



The Indianapolis Times

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

The New Dawn

While Senator Watson and Candidate Springer are asking votes on the plea that the home loan bill is the special product of Watsonian genius and that it will save the little home owner and stimulate building, some one should explain just when the benefits will come.

Will any one dare to suggest that any family now being evicted for failure to pay rent is any nearer the security of home ownership?

Will any one suggest that any citizen who has been buying a home on payments, who has lost his job and is unable to pay, will not be forced to pay?

As a matter of fact, no citizen can borrow from the new bank. Building and loan companies can re-discount mortgages representing not less than 60 per cent of the value of the property for 60 per cent of their face value. The new bank will provide a reservoir for the building and loan companies, and the law, to the extent that cash is needed by these companies to keep their contracts, will be beneficial.

But the claim that it will inspire home building by permitting those who are out of jobs and who need homes most to get one is plain bunk.

"It is the dawn," chants Candidate Springer.

"It solves everything, and I did it," says Watson.

Both are mistaken, as usual. Watson, driven hesitatingly to the support of the bill by a flood of telegrams from Indiana after he had opposed it in secret for months, thinks that the bill is worth 20,000 votes. By fall, it may be worth that many to his opponent when the people discover how little the law will do.

The real demand of the people is for work that will permit them to buy new homes and to make payments on those they hold. On this subject, both Watson and Springer are silent, and are likely to remain silent.

Unpardonable Delay

Delays by the administration in starting the building programs for unemployment relief ordered by congress are difficult to understand.

Last week we pointed out that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation had not made a single loan from its special fund of \$1,500,000,000 for self-liquidating construction projects. Since then the R. F. C. has found time to issue a pamphlet of instructions for applications for such loans, a very tardy procedure, considering that many applications have been waiting on desks of the corporation for several weeks.

Value of this fund is its emergency character. It is supposed to make work for the unemployed immediately. By delay, the R. F. C. is violating the spirit and destroying the purpose of the law.

Those who suffer are not only the unemployed, but the entire country. Business would be helped by large scale purchase of building materials.

Now Senator Robert Wagner of New York, who worked so long and so hard to get relief legislation passed, reveals that the administration also is dilatory in the matter of federal building projects.

The relief and construction act made available \$332,000,000 for this purpose. The projects were specified; they generally were agreed upon as the project which would be started and furnish employment quickly.

"To date, however, as far as I am aware, work has not begun on the projects enumerated in the relief and construction act," Wagner has written to Secretary of Treasury Ogden Mills. "Forty-two days have elapsed since congress passed that law. It seems to me that undue delay already has been suffered."

Secretary Mills is holding up not only the building projects of his own department, but of all government departments, by his failure to certify that the funds are available.

Even the river and harbor and flood control projects, for which complete plans long have existed in the office of the chief of army engineers, and on which construction should have been started at once, are delayed.

Whatever the cause of this unpardonable delay in creating jobs for the unemployed as provided by congress—whether the delay is the result of politics or of inefficiency—the time has come for President Hoover to do something about it.

Quail and Pipe Organs

Ring out, wild bells—bicycle bells, of course. On top of the news that the tariff commission has given added protection to American bicycle and velocipede manufacturers, comes the even more cheering item that the President just has proclaimed a tariff rate reduction.

It's on sheepwool sponges, from 30 per cent ad valorem to 22½ per cent.

Which reminds us how magnificently the much-touted flexible tariff works for us. Under the Fordney-McCumber act of 1922, the tariff commission made thirty-six changes in eight years. Of these on rates on five articles were flexed downward; those on thirty-one were raised.

We saw duties lowered on mill feed, paint brush handles, phenol, cresylic acid and bobwhite quail. We paid for higher rates on wheat, flour, butter, pig iron, straw hats, peanuts, eggs, milk, cream, linseed oil and other things.

No action was taken on the 1924 sugar report, which, according to Senator Costigan of Colorado, a former member of the commission, would have saved American consumers \$40,000,000 a year or more and at the same time amply protected the industry. But bright America can bask under cheaper bobwhite quail!

Under the Hawley-Smoot act of 1930, the commission flexed downward eighteen times, upward eight times. The downward rate applied to such things as wheat flour, blem wood furniture, feldspar and pipe organs. The upward rate applied to cordage, woven wire fences, egg products, pine apples and the like.

"No change" resulted from twenty-five hearings on many widely consumed articles. And into the tariff by way of this year's revenue act went four major and formerly free articles—oil, lumber, coal and copper.

But why worry? Every American home now can be more cheaply equipped with a pipe organ and bobwhite quail.

The Electric Tax

The electric industry, having won its battle to have the 3 per cent federal electric tax transferred to consumers, is complaining now about the expense of computing and collecting this tax.

An article in Public Utilities Fortnightly sadly records that the Detroit Edison Company spent \$1,849 in extra clerk hire because of the new tax, and collected just \$814.46 for the government. It complains because power companies had to have new bill forms printed, with the exact wording of the tax law on them; because customers are getting angry and refusing to pay

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

M. E. Tracy Says:

State Rights, as Opposed to Centralized Authority, Account for Most of Our Political Commotion.

NEW YORK, Aug. 30.—This republic is about to hold its thirty-seventh presidential election, with repeal of an amendment to the Constitution as one of the most important issues.

From an historical standpoint, the venture must be put down as novel. We have added many words to the Constitution, but this is the first time we have considered taking some out of it.

When you dig deeper, you find that the issue involves theories of government on which our forefathers split at the very beginning.

Ever since the Constitution was adopted, there have been Federalists and anti-Federalists; those who believed in more government and those who believed in less.

State rights, as opposed to centralized authority, account for most of our political commotion.

Nullification Results

WHEN a problem arises, there always has been an argument as to whether the federal government or the states should solve it.

Generally, the argument has been settled without involving the Constitution.

After the Civil War, three amendments were added. Whether they were necessary, they have been subjected to more or less nullification.

The prohibition amendment also was due to war fever. If it affected only a section of the country, we probably should let nullification take care of it.

There is a deal of difference between the eighteenth and fifteenth amendments. While there is little excuse for more than a dozen states ignoring the latter, practically all states find themselves unable to obey, or abide by the former.

Nullification has become a country-wide blot as far as the eighteenth amendment is concerned. So we arrive at a point where both major parties are willing to consider.

Same Old Issue

LET no one be deceived as to the underlying principle. It's the same old issue—bureaucracy versus local self government.

When it comes to a showdown, the American people are as genuinely opposed to centralization as were their forefathers.

No matter how industrial organization may appear to call for it, they doubt the virtue of its ultimate effect.

This is a deep-seated tradition with the American people. They dread the development of unnecessary power at Washington. They think of it as too dangerous and far-away a force to be trusted.

They appreciate the weakness of local self-government. They realize perfectly well how slipshod and ineffectual it can become. But, and in spite of all that, they see something of value in its intimate, human side.

However, the big difficulty is to diagnose a cancer in time. A cancer of the skin can be detected easily and quickly! At other times, a cancer may be so situated as to give early evidence of its presence.

But, unfortunately, it is possible for a cancer to be so deeply seated within the body that its presence is not detected until it is too late to use either the surgeon's knife, X-ray or radium.

Whether Dr. McDonald's discovery undoubtedly is an important gain in the war on cancer. But the war still is far from won.

In the past, cancer has been treated successfully on many occasions with the surgical knife, the X-ray, and radium rays. Purpose of these treatments is either to remove or kill the cancerous growth. And, in general, when the cancer is discovered early enough, the treatment is successful.

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