

The Indianapolis Times

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

Take Those Funds

That any member of the legislature should even hesitate to divert at least half of the highway funds to other uses during these days of depression is almost unbelievable.

Yet under pressure and propaganda and perhaps worse of the members of the commission, senators are acting more than suspiciously about this one ready remedy for tax relief.

That the members of the board are attempting to hang on to the expenditure of these funds is explainable only on one theory. The members want to spend the money.

They are presumed to act only for the benefit of the public. Theoretically, the more money they spend, the more difficult is their work. None of them is suspected of being a glutton for labor.

That fund, collected by a tax on gasoline and automobile licenses amounts to more than twenty millions of dollars every year. Most of it is paid by people who live in cities and work in cities. Gasoline used on farms pays no tax.

The cities are in need of funds to repair streets. If the funds were used by the mayors of cities, many men could be taken off the bread lines of charity and given work. More than that, the city taxpayer would get some of the necessary relief that may enable him to keep his home.

Yet because these four members of the highway commission find it very pleasant to spend these millions of dollars and hate to give up whatever advantage comes from that function, senators are being told that they can have useless roads built at public expense for the benefit of themselves or their friends.

The attitude of the highway commission itself should be a warning to any honest legislator who wants to do something for tax relief and for unemployment relief.

That attitude at the present time is an argument for the abolition of this board and the setting up of a new organization for whatever road building or maintenance may be necessary—an organization of experts instead of petty politicians who plot with lawmakers.

Those funds must be diverted to cities. Every consideration of justice demands it. Every consideration of the taxpayer demands it. Every consideration of the unemployed demands it.

To hesitate is to invite suspicion.

Senator Gene

Colonel Gene Tunney, we read, is being groomed for a senate seat by Democratic bosses of Connecticut. This is interesting, if not exciting.

We often have thought that the United States senate was getting too tough. We don't mean rough, as in the old days, when Congressman Brooks knocked Senator Sumner cold. We mean things such as making faces, getting on each others' nerves, or even splitting infinitives.

The senate needs a refining influence. The exchange from the shades of Old El could pour the oil of concord by settling the unseemly quarrels between Senator Ashurst and Ham Lewis over Shakespearean quotations.

He could set the example of gentility to such blunt fellows as Pat Harrison or Jim Couzens. He might even make the "Louisiana Kingfish" eat out of his hand.

So send him on to Washington. There's too much fighting down there now.

The Law and the Hungry

In Nashville, Tenn., Thomas Conquest, 19, sneaked up the steps of a house to take a bottle of milk. Patrolman Martin Stephens, to preserve law and order, whipped out his revolver and drilled a hole through Conquest's head. Reporting the killing to police headquarters, Stephens was ordered back to his beat.

In Philadelphia, Municipal Judge William M. Lewis, confronted with a similar problem, announced: "I will not sentence a man to jail if it is proved that he has stolen to feed his family. I shall put him on probation."

In Nashville, capital punishment without trial, for the attempted theft of a bottle of milk; in Philadelphia not even a jail sentence for theft of food! On the one hand, police brutality and anarchy in the name of law; on the other, justice tempered with mercy and wisdom.

A Way Out

Senator Borah's great plea for American co-operation in a world economic conference to restore prosperity has set the politicians howling. It can't be done, they say. It shouldn't be done—America must stand alone, others add.

Protests range from Smoot, the tariff high-priest, and Senate Leader Watson on the Republican side, to Harrison, Connally, and House Leader Rainey on the Democratic side. White House aids repeat that the administration will not discuss war debt revision and the state department joins in the obstruction.

But, in the end, economic forces will prove stronger than political maneuvering. The same hard facts that converted Senator Borah from an isolationist will in time move the more timorous politicians.

Even they will see that it is to the selfish interest of the United States to cancel debts in exchange for disarmament and to hasten joint tariff reduction. There can be no sound business revival in this country or any other until these barriers are blasted.

Senator Borah's proposal for conditional debt cancellation, as part of a general settlement of world economic problems, is not new. We and others have been urging it for a long time.

But never has the issue been stated so clearly, so forcefully, as by Senator Borah in his broadcast last Saturday.

While the short-sighted waited for the Lausanne cancellation of reparations to produce a prosperity

miracle, and while others are intent on tinkering with local adjustments, this statesman shows that half-way measures are not enough in this crisis.

