on the day you read this, and that represents just one-half of what is involved in this bonus appropriation bill which comes up for hearing in Washington Monday next.

To distribute the money, regardless of whether it goes to those who need or those who do not need—that is the idea of this bonus bill.

And on whether such a bill becomes a law or is beaten depends whether this nation of ours goes bankrupt.

Make no mistake about that, and as you feel, let your congressman and your senators know. For this is a warning to you. You pay the bill. This is your government. This is your democracy.

For details that will make you pause and think, read the articles by Talcott Powell, beginning in this issue.

Nothing you have ever read has been more important to you and to yours. The position of this newspaper toward federal relief has been made clear many times.

We are for more generous appropriations than are now being made to those who, by reason of war service, are in need, to those who because of that service are mentally or physically incapacitated; to those dependents who survive the ones who were killed in service; to all who in any way were the direct victims of the war itself.

And it is in the interest of them, as well as in the interest of the solvency of our nation, that we today cry "Hail" to this blanket bonus.

Radium: Poison and Cure

Sell a worthless stock and pocketbooks may suffer, but foist off on a credulous public a medical nostrum and human lives may be lost.

This is emphasized in the deaths attributed to radioactive water used for self-medication, under the influence of rosy claims made by purveyors of the dangerous liquid. Radium and its fellow elements used properly have saved lives in treatment of cancer. But it also is one of the most powerful poisons, with no known antidote.

Why did not some one warn the victims? The fact is that the federal government, through the department of agriculture's food, drug and insecticide administration, and through the federal trade commission, has foreseen the menace and done what it could under the law to prevent it. The medical profession has issued repeated warnings.

The most important protection to the individual is common sense, tempered with an application of scientific method. Medicines and other devices supposed to promote health should not be used without competent professional advice.

Treatments for diseases emerge to practical usefulness only after long and careful tests by scientists, who devote their lives to the tedious task of the slow conquest of disease.

In medicine, strident claims should be shunned as the label "poison."

Economy Talk and the Hoover Plan

The people of the United States are tired of being deceived about their fiscal affairs.

Last winter President Hoover submitted to congress a budget showing apparent savings of \$365,000,000 for the coming fiscal year, and a deficit of about \$21,000,000, exclusive of debt retirement.

Now Democratic leaders point out that the President canceled his alleged savings within three weeks by submitting revised estimates of receipts and expenditures for 1933, which increased the deficit to \$1,241,000,000, or approximately the sum it would have been if the savings had not been claimed in the beginning.

The Democratic house then set to work to cut the budget figures, and when it had reported six of the ten annual supply bills, claimed it had made savings totaling \$114,579,552. Republicans in congress at once pointed out that only \$31,300,000 of this amount represents real savings.

Democrats eliminated from the current supply bills sums already obligated, including \$50,000,000 needed in 1933 for loans to veterans on adjusted compensation certificates.

Probably all the \$33,279,000 coming in this category will have to be provided in a deficiency bill next December—after the elections, but still within the fiscal year 1933.

Yet the President continues to talk about his \$365,000,000 saving, and the Democrats still talk about the \$114,000,000 they have saved, and the confusion grows.

The American people have very little interest in the question of which political party receives credit

The Indianapolis Times

M. E. Tracy

Says:

Ninety Per Cent of This Yell for a Full Cash Bonus Was Manufactured by Professional Strutters.

NEW YORK, April 7.—Willard Straight Post No. 842, American Legion, of New York deserves a vote of thanks from the entire country. Its scorching telegram to Commander Stevens in denunciation of the proposed bonus grab was a masterpiece and should be given a place among our most cherished documents.

No outsider could have done the job as well, or effectively. The pork-barrel crowd, by which the American Legion has been misrepresented and dishonored are answered completely. It was fitting that the call for a restoration of common sense and true patriotism should be made by a legion post.

Sheer Pandering

EVER since the war our veterans have been caricatured by a bunch of lobbyists paraded before the public as whiners and pandhandlers, held up as unable, or unwilling, to take care of themselves.

It was an unparalleled exhibition of sheer pandering, and it did not reflect faithfully the attitude of those men who became its unconscious victims.

Ninety per cent of this yell for a full cash bonus was manufactured out of whole cloth by a gang of professional strutters. Of course, the rank and file did not object, because they had only a vague idea of what was being done.

Misplaced Generosity

A PROGRAM has been shaped whereby the taxpayers of this country easily may be called upon to spend \$25,000 or \$30,000 on a veteran who suffered not the slightest injury in connection with the war, or his training for the war.

