

The Indianapolis Times

A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER
Owned and published daily, except Sunday, by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-229 West Maryland Street, Indianapolis, Indiana. Office 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, AUG. 2, 1932.

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

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

The German Election

In the German election, the parties of moderation and peace lost. The parties of extreme nationalism, the war parties, and the revolutionaries won.

That is the significance of the Hitler Fascists doubling their popular vote since 1930, and the Communists increasing their strength to 14 per cent of the total. The combined reactionary parties of the right polled more than 45 per cent of the total.

They control Germany without having an actual majority. The Communists hold the balance of power.

It is true that Hitler failed of his desired majority and that his vote virtually was the same as last spring. But, of more importance, the German electorate has invited continuance of the present thinly disguised dictatorship.

General Kurt von Schleicher, who represents the worst of the old Prussia, still is the dictator behind Chancellor Von Papen.

That means trouble for Germany. It means trouble for the rest of the world, the United States included.

But before blaming the German people for this rapid drift to extremes, it would be well for us to remember the cause. Probably no other nation would have been so long-suffering and patient as Germany under the unjust and degrading Versailles treaty.

It branded her with the lie of sole war guilt. It took away her colonies and much of her trade. It destroyed her economic independence and reduced her to little more than a political vassal of the allies.

As a result, the German people have suffered as few nations ever have suffered—suffered not only in loss of pride and self-respect, but in starvation.

After years of waiting for the allies to keep their treaty pledge to disarm as they disarmed her, and otherwise to restore the status of "equality" which is her right, Germany inevitably has begun to listen to extremists, who promise to liberate her by means other than the peaceful methods which seem to have failed her.

We do not believe peaceful methods have failed finally. We hope the great German people can be patient a little longer.

There is basis for that hope. In France there is a generous attitude toward Germany for the first time since the war—the renunciation of reparation is proof of that.

In England there is a growing demand to correct the injustices of Versailles. In the United States leaders such as Senator Borah are working for a new international settlement.

Germany should be patient and hope, because her welfare has become the key to world peace and prosperity. There is a good chance that she will get justice, because it now is to the selfish interest of other nations to reduce armaments, debts, and tariffs and thus prevent another world war, which would destroy us all.

When Winter Comes

The feel of autumn already is in the air, and soon the fourth winter of suffering will be upon us.

Relief agencies are mobilizing for their biggest battles against cold, illness and hunger. A call has been issued by J. Herbert Case of New York, president of the Association of Community Chests and Councils, for a conference in Washington on Sept. 15.

He announces that Newton D. Baker will head an "national citizens' committee of the welfare and relief mobilization of 1932.

Both of these news items are encouraging. The coming mobilization of all national leaders charged with relief services, the largest gathering of its kind, is a frank recognition that the need is desperate and the burden will fall chiefly upon the same agencies that have carried it in the past. The name of Baker gives assurance that the need will be met humanely and realistically.

No one more than these social workers knows how somber the picture is. Family reserves are gone, cities and states are impoverished. The much-publicized federal relief loan fund of \$300,000,000 is pathetically inadequate.

For 1932 the community chests have raised \$100,000,000, a sum 20 per cent greater than the same chests raised for 1931. Yet President William Green of the American Federation of Labor estimates that in the coming winter there will be 13,000,000 jobless—2,000,000 more than now.

"The winter of 1932 and 1933 will bring with it a greater need for funds and still greater difficulties in obtaining them," said Case. "The federal relief appropriation can not in any measure cover the relief needs of the country."

"There is no disguising the fact that, even with federal aid and with each community contributing to the utmost of its ability, it is going to be exceedingly difficult to meet all demands for assistance which will come this winter."

Especially important is the initial statement by Mr. Baker, stressing the fact that relief should extend beyond food for the hungry.

"Social work other than relief, particularly all the character building and character preserving work, must not be scrapped. This work is not a luxury of the rich. It is an essential reconciliation of our industrial system to the needs of humanity."

