

# The Indianapolis Times

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

## Who Wins This War?

Cheered by thousands of Bolivian citizens, says the dispatch, a troop train left La Paz. Two thousand women paraded to the presidential palace, carrying banners pledging their lives to the fatherland.

The principal of the normal school exhorted the women from a balcony to be ready for Red Cross service on the field of battle.

It has the ring of real war, hasn't it? Probably is real war. Many of the Bolivian boys on that troop train may not come back to La Paz. The flies that swarm battlefields, the vultures that circle above, await them.

We have no similar dispatch at the moment from Asuncion, but it is reasonable to suppose that Paraguayan sweethearts are kissing Paraguayan boys farewell, that Paraguayan women are pledging their lives to their fatherland.

And who will win this war? That's easy: The flies and the vultures. For if it goes the limit, if it becomes what it threatens to become, a war on the grand scale between the whole people of the two patriotic and excited countries, it will not end until both are ruined.

There can be nothing in that strip of border land they call the Chaco of value equal to the losses each nation will sustain.

Bolivia and Paraguay both must lose. Indeed, aside from munition makers in other countries, it is hard to see where there is to be any profit from this war.

South America as a whole will suffer from it and, to some degree, North America and Europe.

That shooting has begun in the Chaco is particularly distressing, because of the patient and sincere international effort since the clash of December, 1928, to find a solution of this dispute.

The American government has arranged repeated conferences in Washington. Cuba, Mexico, Uruguay and Colombia have been exerting their good offices to forestall an armed clash.

And back of it all there is fifty years of effort to promote a spirit of Pan-American harmony that would tide over such crises.

No holocaust of bloodshed and human misery can lead to any result other than that which might be forecast by careful analysis now and brought about by continued patient negotiating.

War will compel partisan alignment of neighboring countries and increase the difficulties of negotiations.

Notwithstanding racial prejudices and traditional hatreds, there has been every evidence that the responsible statesmen of both countries realize all this. But they are harassed continually by military outbreaks, such as that which now has precipitated the movement of troop trains.

Apparently, unless these statesmen can find a way to control the military men of their respective countries, Bolivia and Paraguay are headed back toward the tribal state, out of which, along with the rest of the world, they have been climbing painfully.

## A Vote in December

Senator Carter Glass of Virginia, in the closing hours of the congressional session, did a notable job in straightening out the prohibition question, previously tangled by parliamentary tactics.

As a result of his successful attempt to place his repealer of the prohibition amendment before the senate, that body adjourned with this measure its "unfinished business."

The senate, reconvening in December, will have the Glass resolution up for debate and a vote.

This means that the voters at home will have an opportunity to let senators and representatives know what their congressmen should do this fall. While the members of congress elected in November will not take office until the following March, the December session will have the election results as a guide.

The Glass resolution provides for ratification by state conventions, prohibits saloons and pledges federal aid to prevent shipments of liquor into dry states. It would submit to the people a safeguarded substitute for the present silly system.

The vote of 37 to 27 by which the Senate decided to take up the Glass resolution should give heart to sober citizens who long have sought intelligent action against the evils of the present system.

The vote was the first on the repeal question since the eighteenth amendment was submitted fifteen years ago. It may be regarded not necessarily as a test of whether senators are wet or dry, but as to whether they are willing for the people to decide the issue.

When the vote comes on submitting a repeal resolution to the states, a two-thirds majority of each house of congress is necessary.

It is heartening in this connection to note that the senators favoring consideration of the resolution cast within five votes of a two-thirds majority of those voting.

## Human Nature on Trial

A note, found on Manhattan bridge, after Dominica Sica, 54, had jumped into East river, should be pinned over the desks of the members of the new Reconstruction Finance Corporation board. It read: "My body will be found in the river below. I am one of the unfortunates of the times. Fairly well off a year ago, now a pauper. The failure of one bank wrecked my business. Now another bank threatens to take our home."

"The gas just has been closed. We have a 2-week-old baby, who surely will die, now that we have no gas for his food. I leave a wife and seven children. Please save my family funeral expenses. Any old place will do for me."

Congress has placed in the hands of seven men named by the President the spending of two more billions of federal dollars for public works and hunger relief. The loans are to be made public once a month.

It is a political year. Never in our democracy's history has so much money and power been entrusted to seven appointive officials. And not since Job's day have seven plain men been placed in the way of such great temptation.

