

## The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)  
Owned and published at Indianapolis, Ind., Price in Marion County, 2 cents a copy; elsewhere, 3 cents—delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week. Mail subscription rates in Indiana, \$3 a year; outside of Indiana, 65 cents a month.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 28, 1932.

Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Newspaper Information Service and Audit Bureau of Circulations.

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

### Vote for Ellis

The Times has carried the burden of unpopularity at periods for daring to say that prohibition has been a failure.

It believes that in these perilous times, the repeal of the eighteenth amendment would furnish the most practical—and, more important—the most psychological impetus to the return of prosperity.

One-half of this county will vote next Tuesday on nominees for congress in the Eleventh district. In all probability, the Democratic nominee will be elected in November. If that prediction is true, this city should send no pussyfooter to congress, no man who blatantly professes his witness as a disguise to other hidden affiliations.

In all probability the Republican nominee from that district will be a dry, and probably a selection of Coffinism. The present congressman is a candidate for renomination. He is also listed as a dry. His record, otherwise, has been good.

What The Times suggests is that the people who vote in the Democratic primary take out a little insurance against Coffinism.

Judge Willis Ellis of Anderson is a candidate for the Democratic nomination. A lifetime reputation of integrity is his platform.

The courage of age is his recommendation.

He tells you plainly that he is the wettest of the wets. That suggests nothing of compromise. The job means nothing to him. The purpose means everything.

If the voters are wise, they will vote for Ellis.

### Pick Your Own

Sometime between now and Tuesday, the voters will be bombarded with various slates written by groups that have selfish interest in selecting public officials.

The Anti-Saloon League has already made public the list of those who hope to get into the legislature by professing allegiance to the Wright bone dry law. It does not look beyond this fact.

Very many of its selections are known agents of the utilities and machine rule in this country.

The political organizations will recommend those whom they desire to put into power to strengthen their influence. The utilities will have their men, although they will not openly advertise them.

It may be worth the time of those who want freedom from utility domination, a better tax system, saner laws and more economy in government to take an hour off and study the lists carefully.

The records of many candidates are known. They have been in office before. Some have served well. Others have failed when given authority. They should be kept away from further temptation to betray the public interest.

Write your own slate of candidates. Pick those who will serve your interests. And, above all, when handed a slate, be sure you know who wrote it. That may help you to know who not to vote for, even if you are puzzled as to the men to trust.

### The Ralph Dud

There is no evidence that Tom Mooney or Warren Billings set off a bomb in San Francisco back on July 22, 1916, but Governor James Ralph certainly dropped a pretty sad dud in his decision on the Mooney pardon appeal.

He says that he and his associates approached the problem of Mooney's guilt "in a spirit of absolute fairness and without any bias or prejudice of any kind against Thomas J. Mooney."

Yet this flagrantly is belied by the nature of the Governor's statement. Even his summation is composed in large part of allegations relative to Mooney's economic and political views, most of which are not supported by the facts. He admits that his case is based mainly on "the past life of Mooney"—a career admittedly not engaging to the public utilities of California.

Governor Ralph seems not to have learned an elementary consideration of logic and jurisprudence; namely, that reiteration of charges does not constitute proof of guilt. For example, in his points alleged to "cinch" Mooney's guilt Ralph states:

"Mooney and Billings entered into a conspiracy to terrify the citizens by exploding a bomb."

"Billings, tool and agent of Mooney, carried a bomb in a suitcase, first to 121 Market street about 1:30 p. m., July 22, 1916, and then to Stewart and Market streets, scene of the explosion, where he acted in concert with Mooney."

It is almost an insult to any one familiar with the case to repeat once more that there is not an iota of credible evidence in existence to support either of these statements.

Ralph contends that "Mooney has not presented any facts in support of his petition which have not been presented hitherto to the courts and to the three preceding governors of California."

This is substantially true, though Governors Stephens and Richardson did not have the benefit of Mac- Donald's final repudiation and the complete reopening of the case in the summer of 1930. But the plain fact is that Mooney did not need to present any new facts in substantiation of his plea for a pardon.

The complete collapse of the case against him was all that was necessary. It was up to the prosecution rather than Mooney to present new facts if Mooney justly is to be kept in prison.

The facts that the California courts and governors have examined this evidence and have failed to free Mooney and Billings is one of the most incredible reflections upon conceptions of justice and fair play in all the record of history.

Governor Ralph blandly asserts that he is convinced that Mooney "was convicted justly by the jury by whom he was tried." Others in a position to judge of the matter with technical competence have not shared this view.

Judge Franklin Griffin, in whose court Mooney was tried, had some mild misgivings as to how "justly" Mooney was convicted. He has said: "The Mooney case is one of the dirtiest jobs ever put over and I resent the fact that my court was used for such a contemptible piece of work.... Every witness who testified against Mooney has been shown by facts and circumstances developed since his trial, and which are incontrovertible, to have testified falsely."

