



The Indianapolis Times

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

A Crusade, Not a Campaign

The most hopeful political incident locally since the people, in what amounted to a peaceful revolution, elected Reginald Sullivan as mayor comes with the announcement by a majority of the candidates on the Republican ticket that they will have no contacts with Coflinism.

It required considerable courage for a business man, such as Ed Harris, to consent to lead the crusade. Only a few years back, he would have paid great penalties for defying the machine and its widespread influence over the banks, the businesses, the organized groups. Today he may emerge a hero.

This city and the Republican party have suffered much from Coflinism. The public treasury paid in cash. The Republican party paid in loss of prestige and self-respect and with defeat at the polls.

The government was kidnapped, just as the Republican party, the real party was taken for a ride and placed upon the spot.

Now the courageous elements of that party have decided that they will organize for decency and give battle to those who organized for plunder and power.

The pledge that the organization, if its candidates are successful, will make no demands for patronage, fits into the enlightened ideal of the day. A political machine can only thrive against the public by paying political debts to the politically expert, but inefficient, wasteful and, at times, worse.

The only title to public confidence by any public servant is real public service, unhampered by blindness to the faults of appointees who are named as rewards for political services.

Any public official who uses his office to build up personal power or a political machine confesses his betrayal to the public.

Democratic officials, now in power, would be wise to study this crusade within the ranks of their opponents. They are in power largely as a protest against Coflinism, which, after all, is but the name for misuse of public power for personal benefit.

The Democratic voters would do well to retire early any official who shows an inclination to pattern after the system whose evils brought opportunity to them.

Security

Ask the average American what he most desires of his country and he will answer: Security.

Yet in guaranteeing this human right, the nation richest among all lands in good and inventiveness trails far behind the more conservative countries of the old world.

At its last session congress appointed a committee to study unemployment insurance. It was financed and manned adequately. Its chairman, Senator Hebert, was hostile. Majority members Senator Hebert and Senator Glenn having failed so far to report, the minority views of Senator Wagner, just issued, must stand as official. From this report we learn that:

In European countries, exclusive of Russia, approximately 37,500,000 workers are being protected by job insurance. Of these, 34,673,000 are under compulsory laws; only 2,827,000 are under voluntary systems.

Great Britain, in 1911, started compulsory job insurance with government aid. Despite its critics, this system, according to the conservative Balfour commission, was largely responsible for the fact that "deep and prolonged trade depression has produced but little actual suffering in comparison with more transient periods of depression before the war."

The German system of compulsory company insurance was started in 1927, when 1,500,000 workers were jobless. Yet, according to the London Economist, "It tended to stem the tide of radicals and stabilize the labor market."

Since the war, Italy, Austria, Bulgaria, Germany, Luxembourg, Poland, Russia and Queensland have adopted compulsory insurance systems. Eight others—Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, the Netherlands, Norway and Spain—have voluntary systems, encouraged by the state.

In the United States there are operating only seventy-nine plans, covering 160,000 workers. Of these, 65,000 are under union-employer agreements and 44,000 get security only from their union funds.

While one-half of 1 per cent have security, the other 99 per cent of American workers are prey to constant dread of the bread line.

It is obvious that unemployment insurance is not going to come about in the United States through benevolence of employers. Private initiative has failed. Whether security come through state or federal aid, or merely through company reserves, it must be made the subject of law.

Job security can not come during the present depression, but a start can and should be made now. The object lesson is 12,000,000 jobless in bread lines should be enough to stir the states and congress to immediate action.

"Sound business and good conscience demand that we abandon the method of poor relief, with its ballyhoo, its inadequacy, inequality and uncertainty, which are a drain on the sympathy of the giver and a strain on the character of the taker," exhorts Senator Wagner. "Let us, like civilized men and women, organize intelligently to prepare today for the exigencies of the future."

Insurance is better than charity."

Give Us Action!

Balance the federal budget before the political conventions and before congress is turned into a campaign free-for-all! That is the demand of the country. All sides agree that prolonged delay in passing the tax bill would be disastrous.

