



The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-220 West Maryland Street, Indianapolis, Ind. Price 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.

BOYD GURLEY, Editor

ROY W. HOWARD, President

EARL D. BAKER, Business Manager

PHONE—Riley 5551

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

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

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 28, 1932.

The Utility Issue

Most important of all the issues of the state campaign is that of more rigid control of public utilities. At present, these utilities are practically beyond all regulation, charging what they please and only occasionally receiving a slap on the wrist from a commission whose membership is at least acceptable to the utility lobbyists.

Under the political influence of the Insulls and the others, the commission has always accepted the utility viewpoint.

In times of high prices of commodities and labor, the utilities have charged rates to bring a return on the cost of reproducing their plants.

In times of depression, these high valuations have been permitted to stand as a rate base.

The excessive charges by public utilities amount to as much as the entire tax bill of the state.

Not content with foraging in the fields where they are in control, the utilities have exercised jurisdiction over plants owned by cities in order that the contrast between these municipally owned plants and the private operators might not be too striking.

In his formal opening of his campaign for the governorship, Paul McNutt has taken a bold and frank stand.

He has a platform for control of utilities that is endorsed by those students of city affairs who wish to bring about some justice for the people.

He pledges himself to regulation of holding companies, the trick through which the Insulls interests took away hundreds of millions of dollars from investors and under which the Insulls and other utilities charge for fictitious services and excessive prices for supplies.

He declares that the present administration of regulatory laws is unsatisfactory. He pledges new members of the commission who are not picked by utility lobbyists, but will represent the people.

He pledges himself to laws that will make it possible and easy for cities to either buy utilities or build new plants, widening the circle of public ownership, which is the final solution for the problem.

That makes the position of candidate McNutt clear. He declares for the people.

It would be fine if his opponent took as equally vigorous a stand and meant it. Any less vigorous program can only work to the advantage of McNutt. The people are tired of utility robberies, either through raids on their pocket books by extortionate rates or on their savings by Insull holding company securities.

The state is in a fair way to lose its satirical appellation of Insullana and again become Indiana.

The Truth About Debts

One hopeful light shining through the fog of campaign politics on international affairs is the organization of the committee for consideration of intergovernmental debts.

When such an important group of business, farm, and labor leaders gets together, action is apt to follow. Alfred P. Sloan, president of General Motors; former Ambassador Henry P. Fletcher, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, John W. Davis, Frank O. Lowden, D. B. Robertson, Louis J. Taber, George W. Wickersham, and Alfred E. Smith, are among those representing widely different regions, business interests and political parties, which makes the committee really non-partisan.

"What they are searching for in this complex of figures," says Sloan, "is a method of turning the problem and its solution to the best possible advantage for the great mass of the American people."

In commenting upon the enthusiastic public response to the creation of this new organization, Sloan warns that its motive is not necessarily cancellation or revision, but first to study the problem—and then to accept the scientific conclusion, whatever that may be.

That is the proper spirit of open-mindedness. But this group of learned and practical men can not be entirely unmindful that many such scientific studies have been made already and that virtually all have come to the same conclusion.

Indeed, on the same day that Sloan announced his permanent committee, the Brookings Institution of Washington, whose scientific standing is unexcelled, published the results of its ten years' study of the problem.

This volume on "War Debts and World Prosperity," by two recognized authorities, Harold G. Moulton and Leo Pasovsky, concluded:

"A complete obliteration of all reparations and war debt obligations would promote, rather than retard, world economic prosperity."

"Collection of these intergovernmental debts would be economically detrimental, rather than beneficial, to the creditor countries."

These conclusions have been demonstrated by so many scientific studies that it is improbable the Sloan committee will have to spend much time on this factual phase of the matter. The more difficult question—and one which the Sloan committee has set before itself—is: What is to be done about it?

Even here the answer, theoretically, is not difficult. Most of the experts agree that the United States should trade debts revision or cancellation for foreign trade agreements, as suggested by Alfred E. Smith and others, or exchange debt reduction for armament reduction, as urged by Senator Borah, or perhaps make both trades.

Certain American experience in canceling these debts from 25 to 75 cents on the dollar under the so-called funding agreements—which resulted merely in liberating more foreign money for armaments—should teach us to get something for our money the next time.

Debt cancellation, following the Lausanne reparations cancellation, can speed world recovery and American prosperity, but only under definite conditions, among which armament economy is the most important.

That is where this committee of business, farm and labor leaders can be of great service. It can help to enlighten both Hoover and Roosevelt and help to show the fearful managers of both parties that solution of the debt-depression problem is expedient politically.