Pressure already has begun from the states. Pennsylvania wants \$45,000,000 for relief. California wants a third of a billion for self-liquidating works. The states, from powerful Illinois to lesser Arizona, are moving on Washington.

Influential corporations and individuals soon will begin lobbying the R. F. C. board, as even congress has not been lobbied.

Most of the demands will be legitimate, many of them must be met. But all the time this new super-board must keep foremost in mind the families of the 11,000,000 "unfortunates of our times."

Every decision must be made with an eye on a

need so desperate as to make a father of seven children jump to his death in sheer madness. Dominica Sica's family and the rest are the ones that must not be betrayed.

We have put human nature to a terrific test. Let us pray that it prove worthy.

## The Last Laugh

President Hoover is quoted as having said that what this country needs is a new joke.

Recently Governor Roosevelt, as head of a very much interested state, telegraphed Hoover, asking for a conference on the St. Lawrence waterway treaty with Canada.

Hoover wired back in effect: "Don't bother, little Governor; run along and finish your fishing. We'll handle everything, in fact, we've been negotiating with Canada for three years."

Everybody laughed. Now the New York power authority recalls that Undersecretary of State Castle last summer denied there were any negotiations with Canada. And somebody digs up a statement made by Hoover when he was commerce secretary, belittling the benefits of the proposed waterway.

More important, Senator Borah has stepped into the picture. As head of the foreign relations committee, he has named a subcommittee to go into everything related to the treaty. On this subcommittee he has named Senators Borah, La Follette, Walsh of Montana, Wagner of New York, Robinson of Arkansas, Glenn of Illinois and Vandenberg of Michigan.

Of the seven, only two are Hoover Republicans. The issue is important politically in the northwest and northeast. And the subcommittee will begin open hearings next month.

The President seems to have got his joke.

## "Cease Firing!"

Representative La Guardia of New York has written a letter to Attorney-General Mitchell urging the government to stack its smoking guns and declare a sort of armistice in the prohibition war until the people translate their will into law and repeal the cause of it all.

Major La Guardia referred not only to the recent raids on the Spanish war veterans' meeting at Alexandria Bay in New York, but to a campaign of months, in which, he says, "the malicious destruction of property in connection with enforcement," has been common throughout the land.

Enforcement, always difficult, now is impossible, since both Chicago conventions have spoken. Attempts to continue the ruthless phase of the war will, he argues, only make convictions harder, encourage graft, and stir popular resentment against government.

"Why," he exclaims, "even in war between belligerent nations, firing ceases at the time of armistice, during the period of peace negotiations."

"I do not take the position that the law already has been repealed. I do take the position that from this point on enforcement should be kept within the law and all measures and policies heretofore followed by your department in destroying property and assaults and killings should be abolished."

This request is reasonable. Since the destruction of lives and property even before the conviction of crime is a bit unusual, anyway, it is not too much to ask the dry squads to cease firing for awhile. In the meantime, we may conclude a peace treaty by means of repeal.

## The Price of Submarines

Loss of the French submarine Promethee, with sixty-three men aboard, emphasizes once more the tricky, dangerous nature of all undersea craft. Not a year passes without a tragic submarine accident in some navy or other. Cruising on such craft is a risky occupation even in peace time.

The worst of it is that in the present state of naval strategy and tactics, the submarine seems to be an essential part of a fleet. The responsible naval authorities who urge its abandonment are relatively few.

No nation will give up its submarines unless all other nations do, and the chances for getting international agreement on no-submarine treaty seems exceedingly slim.

The submarine has a black record in peace as in war. If international agreement to abolish it can not be had, let us hope that some genius will invent a ship, or a new protective device, that will make it obsolete. The price of maintaining it is terribly high.

Higher postage rates cost A. T. and T. \$21,000 more for mailing dividend checks. But there are plenty of our big corporations who would like to spend a similar amount for a similar purpose.

## Just Every Day Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

THE best evidence of our inability to meet emergencies with courage lies in the fact that we still are trying to run things in 1932 by the rules of 1929.

For example, the other day a 60-year-old man, homeless and without a job, constructed himself a temporary shelter upon the fire escape of a vacant house. He pleaded to be allowed to remain there for a few days to rest. He was harmless and tired and old.