Further delay would injure the national credit. It would retard business. It would hold up the vitally necessary unemployment relief program. The entire country would suffer.

After long months of study and debate, the Republican-Democratic bipartite tax bill is on the threshold of final passage. It is through the house. Senator Harrison, ranking Democrat in charge of the bill, says that it can pass the senate today.

It can go through conference in short order, and be sent to the President. The tax bill can become law within a few days.

The senate then can proceed with the remaining appropriation bills, the economy measure, and the relief legislation, and congress can adjourn before the June conventions and the campaign.

There is only one threat to this desired speed. That is the attempt to revive the defeated sales tax.

The chance of the sales tax passing both houses is slight. But the chance of the sales tax last-ditchers blocking action for several weeks is very grave.

Senators Smoot and Harrison, the Republican and Democratic tax leaders, both say the sales tax can not pass the senate. But even if it could, virtually

M. E. Tracy

Says:

Ever Since the War We Have Tried to Crawl Into a Hole and Haul the Hole in After Us.

NEW YORK, May 28.—Lack of leadership in this country is due to lack of purpose. As a nation, we have no program, no specific object in view, no great work on which to concentrate.

Ever since the war we have tried to crawl into a hole and haul the hole in after us.

We have talked about "splendid isolation" as a bulwark of peace and of the tariff as a guarantee of prosperity.

Instead of employing our surplus wealth for development, we have bought poor securities.

We have refused to join the League of Nations, though we touted it as the only achievement which could justify the war.

We even have watched on a comprehensive plan for controlling the Mississippi river system.

Must Have Vision

WHETHER as individuals, communities, or nations, people can not grow without vision. It is their destiny not only to build castles in the air, but to attempt the translation of these dreams into actuality. Let them drop the habit, and they risk mental atrophy.

When you stop to think of the resources and instrumentalities at our command, we have undertaken little that was big, or inspiring, since the boys came home from Europe.

We have boomed stocks, but only to find that it was a house of cards, have merged and consolidated our great business concerns, but only to discover that it didn't bring the million.

We have added more miles to our hard-surfaced highways, installed more telephones, perfected the broadcasting system and operated an ever-increasing number of autos.

But what have we done that was original, or impressive?

We're Getting Soft

WE can not go on as we are, without deteriorating. As a nation, we must have things to work for, things that never were done before, things that fit our strength.

It is utterly ridiculous to suppose that the greatest organization on earth can sit down and play safe.

This idea that we have reached a point where it soon will be possible to play half the time and cut coupons, is not only absurd, but pernicious.

We are getting too soft, as it is too soft and scared.

Neither is it necessary to think of conquest, or imperialism, as the only outlets for our surplus energy.

Others Are in Race

HERE are France, Germany, and Italy, engaged in a race to see which shall be first to establish trans-oceanic airlines. Why aren't we in the race?

Why aren't we doing something about a waterway from the Great Lakes to the sea, or a canal from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean?

Why aren't we giving thought to the better location of our factory units and our industrial system?

Engineers say that the climate of our eastern coast could be changed by throwing a barrier across Baffin strait. Why not give that a thought?

There are thousands of miles of inland waterways that need improvement and that could be made of great recreational value, even if they did not mean so much commercially.

There are millions of acres of land that ought to be opened in such way that city people could enjoy it at small expense.

There are experiments that could be conducted profitably in our educational system.

There is tremendous room for planning and building model communities, especially with the idea of combining the factory system with self-sustaining homes.

We are not thinking hard enough of what we might, or could do, and that, more than anything else, accounts for the obvious lack of leadership.

That high school boy who said that diplomatic relations were wayward cousins wasn't so far wrong, at that.

An economist says the possession of even a second-hand car is an advantage. We suppose he means the advantage we frequently have to push home.

Bargain Days

Presidential bargain days are here.

In the carefree, golden past, Presidents have been coming high. Costs of presidential elections have been running between \$20,000,000 and \$30,000,000.