As the telegram sent by Willard Straight post points out, free hospitalization has been carried to an extreme which threatens grave injustice to the dependents of dead soldiers. Everything in sight has been grabbed for the living, regardless of actual need.

"FACTS show," says the telegram, "that statutes sponsored by the American Legion discriminate against widows and other dependents of veterans killed in war service and favor living veterans receiving payments for disabilities having nothing to do with the war. This is because dead veterans cast no votes?"

Let's Keep Our Heads

IT goes without saying that the country can do no too much for a veteran who was injured in the war, or for the dependents of one who was killed, but beyond that we should exercise sensible control over the proposition of relief.

Despite this official finding by the treasury department, the anti-trade propagandists contend that "the existence of forced labor throughout Russia is a matter of general and common knowledge."

For the benefit of those who will not believe the affidavits of American firms in treasury department hearings, we quote at random from a few of the many prominent Americans who have visited Russia and investigated the charge.

Colonel Hugh L. Cooper—Investigations were carried out by some of the leading business men of the country. They have put themselves on record refuting the forced labor allegations.

Representative Henry T. Rainey (majority leader of the house)—Labor is freer in Russia than in any other country in the world.

Sherwood Eddy (author of "The Challenge of Russia")—The propaganda that these products are the results of convict or forced labor may serve some special interests in the United States, but is not subversive.

General W. N. Haske (former chief of American relief administration)—The Russian worker is, as a rule, more willing and enthusiastic than the American.

Henry J. Frey (Chicago engineer)—The workers and toilers are given first consideration.

H. R. Knickerbocker (New York Evening Post and Philadelphia Public Ledger correspondent, describing a 10,000-mile trip of investigation)—I saw no signs of forced labor under police compulsion.

Louis Fletcher (Baltimore Sun correspondent, reporting on the charge of forced labor in the manganese mines)—I can say quite categorically that there is no forced labor in Chitral.

Arnold Rukeyser (American engineer, replying to the forced labor report)—Nothing could be farther from the truth.

Thus another propaganda myth, used to kill American trade at a time when we need business most, is destroyed by facts.

If congress raises the income taxes much higher, it will be better to turn the income over to the government and keep the tax.

An archeologist has discovered that the rich have been dodging taxes 2,000 years. Well, practice makes perfect.

While the Democrats are battling over a keynoter for their convention at Chicago, they might as well decide who will throw out the first Republican, too.

Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

WHATEVER may be our political affiliations, the opinions of Norman Thomas always are worth hearing. His thinking is the sort that rises above classes and creeds.

In his last book, "As I See It," just published by Macmillan's, Mr. Thomas talks about American liberty.

This is a subject that most of us think we know a great deal about. It is the favorite topic of our orators and we like very much to sing that ours is the "home of the free."

It also is our fond belief that when his liberty is taken away from the American citizen, he immediately will rise in rebellion. Like his forefathers at Bunker Hill, he will fight for his own.

Nothing, contends Mr. Thomas, could be more false than this assumption. It is not true that hard times lead men to revolt. They are likelier to lead them to servile resignation. The masses are very patient. Only long accumulated and unbearable wrong ever move them.

"The average man today," writes Mr. Thomas, "would, if he had to choose, gladly exchange most of his theoretical liberty for economic security. There is no tyranny over the mind worse than the tyranny of constant anxiety for tomorrow's bread."

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The One-Arm Driver!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Iodine Helps in Goiter Treatment

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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

THE last twenty-five years have

seen great scientific advance in

the attempt to overcome goiter,

which is an enlargement of the thyroid

gland, and which sometimes gives

rise to a series of symptoms serious

to health and menacing life itself.

Probably the most significant de-

velopment is the discovery of the in-

fluence of iodine deficiency on the

causation of the simple swelling of

the gland.

Although there are discrepancies

in some of the observations, the fact

remains that, in general, the inci-

ence of goiter in any community

can be greatly reduced by the regu-

lar giving of small doses of iodine.

This fact has been well established.

The constant taking of overdoses

of iodine may stimulate glandular

action to such extent that the per-

son suffers from symptoms of

hyperthyroidism.

These symptoms include loss of

weight, rapid heart and nervous

irritability, symptoms which also have

been observed among women who

have taken thyroid gland substances

to cause reduction of weight.

It has been established that the

danger is negligible when the dose

of iodine is so small that the total

amount taken daily does not exceed

the amount taken daily by people

who live in districts where goiter

is infrequent and who get their

iodine regularly in food and water.

An international conference on

goiter was held not long ago in

Switzerland and special considera-

tion was given to the taking of