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

Does He Approve?

President Hoover is reported to be reluctant to go to the state of Illinois, where former Governor Small is a candidate for another term.

His reluctance is said to be for the reason that he does not wish to be associated in the public mind with an official whose record contained so many disgraceful betrayals of public interest.

Yet President Hoover rushes to Indiana, presumably to save the state for himself, which is understandable, but also to save Senator James Watson, which needs presidential explanation.

Does President Hoover approve the action of Senator Watson in the sugar stock deal?

To those who hold the belief that a senator of the United States should be free from any possible personal interest in legislation, the transaction is as shameful as any charged against Governor Small of Illinois.

The deal is a matter of record. While the sugar tariff was pending, Senator Watson received a block of shares in a sugar company. He did not buy them. At least he did not pay for them. He gave his note.

If the sugar company prospered at the expense of the American consumer, Senator Watson could sell his stock and take down a profit where he had invested nothing but his note—or did he invest something more in the way of senatorial interest in the tariff?

When exposed, Senator Watson had the temerity to laugh and declare that the stock was as worthless as his note.

Does President Hoover approve of this deal? Does he ask them to send back a senator with this ideal of public duty?

Borah Versus Smith

Senator Borah's indignation over Al Smith's speech at Newark is hard to follow. In attacking the hypocrisy of the Republican prohibition plank, Smith merely was following the eminent leadership of Borah himself, who has been saying unkind things about that straddle ever since the June convention.

Whatever change of mind Borah may or may not have had on the subject, the fact remains that the Republican platform dictated by Hoover, and the Hoover acceptance speech, represent evasive bids for both wet and dry votes.

Hoover and his platform oppose outright repeal, but open the way for a questionable revision, retaining the federal usurpation of police power, which is one of the worst features of national prohibition. On the important issue of modification of the dry laws, pending repeal or revision of the amendment, Hoover is silent.

In contrast, the Democratic platform and candidate are for outright repeal of the amendment and immediate modification of the law.

Two points made by Borah are worth answering, because they are typical of the misleading dry propaganda in this campaign:

One is the charge that the Democratic repeal plan would "leave the dry states overrun by the liquor traffic." On the contrary, the pre-prohibition laws requiring the federal government to protect dry states from liquor shipments from wet states have not been repealed—that has been decided by the supreme court. Those protective laws would operate automatically, following repeal of the amendment.

The other Borah charge is that Smith and his group subordinate all other national questions to the cry, "Give us beer, give us something to drink." That is absurd.

People do not have to wait for prohibition repeal to get a drink. In most places there is no difficulty in getting a drink now. The demand for repeal goes much deeper than any personal desire to quench thirst, or even than any personal resentment against unwarranted interference with individual liberties.

This is proved by the large number of nondrinking citizens who oppose prohibition.

Prohibition is opposed because the experiment has failed; because it has bred racketeering in politics and business, increased crime, corrupted youth, undermined respect for all law, and put a premium on national hypocrisy.

Prohibition is opposed because it robs the government of revenues, without stopping the flow of liquor; because the beer tax is much needed in a time of depression, deficit and threatened government credit.

Prohibition is opposed because it has cut across party lines in such a way as to prevent party alignment and party action on the basic economic issues; because prohibition political trickery has produced a situation in which the bread issue will not be faced until the beer issue is out of the way.

Therefore, the prospect of a political showdown on prohibition at the polls ten days hence is one of the few heartening aspects of this campaign.

Out at Last

After many months, the suppressed Wickersham commission's report on the Mooney-Billings trials is given to the public.

Its appearance Wednesday in book form is a triumph for American liberals. Every effort was made by the Hoover commission and senate reactionaries to bury this public document and nullify the conscientious work of the commission experts, Dr. Zechariah Chafee, Carl Stern and Walter Pollak.

The report deals with only one phase of this "celebrated case," its lawlessness. The experts reveal "flagrant violations of the statutory law of California by both police and prosecution."

They show how Mooney and Billings were held in jail incommunicado while police searched their homes for evidence; how they falsely were identified; how the prosecution deliberately sought to inflame the public and create an atmosphere that made a fair trial impossible; how the prosecution made no effort to seek out the real criminals or follow obvious clues.

Nothing is said of the foul practices within the law, such as caused the trial judge to cry out: "It was the dirtiest job ever put over." From post-trial confessions, we know the trials were unfair; from the government's own experts, we now see that they were illegal.

The report represents the federal government's second intervention in these famous cases. In 1918 a commission under Woodrow Wilson also held a mirror to them so that the nation could see to what lengths a state had gone to punish two unpopular citizens.