It is impossible to refute his statement that international armaments, debts, and tariffs are a major cause of this depression:

"The great dominating forces contributing to our present catastrophe have been international, or, if not wholly international, have been of such nature that their effect was international . . .

"No clear and permanent solution of the farm question, the unemployment problem, devastating taxes, unbalanced budgets, can be hoped for, it seems to me, until some of or all these international problems are out of the way. Not until then will trade revive, commerce flow in its accustomed channels, and the monetary systems of the world, which have been disarranged and broken up, again assume normal operations . . .

"We are compelled to consider these international problems, therefore, not as things incidental or distant, but as things which reach down to and affect, for better or for worse, the welfare of the man on the farm, stunned by the startling and persistent fall of prices, the laborers seeking work, or the merchant waiting for buyers of the goods on his shelf."

Borah concludes, as virtually every leading economist has reasoned before him, that "the cancellation of debts in connection with, and as a part of, a program including the settlement of other war problems" would reopen the channels of trade.

This program is not open to the charge of sentimentality or hazy altruism. It is a clear case of helping the other fellow to help ourselves. It is not unconditional or Utopian. Once before we canceled six billions of war debts—only to have Europe spend that saving on more armaments.

The proposition now is to trade debt reduction or cancellation for a settlement of the armament problem and other causes of catastrophe.

We repeat that other American politicians now attacking this charter of business revival yet will accept the inevitable—just as European politicians in Lausanne at last accepted inevitable cancellation of reparations.

But will these Republican and Democratic obstructionists move before it is too late? Will they play partisan politics because of the November election?

That is the danger.

Senator Borah does not exaggerate when he warns the nation:

"Delay is hazardous. Sixty days of depression in the latter part of 1932 will be more devastating than six months in the latter part of 1930. If the upward trend does not start before the cold winds of December, conditions will be nothing less than appalling."

"We should enter such a conference, where there is so much involved, without any limitation and with no other objective than to aid in the preservation of modern civilization."

Illiteracy

There is good news in the figures on illiteracy just made public by the census bureau.

This chief of democracy's enemies is being pushed back steadily. In the last four decades, thanks to compulsory education, immigrant and adult education, and constant agitation, the illiteracy rate has been reduced from 13.3 per cent in 1890 to 4.3 per cent in 1930.

An illiterate is defined by the bureau as any person over 10 years old who is unable to read or write in any language. In 1930 there were only 4,233,753, today perhaps fewer still.

It is significant that of these, only 450,538 were under 21, while 3,683,255 were over 21. The greatest percentage, 12 per cent, were over 65. Thus it is indicated that the tempo of conquering illiteracy will be faster.

Illiterate males outnumber illiterate females. Also the sons and daughters of immigrants are more literate than the sons and daughters of native Americans. This is due to the poorer school facilities in the rural sections that are peopled almost entirely by native stock and the largely urban nature of the foreign born.

Of course, literacy is not intelligence. But it is the first step toward enlightenment. And soon, at the present rate, we shall all at least be able to read.

An Ohio newspaper was barred from a county jail. Maybe the sheriff didn't want the prisoners to find out how little regard for the law he had.

Despite the happening at Geneva, it seems as if there will be no wars in the future. Nations have at last learned how to break each other without fighting.

Another good thing about the depression is that we don't have to worry, in this hot weather, about tickets for the November football games.

Just Every Day Sense

By Mrs. Walter Feerguson

CONCERNED as we may be over the current unemployment situation, we should be traitors to every principle of justice if we failed to cry out against the movement that seeks to drive the married woman from industry.

To sacrifice principle to expediency never has bettered the condition of honorable men. It will not do so in 1932.

It makes no difference what you may believe about the duties of a wife. The right to work is an inalienable human right and no state or nation that believes in justice and freedom can flout its truth.

"Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," wrote Thomas Jefferson in that document we claim to cherish—the document this movement now seeks to defy.

If we are to deny, either by law or the force of public opinion, the right of the married woman to work, then we may as well rescind for all women every other right. For the implication of such a tyrannical measure may be vaster than we now can realize.

And you can not take away such a privilege without trampling into the dust all other privileges, all other prerogatives, all other liberties. To vote in a country where you have not the right to a job indeed would be a farce upon freedom.

It seems to me that this question is momentous and far-reaching, and as vital as was the question of the right to worship God according to the dictates of the individual conscience.