But, according to city laws, this was not permissible. The policeman made him move on, although he knew the poor soul had no place to go.

The officer may not have been to blame for this, but certainly the system that forces him to such action is culpable.

Men always should come before laws. Human welfare is more important than city regulations. Rules that can not be broken in emergencies when comfort and even life is at stake, are not worth making.

And the civilization that is more concerned with its codes than with its citizens is an unworthy one.

THE truth is that we are choking ourselves to death with red tape. We flounder under its entanglements like fish out of water. The laws we have made are devouring us. We are stifled, strangled, slain, by the multitudinous statutes enacted to make us free.

Desperate indeed is our case. We can't change a bad law for years because our lawyers can't always find a legal precedent to follow and without a precedent any lawyer is lost.

We can't get food to the starving, mostly because the welfare and charitable agencies to which money is given are so hampered by mandates that the poor applicants starve while they are examined and observed.

A dying man will expire before he can break through the red tape required to enter the average hospital.

Columbia, the gem of the ocean, is a suicide. We have committed ourselves into the hands of the law-makers and they are crushing out not only our spirit, but our life.

# M. E. Tracy

Says:

No Business Enterprise Is Big Enough to Stand Alone; It Must Have Help of the Little Fellow.

NEW YORK, July 22.—A committee of bankers and industrialists, representing the Fourth Federal Reserve district, urges more liberal credit for small business enterprises.

That touches the real source of trouble. Big business always was, and always will be, dependent on small business.

This slump did not begin with billion-dollar concerns, though many thought it did. Small business had broken down long before the Wall Street crash and it had broken down largely for lack of legitimate credit.

During 1927 and '28 enormous sums of money were diverted from commerce to speculation, sent to the oil market, where feverish trading had sent interest rates sky high.

A credit stringency resulted. Not only thousands of small business enterprises, but many rural banks, collapsed under the strain. Big business lost more than the prospective market on which stocks had been boomed and speculators suddenly woke up to the fact that they were playing with bubbles.

## The Structure Cracks

WE have to dig down to where the foundations gave way and repair damages. The roof is leaking, not because a few shingles blew off, but because the structure cracked.

Every one admits that production depends on consumption, and that there is little use in steaming things up until mass buying power has been restored.

The little manufacturer bears the same relation to big business that the customer does to a grocery store.

It requires a lot of work to provide a good market for such goods.

The telephone company can't pay dividends without subscribers, nor will it do General Motors any good to put out a couple of million cars unless there is a demand for them.

Credit Use Perverted NOTHING has done so much to prolong the agony of this depression than the perverted use of credit. An incalculable number of small business enterprises have been destroyed in obedience to the theory that big business could be revived, or stabilized, without help from below.

Instead of stimulating production that would call for more production, we have assumed that if factories at the top could be kept going, money, things would turn out all right.

Some of them have borrowed, but to no good purpose, because there was no market. Our great weakness is, and has been, right down where people live, where consumption originates, where the individual makes trade for bakeries, delicatessens, garages and machine shops, and where these, in turn, make trade for a few gigantic establishments.

Lean on Little Fellow NO business enterprise is big enough to stand alone. It must be propped up by other big enterprises. Neither is any big enterprise propped up solely by other big enterprises.

They all look to little fellows for a market, whether as ultimate consumers, or go-betweens. The bigger the concern, the more small customers it must have. When they fail, it fails.

You can pour all the money into a power company, or a steel plant, that you like, but if there isn't a market, it won't do the slightest good.

Credit has to be returned to the side of small and semi-communities, to the place where business and consumption originate. The idea that it will "trickle down through" if dispensed at the top, is bunk, as the last three years have demonstrated.

## People's Voice

Editor Times:—The newspapers state that Melvin Taylor's manager has offered several thousand dollars to withdraw his name from the Democratic presidential race. The fellow offering the money represented himself as a Roosevelt man.

There are questions to be raised. Was the "representative" of the Roosevelt man, who knew the story would come out and perhaps affect Roosevelt's chances? Or was the representative a Roosevelt man, sincerely bent upon an "honorable" withdrawal from the race?

—Or and I am wondering—could Roosevelt managers deliberately and shrewdly have sent a "representative" over to Taylor's manager, knowing the story would come out and obviously affect the most prominent anti-Roosevelt man, instead of Roosevelt? Because Roosevelt men immediately charged the plot "ridiculous." They could win, anyhow, with the aid of Hearst and Speaker Garner.