"There is now no evidence against him; there is not a serious suggestion that any exists."

President Wilson's mediation commission early in 1918 declared unequivocally that "the verdict against Mooney was discredited" by the proof of the Oxman perjury.

John B. Denmore, director-general of employment in the United States department of labor, conducted another official federal investigation and concluded that: "Since the Oxman exposure, the district attorney's case has melted steadily away, until there is little left but an unsavory record of manipulation and perjury."

The jurors in Mooney's case were in a fair position

to estimate the justice of Mooney's conviction. Nine out of ten of those living have signed a petition for Mooney's pardon. Attorney-General U. S. Webb of California petitioned the supreme court for a new trial.

Duncan Matheson, captain of detectives in San Francisco and the man in charge of the investigation of the explosion, urged executive clemency for Mooney. His plea was backed up by Charles Goff, police captain in San Francisco.

It has been asserted by official California that the Mooney case stands or falls with that against Billings, James Brennan, who prosecuted Billings, recommended a pardon for Mooney and Billings as far back as 1926.

Supreme Court Justice William H. Langdon said of the Billings case: "I know there has been a failure of proof to such an extent that there is now not even the semblance of a case against him."

The final conclusion on the Ralph dud must be: "California, there she stands—and how!"

### Hoover and Taxes

President Hoover's address in Richmond to the conference of Governors was one of the best that has come out of the White House in this administration. It should serve the double purpose of focusing public attention on the need for economy and tax reforms, and also on the fact that the problem of state and local expenditures is even more serious than federal expenditures.

Federal expenditures account for less than 30 per cent of total governmental outlays. In eight years the cost of federal government has risen only from \$3,900,000,000 to \$4,500,000,000, compared with an increase in state government from \$4,800,000,000 to \$3,000,000,000.

And the cost of federal government is largely a matter of war and preparation for wars—22 per cent for preparedness, 37 per cent for debts and 18 per cent for veterans' relief, which leaves only about 23 per cent for all other government activities.

The cost of federal government within that 23 per cent can be lowered by eliminating heavy preparation costs and by decreasing red tape, but, by and large, federal expenditures are apt to go up rather than down.

There is a wider leeway for cuts in state expenditures, where there probably is more extravagance and waste in federal government. Construction projects lead some states close to bankruptcy.

The largest part of state expenditures, 34 per cent, goes for land and improvements, with education taking 24 per cent, highways 11 per cent and charities, hospitals and corrections 10 per cent.

Distribution of the cost of local governments is similar to that of states; 28 per cent going for land and improvements, 21 per cent for education, 11 per cent for protection, the chief difference being in highways, on which the local units spend only 4 per cent.

Some saving in upkeep of state and local governments can be made through centralization and elimination of small and overlapping units, through large-scale graft and waste, and through slowing down public construction programs.

But it is unlikely that the American people over a period of years will be content to spend less on schools, hospitals, roads, and the other large items of expense, hospitals and corrections 10 per cent.

Failure is Not Enough

THE Hoover administration has made many mistakes, but that is not enough to insure Democratic victory. Besides, a Democratic house of representatives is providing

nothing more than one scheme after another to make the Hoover administration suggest measures and then

contract at 10 years of age.

When measles appears in a community, parents should be warned of the danger and told to be exceedingly careful about having their children come in contact with those who have the disease.

It is important, of course, that every case be reported at once to the health department by the physician, so that proper measures may be taken. It is only through constant and accurate reporting of disease that prevention is possible.

It is important that every child with measles be kept in a separate room and isolated from contact with

## THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

### M. E. Tracy

Says:

**Democrats Have Been Altogether Too Sure of Victory Next Fall for Their Own Good. There Is a Plethora of Candidates, but No Program.**

NEW YORK, April 28.—Massachusetts Democrats appear to have done more than give Smith a fine send-off and Roosevelt a decided setback. They appear to have stayed at home in surprisingly large numbers.

According to all reports, the campaign was hot. With Democratic enthusiasm and confidence running high, this should have produced a large vote.

In 1928, nearly 800,000 Massachusetts citizens voted for the Democratic presidential candidate, Tuesday, but little more than 200,000 participated in the Democratic primary.

### Overconfident

FOR some time I have felt that the Democratic trend was losing strength, and not without obvious cause.

Democrats have been altogether too sure of victory next fall for their own good. Considering the party safe, they have not done what they should to clothe it with constructive purpose.

The quarreling has been over spoils, not principles. There is a plethora of candidates, but no program.