"To permit the forces of social work to be scattered and demoralized would be a national disaster."

Shall We Tax Opportunity or Prosperity?

In Collier's magazine, Calvin Coolidge resents his basic notions regarding justice in taxation. He thus expresses his major thesis:

"Nothing seems clearer than that if the people are to control the government, they must pay the taxes to support it. These two go together. And, second, if the people are to have opportunity to own property of the nation, they must pay the taxes on it. These two go together. Power and responsibility can not be separated."

To this we may make a number of obvious and cogent rejoinders. If the people really controlled the government, they might be expected to support it.

All that even a radical asks in present taxation policy is that those who do control our government contribute more equitably toward its support. It is a rash proposal, however, to suggest that we tax people for their alleged opportunities.

The opportunity to hold property should not be taxed, but the actual possession of property. The masses have oceans of opportunities in abstract theory, but only a few drops of income-paying property.

We will agree that power and responsibility should not be separated. That is all exponents of high taxation propose. They merely desire to impose the burden of support on those who have power to pay.

But they run into the age-old fact that those who

M. E. Tracy

Says:

The Same Old Mess Results From Germany's Election
—No Majority for Any Party.

NEW YORK. Aug. 2.—Germany's latest election seems to have resulted in the same old mess—ten or a dozen parties, failing into three principal groups, but no majority.

The Hitlerites, or Fascists, more than doubled their representation in the reichstag, but increased their popular vote very little. Sixty-eight of the 123 seats they gained were at the expense of smaller parties, which have been voting with them. Besides, their gains were somewhat offset by Catholic and Communist gains.

The Hitlerites now control 230 seats of a total of 602 in the reichstag. Because of four smaller parties which usually vote with them, they can rely on 277. In the old reichstag, they could muster 222. That means that they have gained fifty-five, but still are twenty-five short of a majority.

Unbased Propaganda

Complaints from American business men against the killing of Russian trade in this country are becoming more bitter.

They point out that Soviet purchases here, after reaching a peak of \$149,000,000 in 1930, dropped to \$51,000,000 in 1931 and now have fallen away to a negligible \$5,500,000 for the first six months of this year.

Typical of those complaining is a New York manufacturer of crushing, mining and cement machinery, whose factory has been closed because of the loss of Soviet purchases.

This firm, in a letter to a prominent United States senator, reported by our Washington correspondent, charges that while the federal government refuse to aid in retrieving lost business, the department of commerce is issuing unsubstantiated warnings to American business against engaging in trade with Russian agencies.

The complaining firm declares in its letter that Russia prefers American manufacturers and if given fair treatment would expand its buying here to astounding figures.

This view is based on the impressive fact that the Soviet last year was our heaviest buyer of industrial machinery.

But if the Russian purchases were now but at a 1930 peak of \$149,000,000 the business would be a godsend.

The Hoover administration recently has allowed inklings of a changed viewpoint to get abroad. If plain common sense and justice is not enough, the desperation of the growing army of the workless ought speedily turn the scale toward a practical trade arrangement with Russia.

Prehistoric Economics and Sociology

A lot of "old ones" have been pulled during the current depression, but nothing is more redolent of the cave age than the assertion of Colonel Robert L. Rees that about 60 per cent of the unemployed today either are defectives who can not hold jobs or floating and unstable persons incapable of working at skilled trades or holding any position for long.

Every student of sociology and economics recognizes this at once as one of the oldest "gags" in the history of social philosophy. It also is a fine example of what the psychologists call the mechanism of "projection," namely, the tendency to excuse our own faults by blaming somebody else for real or alleged sins.

No sensible social scientist doubts that there are many defectives among the laboring classes, some of this deficiency being due to inadequate nutrition and care. Many can not fulfill the responsibilities of any important job.

But trying to pass the buck for the unemployment situation to labor not only is unfair, but also ignores the vital causes which must be recognized and abated if capitalism is to survive.