In 1928 the G. O. P. national committee invested \$4,056,518 in Hoover, or about 19 cents per Hoover vote. The Democratic committee sank \$3,157,453 in Smith, a rate of 21 cents per Smith vote. Total presidential outlays four years ago were \$9,433,604 for Hoover and \$7,152,511 for Smith.

Since 1916, no presidential candidacy has cost less than Hughes' \$3,000,000, except Governor Cox at \$1,300,000.

There also has been little relation between cost and value. Lincoln was elected for \$250,000 and Harding for \$5,300,000. In 1916 Wilson cost his party \$2,000,000 to elect, and in 1928 it cost Mark Hanna \$18,500,000 to put McKinley into the White House.

But today the grass is short, even in Wall Street, and we may be able to get a President in November marked down at least 75 per cent. Last week following a conference at the White House, J. R. Nutt, G. O. P. national committee treasurer, announced, with a long face, that his committee would have to worry along with "not much more than \$1,000,000." The Democrats are under handicap of debt to Raskob, and will not be able to spend lavishly.

Attempts to curb presidential election expenditures by law have proved futile. State laws govern congressional and state election costs. In 1930 the Nye committee discovered shocking costs of United States Senate seats, one of which ran as high as \$2,000,000.

Even that committee will not be on the job this fall, since a similar project by Senator Wagner, just issued, must stand as official. From this report we learn that:

The ill winds of the depression blow little good to anybody. But they will blow some our way if they help deliver our reconstruction President to us at a popular price.

About all that Stimson accomplished at Geneva was to find a lot of things the other nations won't agree to do.

Charles Schwab, who says he's an optimist at every opportunity, made \$48,000 in the Raskob stock pool. No wonder he's an optimist.

That veterans' bureau lawyer who gets \$9,000 a year salary and \$250 a year disability allowance ought to be an expert in giving advice.

Everything is beginning to wear out and must be replaced, an economist says. We hope that includes the depression.

Golf may make liars out of honest men, but it doesn't follow that it makes honest men out of golf players.

After a feast, natives of a south sea island drink a concoction which puts them to sleep. Over here we use after-dinner speakers.

"What excuses can there be for the man who comes home late night after night?" asks a woman writer. He probably has plenty, but his wife won't believe any of them anyway.

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Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

PERHAPS we all are a little crazy. The recent outrage that horrified a world leaves us doubting national sanity. Lies, deceptions, extortions follow kidnaping and murder. The police, the press, the public, even the forces of government itself, all have been the dupes of criminals, morons, or madmen.

The ordinary citizen goes groping in search of some comfort for his soul. There is a general longing for a moral awakening.

Yet the scientist with his machines, the atheist with his carpings, even the churchman with his prayers, leave us unmoved, although we know that common men must have some faiths to help them endure life.

There is a sad dearth of spirituality issuing these days from the churches. Like too many other businesses, organized religion has invested its money in brick and stone rather than in humanity.

And if, as it claims, the church is a great force in society, then it, too, must share its share of the blame for the world war, the crime wave, and the lack of personal integrity that is, also, one of our marked national characteristics.

SINCERE men and women, both within and without denominations, realize that something must be done. Perhaps we shall have to have a new religion, just as we so sorely need a new political party. Old creeds are worn out. We have bickered enough over rituals and rules.

Some say that all these evil things have come upon us because we have forgotten God. That, I feel, is not true. Say rather it is because we have remembered God too well and so have forgotten man.

It can make small difference to a Divinity whether we recite orisons to him. But, oh, how it matters when we fail to help our brother!

To build churches is not enough. We have many, tall, their steeples pointing to the sky. But their roofs do not house the homeless.

We have vast organizations yet the hungry cry to us for bread. We have failed too easily about the merits of Jesus and to have failed to cultivate it within ourselves, nor given it to others.

It is useless to turn our eyes too high in our search for God, because He looks at us out of the tortured eyes of every dejected man.

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