The main planks of the platform to be adopted by the Democratic national convention should have been worked out and agreed on long ere this. As it is, no one knows what they will include, nor how they will read.

### Plan Is Lacking

HEE-HAW, we're coming back," seems a grimly appropriate slogan for the Democratic party in its present frame of mind.

The prevailing attitude is negative, just as it has been since Woodrow Wilson died.

Whether with regard to Muscle Shoals, the world court, or recognition of Russia, Democrats lack anything like a coherent, purposeful plan. Their strategy includes little more than one scheme after another to make the Hoover administration suggest measures and then

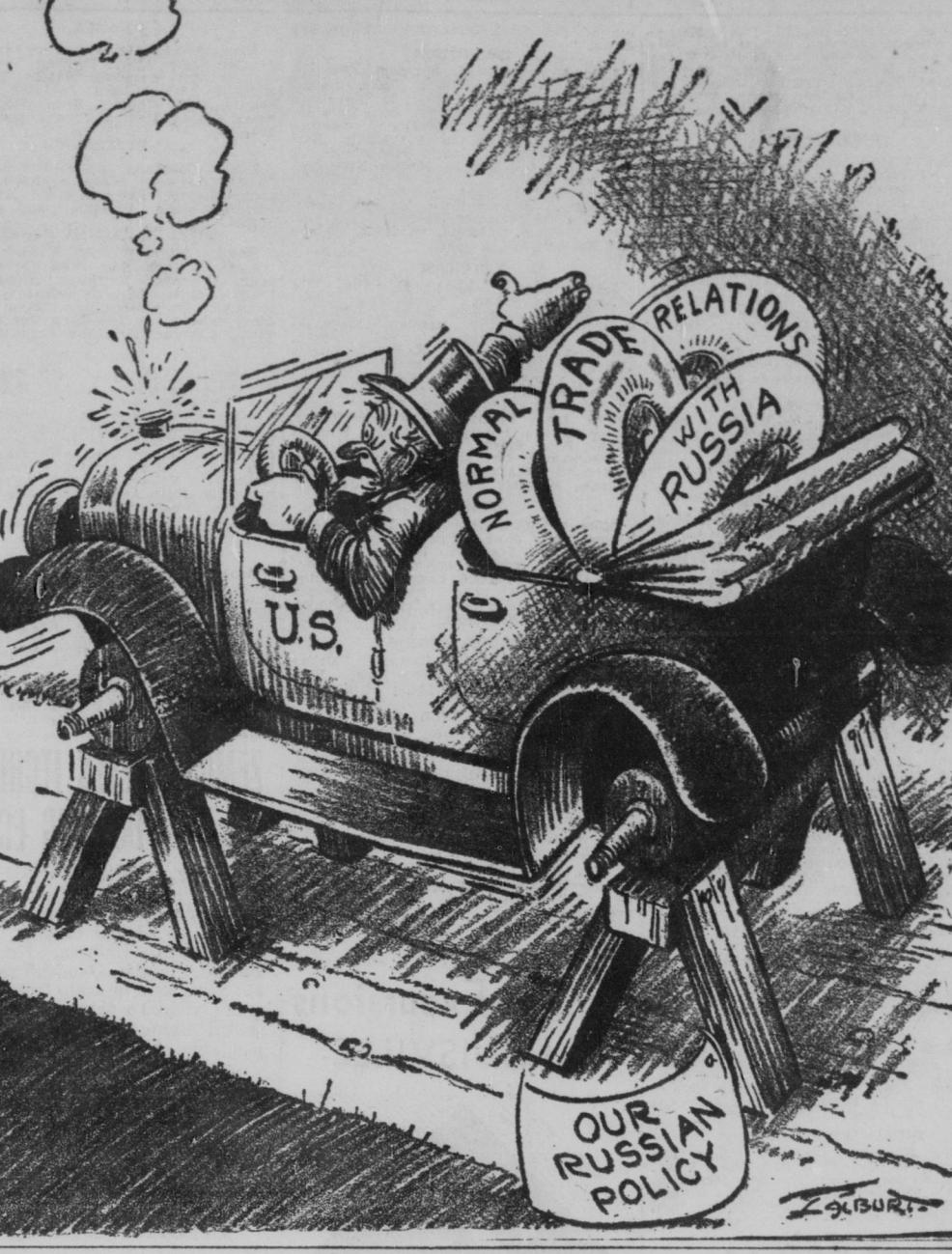
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### Funny, If It Weren't Tragic!



### DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## Measles Constitutes Real Danger

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

AT this season, measles usually is

an epidemic in several parts of the United States.

Authorities in the New York state

department of health feel that efforts

should be concentrated not in

fruitless attempts to stamp out the

disease entirely, but on means to

prevent fatalities from the disease

itself with alibis for some.

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