Yet here is something, a follow-up to that affair. When Al Smith found out Texas and California were to swing, his confidence in Garner waned. He tried to get Garner on the phone in Garner's hotel in Washington.

Finally, after much effort, the hotel manager informed Al that "Speaker" Garner did not wish to speak with Alfred E. Smith. A reason for Smith's loss of faith and Garner's discourtesy.

INTERESTED. Editor Times:—Regardless of the dyes who have held the whip hand over our candidates in the last twelve years, the Democratic party came out on a dripping wet platform and the opposition party played both ends against the middle, catering to both wet and dry, which means its defeat in November.

But, of course, their presidential candidate, Herb, hasn't the slightest idea of whether he is wet or dry and all he has accomplished so far is to prove that he is a successful fisherman.

Now Herbert is fishing for votes, and let's not be suckers again and get caught on his hook in November, and hang up again for four years, like a dried herring.

By cleaning out the statehouse we might be able to control our public utilities and if the lobbyists don't control with the dough, have a government by the people.

READER.

## The Pause That Refreshes!



## DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

# Danger Lies in Electrical Treatment

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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

THE ministry of health in Great Britain has recently issued a memorandum for distribution to hospitals, nursing and convalescent homes, and clinics, calling attention to the dangers from the use of electrical apparatus, even of low voltage.

The memorandum was stimulated by a fatality recently reported as due to an electrical treatment given to a patient in bed.

It is pointed out that the bed, if made of metal, should never be in such position that it may act as a means of grounding the patient through contact with radiator pipes, or even with a radio apparatus that is grounded.

Because of introduction of telephones, radio apparatus, heat baths, resuscitation devices, electric pads and machines for using light in the examination of the eye and ear, this question is far

more important now than in the past.

Because of the conditions which exist in most hospitals built in a previous era, namely, wooden floors and small chance of contact with metal, safety from electrical apparatus is secured better by insulating the apparatus than by grounding it.

Wherever there are conducting floors, the metal work of the apparatus should be grounded and special care taken to insure efficiency of the connections.

If patients who are convalescing are permitted to wear head phones for radio apparatus, or if they are undergoing treatment with electrical apparatus, special attention should be paid to insulation of the device from which the current comes, or with which the head phones are connected.

Inasmuch as many devices are in use for providing ultra-violet ray for patients, or for applying heat through use of radiant energy, three special precautions are suggested under such conditions.

Source of the heat or of the light should be covered with a mesh screen. The holder should be of insulated and heat-resisting material and all metal work should be grounded.

It is not likely that the live parts of such apparatus will be touched while they are in use, because they are sufficiently hot and glowing to warn off any one, but they should, nevertheless, be protected with mesh guards to prevent accidents.

British authorities issue special instructions as to safety in connection with apparatus for heating the body by passing a current through the body—namely, diathermy apparatus—and also for prevention of accidents due to blowing of a fuse, bad contact of electric plugs, or breakage in electrical connections.

Finally, it is not safe to proceed on the basis that apparatus is permanently safe, since there is the tendency of insulation to break or deteriorate.

Hence there should be regular inspection of all electrical equipment from the point of view of safety.

# IT SEEMS TO ME

BY MAX MILLER

THE suggestion had been made, naturally, that, since my vocation on the west coast has been somewhat limited to the waterfront, I should write more about the waterfront here.

But, for once, here is the one subject I do know something about—the subject of waterfronts in general and of how a stranger has no chance of gaining entrance to a skipper's mind.

A card may admit you aboard a freighter and it may admit you into the captain's quarters for a talk, but it will not admit you into the captain's heart.

These freighter skippers will tell you, and usually gladly, all you ask. They will tell you the tonnage of their voyage, the ports visited and if any of the crew lost a leg or a watch. But as for obtaining intimate details about the voyage, a fellow may as well go talk to Calvin Coolidge.

## Worth Fifty Strangers

SO many vessels are here, I am reminded that surely I should return home with my luggage choked with secrets. But one old friend of a freighter skipper is good for fifty experiences, whereas fifty skippers, if they are strangers, may not be good for one.

On sure, the fifty will tell a stranger whether they had a blow outside, whether the hatches were torn off by a tail sea. And if they think you are interested in lies, they will tell you some whoopees, too, just to be congenial, just to try to help out.

