



The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

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

Cost of Schools

While the cost of maintaining the public schools has been cut several hundreds of thousands of dollars, the city of Indianapolis still has no money for night schools or for adult vocational schools.

The wages of teachers have been reduced, not as much as some frantic taxpayers wanted them cut, but lower than the teachers believe to be reasonable.

Even with these economies, the several thousands of young men and women who have shown some of the ambitions of Lincoln by pursuing studies at night after working in the day, will be unable to go ahead this year. Today it would be impossible for a Lincoln to educate himself by even the light of electricity, to say nothing of pine knobs. It is the age of speed and specialization. Education requires direction.

If night schools were necessary in days of prosperity, they are more needed in the days of adversity.

More young men and women will need the inspiration of hope, and hope comes from an enlarged viewpoint. More will desire a better equipment for that prosperity that is around the corner, when the right corner is turned.

In addition to the night school, the adult vocational schools are more important than ever before. More adults have time for study and for preparation for more congenial tasks than manual labor. The need for manual labor is disappearing under power production. The man and woman who survive must have training.

These two departments of the schools should be continued even if there is no money to maintain them.

They are of such vast social importance that volunteer teachers should, if necessary, be enlisted to care for these classes.

The school houses of every community should be converted into social centers this year where not only education but entertainment and companionship will be available.

If those in charge of the buildings would make the offer, it is probable that every community would find leaders who would make the school houses attractive as neighborhood centers and that substitutes for the vocational and night schools would be produced by the communities themselves.

This is the year when education and entertainment apparently must be produced without cost.

There must be fun without money, education without price.

Light Breaks Through

Events of the last few months have given rise to some extremely clear thinking on the power question, both on the part of those seeking public office and those who will confer it.

In the old days the power issue was a bitter affair between consumers of electricity and owners of electric companies. Now the lineup is somewhat different. Many consumers of electricity also are owners of utility stock. And slowly they have awakened to the fact that these two points of view are not necessarily antagonistic.

Government regulation of utilities, which in the past has been regarded only as a weapon to be swung in behalf of the consumer, a means of keeping down rates at the expense of stockholders, now is perceived to be urgently necessary for protection of those who have invested their savings in utility stocks and bonds.

And it gradually becomes evident that rates held to a minimum for the benefit of the consumer increase the use of electricity to the point where certain and plentiful return is available for the investor.

Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt made this point very clear in his Portland address on the utility problem. Stating his belief in private ownership of utilities except where government ownership is necessary to secure good service, to establish a rate yardstick, or to conserve a valuable resource, he went on to pledge himself for regulation of the issues of stocks and bonds, liabilities and indebtedness, capital investment, and gross and net earnings.

"True regulation is for the equal benefit of the consumer and the investor," he said, "and the only man who will suffer from true regulation is the speculator or the unscrupulous promoter, who levies tribute equally from the man who buys the service and from the man who invests his savings in this great industry."

Competent government supervision of securities, as well as rates, does not mean fabulous returns for an investor, such as those certain holding companies have boasted in the past. But it means a fair return and, above all, a sure return.

It means that overwhelming financial cataclysms such as that which has swept thousands of investors to the wall will not occur.

Modest Dolly Gann

(An Editorial in the St. Paul Daily News)

Mrs. Dolly Gann, half-sister of the Vice-President, was delightfully frank in her interview with Twin City newspaper women and men.

"I'm here to make a straight Hoover talk," she said. "I'm going to tell what he has done and what the Democrats have not done."

This Mrs. Gann proceeded to do in her speech at the Metropolitan theater Thursday evening. Before that speech, however, the reporters were curious.

"Do you think the Wisconsin election will have any bearing on the Republican campaign?" she was asked.

"Oh, I never discuss elections."

"What is your stand on prohibition and the Republican plank?"

"Oh, I never discuss prohibition."

"I am content to talk only President Hoover and his accomplishments. I never grant political interviews. All my speeches are prepared for me."

Not many men campaigners would admit publicly that their speeches are all prepared for them. Few would be so modest in the expression of their personal views. Yet the poets say that women are vain.

The Farm Moratorium

President Hoover's 75 cent per month moratorium on crop production loans is calculated to prevent some distress and anxiety in mid-west grain states. That it will have a political reaction, being announced just before the President's speech in Des Moines, is not doubted.

But its small scope seems unfair and discriminatory.