The League on Trial

Criticism of the League of Nations by President De Valera of the Irish Free State in opening the thirteenth annual session at Geneva reflects the growing impatience of the world with that institution.

Its enemies have said all along that it was des-

tined to failure. That hostile judgment can be discounted. But now even its friends are disappointed.

The truth is that the league has not lived up to its promise. That remains true even after due allowance is made for the nonmembership of two of the largest and most important nations—the United States and Russia.

Apologists for the league are driven to list achievements of a secondary nature, important, but overshadowed by the larger issues evaded by the league.

Most friends of the league confess disappointment that it has not led faster and farther toward the goal of disarmament, peaceful settlement of major political disputes, and reconciliation of the basic economic conflicts which cause war.

But it is possible to qualify this criticism. The faults of the league are not inherent. Its sins of commission and omission in justice can not be blamed on the league as an organization.

The blame, rather, is with the big powers which dominate the league. In virtually every emergency they have prevented the league from taking action which would interfere with their selfish interests.

Two grave issues before the league now are cases in point. Disarmament is blocked and Germany driven back toward Junker militarism because, chiefly, Great Britain and France are unwilling to sacrifice their overwhelming military and naval superiority or that of their satellites.

So with the far eastern crisis. The smaller nations of the league have tried in vain to apply the league machinery to Japan as a treaty and covenant violator and aggressor.

Always France and Great Britain move in at the crucial moment with some subterfuge to sidetrack action. Through the powers' control of the council, they perpetuate their dictatorship over the league.

Obviously, the league can not stand still. Either it will continue to drift down hill, or it will drive upward. There is little hope of saving it unless the small nations can democratize it sufficiently to overrule the big powers on questions of armament and imperialism.

The United States government, with all its many faults, has tried heroically during the last year to cooperate with the league for world limitation of armaments and for preservation of treaties in the far east.

The only tangible result to date is that the United States has been put into a dangerous position of isolation by the big powers. Unless the league can change its course soon, the time will come when the American people will decide that such one-sided cooperation is too costly.

The Mooney Report

Private citizens are going to do what the United States senate should have done months ago—publish the report on the Mooney and Billings cases made to the Wickersham commission and first suppressed by it.

The report will be available through the American Civil Liberties Union for a small price.

General knowledge of the facts in the Mooney and Billings cases alone is necessary to insure general indignation over the way the two men were convicted on manufactured evidence and to provoke general demand for their release.

It perhaps is for this reason that reactionaries in the administration and congress have tried to keep from the public the authoritative report prepared by eminent attorneys, far enough away from the case in both time and space to regard the evidence with uncolored judgment.

Americans, as long as they believe in American institutions, will repudiate the doctrine that men shall be made to spend their lives in jail, or framed evidence, because they once were, or might again be.

It is nothing but a poverty-stricken mendicant, according to our standards, a half mad preacher, an object of charity, who has given up about everything that we hold essential to civilized life. Most of our unemployed would consider themselves neglected by society if obliged to eat his food, wear his clothes and sleep on his bed.

That is the proper spirit of open-mindedness. But this group of learned and practical men can not be entirely unmindful that many such scientific studies have been made already and that virtually all have come to the same conclusion.

Indeed, on the same day that Sloan announced his permanent committee, the Brookings Institution of Washington, whose scientific standing is unexcelled, published the results of its ten years' study of the problem.

This volume on "War Debts and World Prosperity," by two recognized authorities, Harold G. Moulton and Leo Pasovsky, concluded:

"A complete obliteration of all reparations and war debt obligations would promote, rather than retard, world economic prosperity."

"Collection of these intergovernmental debts would be economically detrimental, rather than beneficial, to the creditor countries."

These conclusions have been demonstrated by so many scientific studies that it is improbable the Sloan committee will have to spend much time on this factual phase of the matter. The more difficult question—and one which the Sloan committee has set before itself—is: What is to be done about it?

Even here the answer, theoretically, is not difficult. Most of the experts agree that the United States should trade debts revision or cancellation for foreign trade agreements, as suggested by Alfred E. Smith and others, or exchange debt reduction for armament reduction, as urged by Senator Borah, or perhaps make both trades.

Certain American experience in canceling these debts from 25 to 75 cents on the dollar under the so-called funding agreements—which resulted merely in liberating more foreign money for armaments—should teach us to get something for our money the next time.

Debt cancellation, following the Lausanne reparations cancellation, can speed world recovery and American prosperity, but only under definite conditions, among which armament economy is the most important.

That is where this committee of business, farm and labor leaders can be of great service. It can help to enlighten both Hoover and Roosevelt and help to show the fearful managers of both parties that solution of the debt-depression problem is expedient politically.