It is as fundamental as the question of taxation without representation. It involves humanity as seriously as did the fugitive slave law.

It is as important as many other issues for which men and women have died in the past.

It is for such rewards as this that women have been forced to build a world in the wilderness, that the bones of our grandmothers whiten the site of every American frontier—for this sorry ruse of buying a husband in exchange for the rights of citizenship, of trading human liberty for love?

M. E. Tracy

Says:

The Change in Sentiment Toward the Prohibition Farce Has Had Much to Do With the Revival of Hope for Better Times.

NEW YORK, July 26.—Stock and commodity prices have shown a tendency to rise during the last few weeks. One hardly could say more and be safe. Nothing spectacular has occurred. It's just a tendency which may prove the beginning of a real upward swing, or turn out a false alarm.

A much more reassuring sign is the changed attitude toward business. Though hesitant toward every kind of speculation, people are displaying increased confidence in trade.

Whatever they may believe with regard to prices, they feel that the period of stagnation is about over.

Was it a coincidence that this feeling began to manifest itself right after the political conventions? For one, I do not think so. In my judgment, it requires no great straining of the imagination to suspect that the change in sentiment toward the prohibition farce, as revealed at Chicago, had much to do with revival of hope for better times.

See Prohibition as Cause

PROHIBITION and the unsound conditions to which it has led are associated definitely with hard times in public opinion.

You can't get it out of the average citizen's mind that political corruption, disrespect for law and gang rule have a direct bearing on the existing situation. Neither can you get it out of his mind that the eighteenth amendment and Volstead act are to blame.

One could sense a distinct clearing of the atmosphere, even when the Republicans straddled, and a real buoyancy when the Democrats came out with their simple, straightforward plank for repeal.

The American people have ceased to think of prohibition as a moral issue. Its utter failure as a temperance move long since has turned their attention to its economic aspects. For the last few years, and particularly since the depression set in, they have thought of it as a source of crime, graft, and racketeering.

They have tried to figure out what the futile attempts to enforce it were costing, and how much revenue the government was losing.

They have become aware of its bad effect on the administration of justice and its worse effect on social customs.

Tonic for Nation

THE people almost had come to believe that the organized minority which put prohibition over was unbeatable, and that they had no recourse, except nullification. What occurred at Chicago, especially in the Democratic convention, came like a tonic to the bewildered, discouraged masses of this country.

It affected their whole outlook on life. At last, they felt, there was a real prospect of freeing themselves from this incubus of misguided idealism, this noble experiment which had scattered poison gas all over the map.

There was some hope of putting half a million men to work, or raising half a billion in new taxes, and, at the same time, destroying the treasure chest of lawlessness, disorder and political corruption.

It would be a terrible thing if the people of this country were disappointed, if the Republican straddle turned out a straddle and the Democratic pledge brought no results.

It would more than wipe out the gains already made, and nothing we could do for European nations would offset its bad effect.

Belief that something definite soon would be done to stop the greatest smuggling game ever staged to restore dignity to the law, to relieve oppressive tax burdens, and give honest business a better chance to be honest has gone a long way toward reviving the spirits of this country.

Questions and Answers

Were Gene Tunney, and Polly Lauder married by a civil or a religious ceremony?

Religious ceremonies were performed, a civil ceremony performed by Signor Brofferio, specially delegated by the Governor of Rome, was followed by a religious ceremony, performed by Msgr. Joseph A. Breslin, vice-rector of the American college in Rome.

When were artificial porcelain teeth first introduced in the United States?

They were made in France as early as 1774, but were not introduced into this country until 1817, when Dr. A. A. Plana arrived in Philadelphia from Paris.

How long are patents in force in the United States? Can they be renewed?

Patents run for a term of seventeen years. An extension can be granted only by special act of congress, and seldom is allowed.

TODAY IS THE WORLD WAR ANNIVERSARY
GERMANS IN RETREAT
July 26
On July 26, 1918, the German retreat from the Marne salient became general over a front of nearly forty miles, following the defeat given them by American and French forces.

The French announced the occupation of Villeneuve and Main de Massiges during the day's fighting. American forces took Oulchy-le-Chateau.

The fifth national congress of Turkistan proclaimed Turkistan a republic and announced an alliance with the Soviet republic of Russia.

Czecho-Slovak forces in Russia continued their offensive operations, taking Simbirsk, 600 miles east of Moscow.