If the President and the department of agriculture find it necessary and beneficial to declare a partial moratorium on repayments of loans made to grain farmers in a few states, why is it not just as necessary and just as beneficial to extend this treatment to all the half million and more farmers who have borrowed?

The explanation is that cotton, tobacco and other crops.

M. E. Tracy

Says:

Science and Machinery, in the End, Will Serve Individualism.

NEW YORK, Sept. 29.—If I believed all the organizing, merging and consolidating were necessary, I would not be a Socialist, but a Communist. If I believed that science and machinery actually were driving us toward monopoly, I would concede that Soviet Russia stood for a better scheme of things than American big business.

I believe nothing of the kind. In the end, science and machinery will serve individualism. The auto is a vivid illustration of how this can and will be done.

The first great development of modern transportation was based on the idea of moving people in great numbers on rigid rails and in accordance with inflexible schedules. Naturally enough, it led to tremendous organizations, with all the political and economic evils incident thereto.

We tried to solve the problem thus created by law, but only to find ourselves sinking deeper and deeper into the mire. No one knows where we would be today, or into what strange paths the railroad issue would have led us, if science had not come to our rescue with the automotive vehicle.

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The British Cabinet

The British cabinet split probably will not change any of the policies of that government, and therefore is of no great importance.

Tariff is the issue on which the three ministers have resigned. Viscount Snowden, former Labor party leader; Sir Herbert Samuel, leader of the free trade wing of Liberals; and his associate, Sir Archibald Sinclair, long had outlived their usefulness in the so-called national cabinet.

They were a powerless minority, not only when it came to stopping the tariff protectionist trend, but in other matters.

The chief value of these liberals and of the former laborite Snowden was to give the cabinet an outward semblance of nonpartisanship which it did not possess in fact.

Despite the premiership of Ramsay MacDonald, one-time Labor government head, and the admixture of Liberal cabinet members, this ministry from the beginning has been in its control and in its major policies a tory government.

MacDonald remains as a screen.

Perhaps something would be gained in clarity if the Tories took over the government in name as well as in fact. Then the world would find it easier to appraise the rise in imperialism which characterizes present British policy.

There are few natural monopolies outside the field of communication, and that can be covered fairly and efficiently by either private or public control, as is demonstrated by the postoffice department and the telephone system.

Efficiency, as rated by ledgers, catalog and graphs, furnishes an excellent monopoly in any field, but it is a narrow, provincial, prejudiced sort of efficiency, which ignores the larger side of progress.

It is the kind of efficiency which invites chaos or stagnation, which can not withstand the changes that go with inventiveness, experimentation and the liberty to think.

There is no advantage in organizing 10,000 grocery stores under one head because a group of ten or fifteen can handle goods at less cost than single units. Neither is there any sense in putting all the cotton mills under a unified control because one cotton mill need so many spindles to function efficiently, or a certain number of cotton mills is needed to supply a bleachery, or a print works.

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Public Control Inevitable

THERE is, of course, a unit of efficiency in every line—a setup which handles a given commodity at minimum cost. We pay little attention to that aspect of the problem.

What we demand is the biggest possible set-up, no matter how much water it takes to produce the capital, or how much useless overhead creeps into the structure.

There are few great concerns in this country that could meet the competition of smaller rivals without employing unfair means, or cutting prices below cost on occasion, all of which goes into the capital account, not only as a matter of dollars and cents, but as a matter of general discouragement.

Private monopoly, if carried to far, can have but one end. That is public control. Neither should we delude ourselves with the comfortable illusion that public control will be satisfied by mere regulation.

Connecticut fish experts have taught young lobsters to dive to the bottom to escape larger, predatory fish. Now something ought to be done for the night club variety.

The depression has proved one thing, anyway. A government doesn't have to be radical to finish in the same form.

A reviewer comments that short love stories are the most remunerative of the fiction writers' output. The same holds true for divorcees.

An Indiana girl took a flock of chickens to college, expecting to make enough from the eggs to pay for her schooling. That's a variation: In most cases father is the egg.

Jimmy Walker might have found obscurity if he cared to. Why didn't he think of becoming a candidate for Vice-President?

Secretary of Commerce Roy D. Chapin says that the upturn in building shows that the worst has been passed. The office cynic wants to know if he didn't mean to say "passed around."

Four railroads merged the other day. That means a four-way split on that lonely passenger's fare.

Soviet Russia is turning all but two of its big universities into agricultural schools. You have to go to school to be a serf in that country.