In this connection, it is just as well to remember that Socialism rests on economics, rather than politics, and can be introduced under most any form of government.

Rome was much more highly socialized as an empire than as a republic.

Both trying to pass the buck for the unemployment situation to labor not only is unfair, but also ignores the vital causes which must be recognized and abated if capitalism is to survive.

Further, this hypothesis of deficiency and nomadism is a double-edged sword. What would happen if we were to apply it to many of the absentees among the second and third generation of millionaires?

If some poor laborer is too deficient in native ability to hold down a \$2-a-day job, what about a person of comparable mental and physical endowment who is holding down a million-dollar income?

There's nothing like a change of scenery and environment for widening the mental horizon. For instance, Al Capone says from his Atlanta work bench, "Rackets get you nowhere but here."

Mussolini now constitutes a majority of the Italian cabinet, having taken over six more places. If he keeps that up, a cabinet conference will soon still Mussolini talking to himself.

History still has a profound bearing on human progress.

Our Standards Differ

WE Americans should not attempt to appraise politics in other countries by our own standards.

They fit our system of government, which is one reason, and not the least important, why we have it.

We know what a big part the old New England town meeting played in forming this republic. European countries weren't blessed with the town meeting, but they had other institutions to serve a similar purpose.

Germany had the vohm, only to

temper, one illustration, and Russia the village co-operative.

Popular ideas of how a national government should be formed today have their roots in the village customs of centuries ago. Statecraft is not made at the top, but at the bottom.

You can go back to fifteenth-century England and find the germ of many an American institution. You can go back to fifteenth-century German or Russia and find an explanation for many things which the people now are doing.

History still has a profound bearing on human progress.

Questions and Answers

What does habeas corpus mean?

It is a writ, directed to the persons detaining another and commanding him to produce the body of the prisoner at a certain time and place, to do submit to, and receive whatever the court or judge awarding the writ shall consider in that behalf.

Who was the father of the biblical character Risipha?

Aia.

What is the title of the song played as an introduction to "Tarzan, the Ape-Man"?

"Voodoo Dance," by Richeliev.

Is there a river named the Pasig?

It is in the Philippine Islands.