The new government of the Ukraine abandoned its claims to Bessarabia and resumed diplomatic relations with Rumania.

For Your Own Safety!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Contacts Increase Child Diseases

This is the third of three articles by Dr. Fishbein on health for the pre-school child.

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

WHEN the child begins to walk about, to visit its friends and its playmates, it begins to be exposed to a greater extent than formerly to various infectious diseases.

The infant may be well protected by its mother against contacts with other children. Prevention of contacts may, on the other hand, be extremely difficult with the older child.

The committee of the League of Nations which has given special consideration to the problem of preventing disease in the pre-school

child lists certain measures of special importance in this regard.

First of these is to improve the general condition of the child by providing a good dietary and open air life, exposure to sunshine and to physical exercises, teaching of cleanliness of all portions of the body, and elimination of infections in teeth and throat.

The next group of measures aims at reducing the risk of infection through avoiding contagion, by avoiding contacts with those infected, and by controlling toys, books, linens and other materials which have been in contact with the sick.

The third group of methods involves specific methods of disease prevention, such as vaccination and inoculation against such conditions

as diphtheria, scarlet fever and smallpox.

Apparently the child's ability to resist disease may be influenced largely by the type of hygiene mentioned.

It is necessary to make certain that the child obtains the requisite number of hours of rest and of sleep, and particularly enough time in the sunshine and the open air.

If the child's ability to resist disease is to be maintained, it must not be weakened by chronic infections. Therefore, enlarged or infected tonsils and adenoids should be removed early.

Nose and throat of the child should be inspected regularly, to discover at the earliest possible moment any chronic infection or obstruction that may require attention.

Times Readers Voice Their Views

Editor Times—It seems to me that the citizens and taxpayers of Indiana are ignoring an opportunity to help themselves and are standing by silently in not urging upon the legislature in special session, to abolish the public service commission and return the management of the utility problems to the local city councils and local governing boards.

The public service commission, if it has done its level best, must admit a failure in equal comparison with the great experiment to force the nation dry, or the noble experiment to force the nation dry, or the noble experiment to create a wealthy class of prosecutors with the Wright bone-dry law.

The proof that the public service commission has failed is the enormity of its own machine and the vast force of engineers and technicians, who, along with the public service commission, have agreed to disagree on the great problem of rate structure, and yet have not determined whether there will be a gateway system or a straddle the fence system.

It certainly is pertinent, and if the commission is abolished, the local governing boards can save thousands of dollars to the consumers and taxpayers.

The stock and bond holder of the utilities is hopelessly lost. His securities have been reduced to a scratch and there is no hope for him in the future. Therefore, the retention of the commission could be of no value to him. It would only bid the evil day when he must change his securities to wallpaper.

If sufficient strength can not be mustered to abolish the commission, at least some provision should be made for the appointment of a small committee, not more than three in number, who can present the facts to the general assembly in 1933.

LEE WHITEHALL, Attica, Ind.

Editor Times—The United States was an opportunity for the American Indian, but he could not or would not accept it; such is the

case of the present legislature. I have attended several sessions so as not to make a snap judgment. One recently climaxed the situation.

Poor laboring men, ignorant of parliamentary procedure, and with but slight understanding as to what franchise voting means, stood out demanding a multitude of things, but, above all, if given work, they would have been fully satisfied and gone home, if it could be called such, rejoicing.

Inside the massive dome of our executive and legislative building were assembled the legislative powers and intellectual genius of this Indiana's most "outstanding" assembly. An honest motion by a somewhat enfeebled member that each reach into his "pockets" to the extent of "five bucks"—to use the dignified and yet colloquial expression of the chair—and thus assist in the relief of the somewhat hopeless journeymen (these unemployed).

Another, more of the yokel type, suggests that said people's representative should also collect the "five bucks," then yet another motion by a yokelistic member that they be assembled also suggested that said man, if unable to collect, should himself "fork up" five for those not forthcoming. Thus so on, and so on, until noon recess.

While still in attendance, I overheard a man, evidently of the soil, say, "A good thousand farmers with second growth, twenty-four-inch hickory bludgeons, and nothing but bread and water for them could do more with that 'august' (rather July) body than six extra sessions."

Well said for a commoner such as you and I, and the November voter.