Just Every Day Sense

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

IWOULD regard this age as headed for State Socialism in an extreme form if I did not believe that science can and will solve many of the problems which appeal to many of us as wholly political.

I would look for super-power and a power trust to be imposed on the people of this country within two generations; if I did not believe that science can and will produce small economical generating units and thus emancipate the individual from the network of wires which threatens to enmesh him.

I would look for oil to develop one of the greatest and most powerful trusts ever conceived, if I did not believe science can and will produce a cheaper fuel.

Editor Times—I have been a reader of your paper for quite a while, and I appreciate your fearless attitude in regard to your editorials, but of course I don't always agree with you.

I want to give my opinion of the Republican party. When you hear them prate, you would think that no other party could run the government. But those ideas are all bunk.

Now let's see, we have had some Democratic governments and I wish to say not one of them was half as rotten as the one we have at present.

That great engineer, Herbert Hoover, has been a colossal flop, and as soon as the people get rid of him, the better it will be for us, but of course Hoover is just like his party, always catering to the rich and powerful in place of being a friend to the public in general.

FRED SPRAECKER.

Editor Times—Your editorial refers to the realtors' threat to use force to lower taxes comes like a bolt from an old Scripps-Howard champion.

Shades of the penny press! Has the canker worm of plutocratic American insincerity at last gnawed into the vitals of the nation's life?

"There can be no solution of the tax problem until men are again at their normal work at a saving wage," Bunk!

Where were you before October, 1929? Are you asking us to stifle our memory of real estate's plight in the boom days? What have jobs to do with an equitable distribution of the tax burden?

Are you saying that when the big boys go back to work, the small boys suddenly will grow generous and start paying their fair share of the taxes for the first time in history?

Have you forgotten that Indiana has no corporation income tax, no income tax of any kind, nothing now have we to our owners, of intangibles?

Have you no real estate? No?

Would a corporation income tax

hurt you, that you so conveniently forget it?

Are you no longer for us who have invested in real America, instead of selling it short? Has your champion of the farmer and the small home owner descended to the role of standing on the sidelines and shouting, "Don't push"?

You warn us real estate owners to "think of ways of putting our former tenants back to work." Don't you know that millions of us are our own bankrupt tenants? Has it never occurred to your tyro radicalism that thousands of us are looking for jobs ourselves, or a fair price for our corn and hogs?

But do you think a job or dollar wheat is going to deceive us about the rotten un-American distribution of the tax burden of this state? You talk like a royalist.

RALPH A. DONHAM.

Route 1, Cory, Ind.

Editor Times—One of your correspondents said that two thousand homes daily are being foreclosed in America. That means 600,000 homes destroyed in one year.

We have had three years of this insane program that denies any right to the purchasers of these homes to retain their shelter, which is paramount to any claim of lenders when conditions prevent payment of loans over which the home owner has no control.

The very fact of the power of lenders to destroy the credit of the nation and individuals and then confiscate the collateral smacks of tyranny that has few parallels. Any judicial construction of law that denies a home owner a prior right to the use of his home in circumstances that are prevalent in this conspiracy of wealth to destroy the very foundations of government, i.e., the home, is certainly far from establishing the general welfare, justice, public safety, morals, and general prosperity.

In equity no court has any right to force upon society as a charge the very persons who attempt to establish homes and thereby maintain the government.

Editor Times—In answer to J. H. Heivesi he has some figures about iron ore, the capitalist and laboring man.

In fairness to the capitalist, he has J. H. ever thought of the many items the capitalist pays, making his profit?

Now is the time, therefore, for the workers to support their persecuted leaders, must vote for Heivesi and the whole Communist ticket. They must show the capitalist politicians that they can be deceived no longer by flimsy tricks and promises.

A vote for Heivesi is a vote against injustice and a demand for the rights of the workers.

J. D. OCCAW.

Editor Times—In answer to J. H. Heivesi he has some figures about iron ore, the capitalist and laboring man.

In fairness to the capitalist, he has J. H. ever thought of the many items the capitalist pays, making his profit?

The panic, as the Socialists like to hear it called, was on in July, 1929.

The government, in trying to relieve the situation, ordered a new home for the department of commerce.

The lathers were getting \$12 a day working on the new building, asked for \$13 a day July 1, and \$14 a day Oct. 1, 1930.

This increase was refused. They went out on strike. I am wondering how J. H. or the Socialist party would handle such a situation.

O. V. H.

He Would Think of That