It is to know about rearing a child is almost certain to make tragic errors with her own. Maturity often brings with it inexorable opinions, and so units us for successful parenthood.

Children thrive best where light-heartedness reigns. They love a hazardous existence. A certain splendid carelessness about life imbues everything with glamour for them, and most of the deprivations, save actual lack of food and clothing, that we are wont to regard as hardships are nothing but adventures to them.

And any child, I am convinced, rather would live with gay young parents in a humble home and know laughter and fun than to exist in luxury with middle-aged bosses, from whom they are separated spiritually by an insurmountable barrier of years.

M. E. Tracy

Says:

Western Mind Scarcely Can Grasp Idea of How Gandhi Can Triumph Merely by Threatening to Starve.

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—To western minds, the triumph of Mahatma Gandhi seems unreal and incomprehensible. How a little old man could overthrow one of the sternest institutions of Hinduism and cause the British empire to change its plans merely by threatening to starve himself to death is quite beyond the rationalism of occidental thinking.

Not that peculiar sources of inspiration are lacking in this age of traffic cops and efficiency experts, as is illustrated by Almee Sample McPherson and the eighteenth amendment, but that we have trained ourselves to believe that great results demand great movements.

Such idea contradicts the record of human progress, whether in the east, or in the west, but we fondle it as a by-product of democratic philosophy, defying history in a hopeless effort to convince ourselves that the voice of God is to be found, not in the prophet, genius, or leader, but in the voice of multitudes.

Mass thinking, as we call it, has come to play a mighty part in human affairs, according to our conception, with individualism slowly fading out of the picture.

We point to Soviet Russia as an unanswerable proof, just as though the tomb of Lenin had not become a shrine and just as though there could be a Soviet Russia without the guidance of a Lenin, or some other master.

Two points of view are in conflict:

Shocks Our Propriety

GANDHI does not fit our ideas of how big business should be developed, and made to pay dividends or bring gold habits should be changed by statute.

It shocks our sense of propriety to think of a great leader as dressed in a loin cloth and dining on goat's milk. Like Carlyle, we find it impossible to visualize a naked judge on the bench. Yet of all people on earth we claim to be freest of superstitions and symbols.

A Gandhi appeals to us as completely out of date, if not semi-barbaric, yet a Gandhi comes nearer to touching the souls of men than any of our doctrinaires.

In one sense, this man has reverted to the primitive, but in another he has risen above the barriers of custom and the smoke screens of modern technology.

At any rate, he has done for the 40,000,000 "untouchables" of India what no man, or group of men, has been able to do in the last thousand years, and he has done it by breaking the will of 100,000,000 high caste Hindus.

Success of this method depends largely on length of time that can be given to the process and skill of the operator.

No matter how carefully the work is done, there are occasional cases in which very light scarring may occur.

The X-ray has been used to destroy hair, but the method is considered especially dangerous, because of the possibility of killing cells of the skin or stimulating growth of the cells to the point of the appearance of cancer.

Thallium preparations recently introduced, have been discarded by the medical profession because of the appearance of the electric needle.

There are also such methods as the use of depilatories of chemical character which burn off the hair, and the use of the pumice stone method, which involves cutting of the hair at skin level and then constant rubbing with a fine pumice stone.

This method tends to coarsen the skin and sometimes the pumice

Something That Wasn't On the Program



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Electric Needle Best Hair Remover

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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

THE most widely used and safest method for destruction of superfluous hair is with electric needle.

Success of this method depends largely on length of time that can be given to the process and skill of the operator.

No matter how carefully the work is done, there are occasional cases in which very light scarring may occur.

The X-ray has been used to destroy hair, but the method is considered especially dangerous, because of the possibility of killing cells of the skin or stimulating growth of the cells to the point of the appearance of cancer.

Thallium preparations recently introduced, have been discarded by the medical profession because of the appearance of the electric needle.

There are also such methods as the use of depilatories of chemical character which burn off the hair, and the use of the pumice stone method, which involves cutting of the hair at skin level and then constant rubbing with a fine pumice stone.

This method tends to coarsen the skin and sometimes the pumice

deposit in the pores and gives an unsightly appearance.

The best authorities do not recommend plucking the hairs, for the reason that this may alter the root position in relationship to the shaft of the hair and the operator finds it difficult to locate the position of the hair.

Another method in common use which will remove the hair, but not permanently, is the use of waxes which are spread on the skin soft and which are then pulled off after the wax hardens.

When the wax is pulled off, the hair comes out. This, of course, may be associated with the possible danger of destruction of the skin. In most instances, because the hair roots are not destroyed, the hair returns.

There are also such methods as the use of depil