H. L. B.

Editor Times—While driving in Ben Davis on the night of July 20, I was stopped by the state police for driving with only one headlight on my car. I was told to have it fixed and since I was "broke" it was impossible to do so.

I told the arresting officer of my financial conditions and he told me that I did not have any business to drive a car if I didn't have enough money to have a light fixed. He

also said that I could not move my car until I did have it fixed.

The garage man told me that I should put my car in his garage over night and when I told him that I did not have any money to pay for storage, he made a few slurring remarks and left. I obtained permission from the officer in charge to park my car away from and in the rear of the garage.

I have witnesses to prove this fact. I returned the next morning to get my car, only to find that it had been broken into and pulled into the garage. I also found one of my tires flat. I then went and talked to the officer in charge (the same officers who gave me permission to park my car away from the garage), and told him what had happened and he then told me that I was against the law to park where I had.

Why didn't this officer tell me that the night before?

I also understand that the garage in charge of repairing the lights was charging exorbitant prices for light bulbs. I was compelled to pay a storage bill before I could get my car away from the garage.

When I attempted to drive my car away, it would not start and upon examination, I found that the garage man had taken part of my distributor. He did not release this to me until I had asked for it.

Is this sort of procedure necessary? Is this the sort of freedom our Constitution has given us? Do you wonder why people become "radical"?

For committing a misdemeanor, I was handled as if I had committed a major crime. It is getting so that the people need some sort of protection from the law enforcers, who, by the way, are being paid by the taxpayers.

A TAXPAYER.

Editor Times—I have read some of the proposals on the part of Indiana politicians to reduce taxes, which to date appear to be half-hearted.

Generally, I do not believe our politicians realize the necessity for action and prompt results. Property owners in this state have organized and are pressing the politicians for relief and it seems that they will get it.

However, what relief the property owner obtains in the way of reduced taxes is going to be added to the taxes now paid by other state citizens who are not property owners, in the way of income tax, etc.

Under this scheme the property owner will obtain relief and the politicians will put over another fast one by shifting the burden from one citizen to another. While the property owner obtains his well-earned reduction, I do not believe he will obtain what he started out to get—a reduction in state, municipal and county maintenance expense in keeping with the times.

Bottom incomes in the last three years have decreased from 30 to 100 per cent, both to owners and employees, while government costs have increased and from all indications will remain the same or increase further.

Why should not all government officials and employees take a flat 15 per cent to 25 per cent reduction in wages, regardless of who it is? If the present laws will not permit it, change the laws at once to correct this condition.

An honest effort on the part of state, city and county officials would bring about easily a 30 per cent reduction in total government cost.

Why is it that a county treasurer receives in annual commissions \$75-

SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Revolutionary Points of View Advanced in New Study of Bacteria.

NOW you see it and now you don't, the familiar claim of the magician and the three-shell expert of the midway, threatens to become the basic fact of bacteriology.

This probably is the most spectacular phase of the revolution now taking place in the science of microbiology.

The older students of germs, as pointed out yesterday, regarded bacteria as miniature animals or midges plants.

Consequently they applied the same ideas to them as they would to a creature, having at all times a fixed anatomy.

But, as Dr. W. H. Manwaring, professor of bacteriology at Stanford university, points out, there are other ways of regarding bacteria.

Every animal starts life as a fertilized egg cell. This means, therefore, that the great variety of cells found in the tissues of any living animal all evolved from an original fertilized egg cell.

Now bacteria are one-celled organisms. Might it not be possible to find this same variety in the offspring of any germ?

As a matter of fact, the possibility of that being the case first was suggested in 1916 by F. Lohnis and others. But the world of science in general was unwilling to believe that bacteria might show the variety and change of form that such theory involved.

Colonies of Bacteria

THE new view may be summed up as follows: Many bacteria apparently go through a variety of forms. Some of the forms may be invisible in even the most powerful microscope.

Coupled with this is another point of view even more revolutionary. It is that the real unit in microbiology phenomena is not the individual microbe or bacterium, but a colony of bacteria.

According to this view, the bacterial colony is pictured as a sort of very primitive, or primordial, plant. A plant, it will be remembered, is made up of a great collection of cells.

Since each bacterium is a cell, it is possible to think of a colony of bacteria as a very primitive plant, held together very loosely and without definite size or shape.

This point of view means that an explanation of bacterial growth must be sought in the behavior of the whole colony, as well as in the behavior of the individual bacterium.