SOISSIONS TAKEN

Aug. 2

TODAY IS THE WORLD WAR ANNIVERSARY

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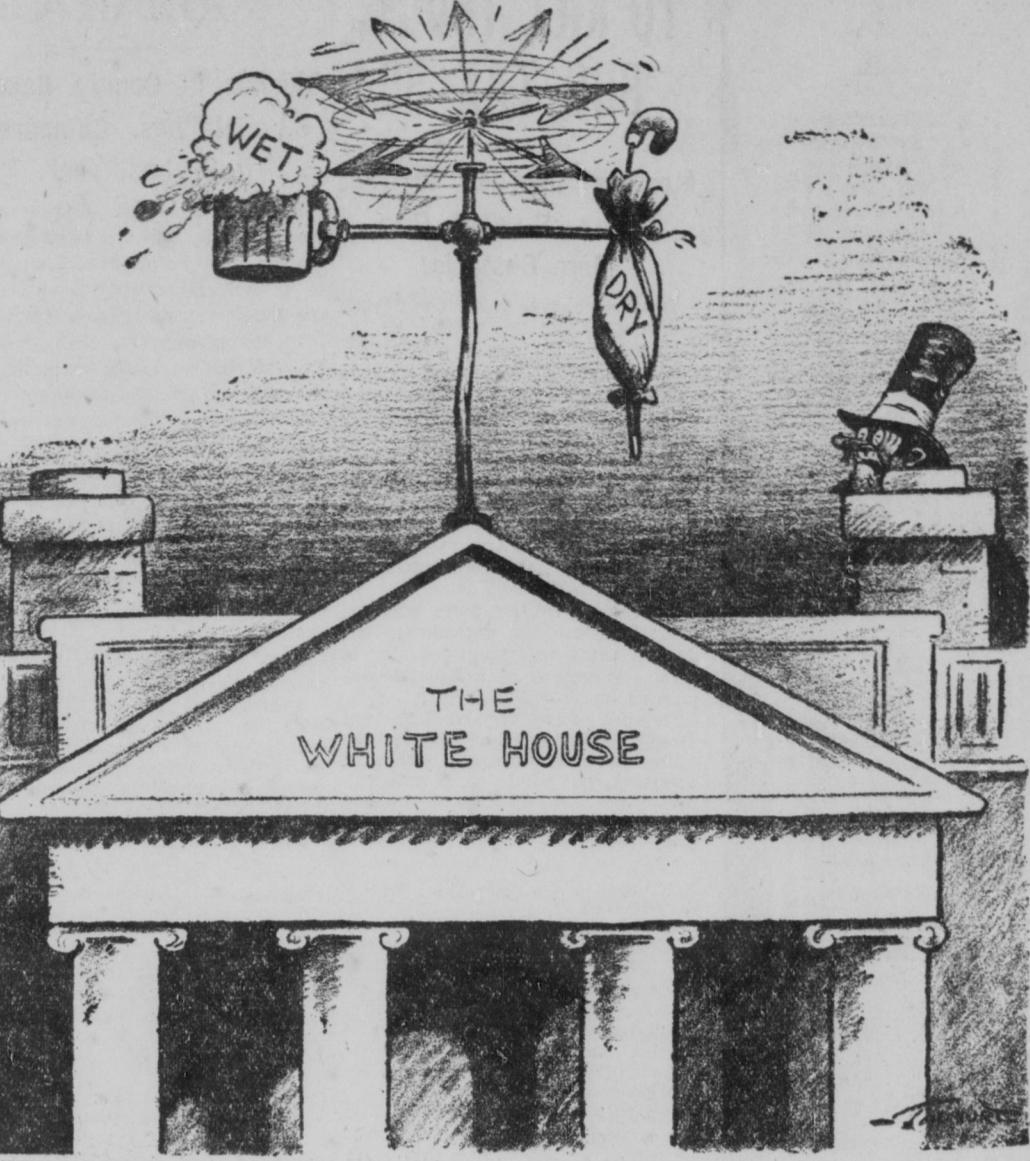
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Showing Which Way the Wind Blows!



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Few Reach Century Mark in Age

This is the first of a series of six articles by Dr. Fishbein on Good Health after 60. In this series he explains the health needs of the aged and the ways to avoid them. The remaining articles will be published daily in The Times.

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

ALTHOUGH 100 years of life is possible to human beings, only thirty people in 3,000,000 reach that age. And more than two-thirds of the persons who do reach that age are women.

The reason for this latter fact is that women usually are less exposed to accident and infection and, what is more important, are more apt to lead temperate lives.

Census figures from Great Britain show that the average number of persons more than 100 in the British Isles is about 110, and that eighty of this number are women.

These figures are not absolutely

accurate, since most old people are proud of their age and tend to exaggerate.

For example, in nearly every census, people who give their ages as over 91 are found than people who give their ages as between 85 and 90.

British health authorities assume that many jump from 85 to 91 in a year or two.

However, the span of life is increasing gradually. And in time we may expect to have more and more people above 90.

The chief reason for this remains that many jump from 85 to 91 in a year or two.

However, such experiments among human beings are almost impossible and this theory must remain largely a matter of conjecture.

One of the real problems we have to face is to make the life of the aged person a happier and healthier one.

They must realize their own shortcomings in regard to strength and ability to throw off disease, while those around them should always take into consideration the changes which come with advanced age.

If older persons observe the simple rules of health, there is no reason why their declining years should not be happy ones.

These figures are not absolutely

reliable, according to Sir Humphrey Rolleston of England, that encouragement of intermarriage between families that tend to live long would produce stock that tended to live long.

However, such experiments among