But rarely are they ultra-ultra-confidential unless you have had ship's coffee or a bit of the ship's bottle with them over steady intervals. And then, unfortunately, they may swing to the other extreme; they may start telling you things you would feel more comfortable not to know.

A skipper was put on report for having dumped waste-boxes in the harbor instead of outside beyond the channel currents. And another skipper had found them floating around and had reported him.

Then, a few days later, the second skipper was reported on the same charge. Waste-boxes from his vessel also had been found in the harbor close to the piers.

## Skipper's Confession

THAT was a dirty trick I did on him," the first skipper confessed over the coffee. "But a guy has to protect himself, don't he?" He then whispered, of course, that he had made a stencil of the other vessel's name and had painted the stencil on every old box he could find before tossing them over the side.

A: there is the thievery between vessels, especially naval vessels. Only, of course, it is not called thievery. It is, rather, merely a gentlemen's agreement between fellows as to "get along" for the good of their own ship.

One chief boatswain, for instance, was all a-jingle over having just obtained a better heating line from another vessel. Another navy vessel was making fast alongside his own. The heating line was thrown as usual and the hawser drawn aboard.

He saw that the line was too good to be returned. He made a quick transfer then with an old one of his own and heaved the old one back.

The only catch in the program and the only reason the chief boatswain told me the story at all was the fact that on examining the splice in the new line he found it was the same line which had been taken three months before from his own vessel. All such things as this, from sextants to chains to cans of paint.

## Makes Life Pleasant

BUT none of this really annoys the crews. To the contrary, it all helps to make life worthwhile. But what is starting to annoy them now is the call being made on them by picture companies.

The directors apparently lose all sense of direction once they are

involved in the art of filming a sea epic with the navy, and the executive officers usually unburden their hearts if you happen to be around to listen.

We were all at sea one day in the filming of a recent picture. You may have remembered it, wherein a windjammer laden with explosives was supposed to be sunk by the guns of the big V-type destroyers.

But a wooden windjammer does not sink very well. It can be peppered with shells all day long, even with explosives aboard, but the wooden hull just lies around on the surface looking dismal and battered and funny.

This windjammer would not sink at all nor was it known for sure if another batch of explosives remained on the ship unexploded.

A Brilliant Solution SUNSET came and something had to be done about everything rather quickly, as the cameras would not be much good after dark. The assistant directors were becoming desperate about the lack of a grand finale, and even one of them was sure he had the solution.

"Captain," he said, "I know! I got it!" "What you got?" "Have one of your subs sink right away and come up in the middle of the wreckage waving its flag!"

These hundreds of freighters on the two rivers here, then, are no good to me other than to look upon and go "My, oh, my!" But the temptation to go down and board them is strong, all right.

Yet most certainly on boarding them I will not say, "Captain, tell me an experience." Because captains, you find, are better in having experiences than in relating them.

They may relate what they think is an experience, but it usually turns out to be something else, while the real experiences are told only accidentally and after a long, long while.

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## TODAY IS THE WORLD WAR ANNIVERSARY

GERMANS DEFEATED

July 22

ON July 22, 1918, the German High Command threw several fresh divisions into the Marne salient in an effort to stop the advance of the victorious American and French troops.

During the morning the allied forces beat off several strong counter-attacks and during the afternoon resumed their advance. Epieles fell into their hands before nightfall.

Allied observers said that nearly fifty German divisions had been engaged in the fighting in the Marne salient. Losses in this group had been tremendous.

British troops continued their gains in the Hebuterne region. Definite announcement was made that the east of Russia and members of his immediate family had been shot on July 16.

# SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Light Which Has Been on Way From Stars for 250 Years Will Illuminate William Penn Pictures.

STARLIGHT that started on its journey toward the earth in the year William Penn arrived in America will be used to turn on the switches to illuminate pictures of Penn when the 250th anniversary of his arrival in America is celebrated next October at Philadelphia, and Oxford, England.

The star at the end of the handle of the Big Dipper probably will be used to turn the trick. It is 250 light-years away.

That is, its light takes 250 years to reach the earth and therefore the particular beams of light from that star which are reaching the earth this year started toward the earth in the year that William Penn arrived in America.

Light travels 186,000 miles a second. A light-year, the distance that light travels in one year, is approximately 6,000,000,000 miles.