Senator Burton K. Wheeler, in an introduction to the book, hopes that the publication of the suppressed report will "aid in freeing these victims of judicial tyranny and wiping from our national escutcheon this ugly stain."

We hope so, too.

More for Less

Death and taxes are, of course, still inevitable; yet thousands of taxpayers have concluded this fall, as their dollars passed from their reluctant hands, that there is no reason why taxes should be so numerous and so high. And they are right.

Mounting federal and state expenditures have been discussed and deplored frequently and constitute a problem which will receive considerable attention this winter. But so far there has been little recognition of the fact that local government absorbs 53 1/2 per cent of the total national tax bill; and too little consideration of whether city, county, town, village and district governments return value received for what is spent.

In this winter of pinched purses, there probably will be much pondering about what sheriffs actually contribute to law enforcement, about the efficiency of county supervisors as road builders, about the wisdom of having many sets of petty, untrained officials duplicating tasks which one trained executive with trained assistants could accomplish better and more cheaply.

A great many states already are experimenting with reform of local government, primarily as an economy measure, and secondarily as a means of improving governmental service.

In these states there has been no case where reorganization, scientifically undertaken, has failed to improve administration of local affairs.

A true hard times bargain awaits those communities which are ready to buy more for less.

Curing Cancer

Every so often in the unsung but relentless war on disease, a victory is announced. No spectacular victory has been heralded in the fight on the great killer cancer, but last week in St. Louis, thirty-one of the country's leading specialists agreed that cancer is curable if discovered and treated in its early stages.

They reported more than 8,000 cures of more than five years' standing. They urged annual physical examination of all persons past 35.

Cancer takes a toll of 150,000 lives in the United States and Canada every year. To save these victims and their suffering is the job of this generation, as the partial conquest of tuberculosis was the job of the preceding one.

King Abdul Aziz Ibn Abdul-Rahman al Faisal al Saud, ruler of the "Kingdom of the Hedjaz and Nejd and Its Dependencies," is now merely "Ibn Saud, ruler of the Arabian Saud Kingdom," through his own desire. Even that's too much.

During a recent riot in Ireland, several persons were wounded by pistol bullets. Perhaps they ran out of bricks.

Sometimes it is necessary to sell your car to get back on your feet again.

A writer says, "I can remember when the law was a profession." It sounds as if he might be holding something back.

Quite a few people seem to be finding employment surveying the unemployment situation.

Pike's Peak is said to be four inches lower than it was last spring. Just something more for President Hoover to explain.

The government is going to build 227 new post-offices. Do your Christmas shopping early.

International tangles haven't a thing on the sleeve lining of last winter's overcoat.

If you think that the old grad who goes back for the big game lacks the fire of his college days, just try the stuff in his hip pocket.

Alas and alack. If the "straight ticket" were only a guarantee!

Experience teaches that when diplomats say a situation is "hopeful" they mean the dickering so far has been a flop.

Maybe it's because the dollar goes farther, now that it's so much harder to find.

A law permitting the sale of near-beer has been passed in Alabama. The news does finally get around.

One of the newest of the "health juices" is extracted from cranberries. Another juicy business.

Just Every Day Sense

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

ALEXANDER, grand duke of Russia, in his excellent book, gives us a kaleidoscopic view of the huge empire of his homeland and of the long series of blunders that led Europe into war and the Romanoffs to their doom.

"Europe," says the grand duke, "committed suicide in 1914." Yet, reading all the intimate memoirs, studying the detailed stories of the czars, the kings and the kaisers of that period, we are forced to the conclusion that Europe did not, after all, commit suicide. She was murdered.

It is horrible to realize that such a small group of men can hold in their hands the fate of millions of people. Yet such a group almost annihilated civilization.

Maurice Paleologue, last French ambassador at the Russian court, also has left an interesting and important three volumes that give us a daily story of the court happenings prior to and during the war.

FROM it we gather that when kings battle they think of their people as pawns in a huge game they are playing against each other. It is astounding to contemplate their egoism. For at that time each ruler slapped his chest, announced that his cause was just, and God was forever with him.

Another fact we get from the French ambassador is that any one of the various diplomats engaged in the dangerous intrigue might have averted the catastrophe. If but one man had been willing to recede even a trifle from his position, thereby encouraging the others to an equal generosity, the war might not have occurred.

But diplomats, too, are trained to think of power and not of people, so no man among them would abandon his stubbornness.

They, like the generals, stood firm, and the result was chaos.

If the people only could know the trivialities they are called upon to defend; if they only could see the nine times out of ten their holy causes are the personal animosities and jealousies of a few erring men. I wonder whether they would continue to submit to war—the ultimate tyranny.

M. E. Tracy

Says:

The President's Imagined Power Is Largely a Matter of Political Pose.

NEW YORK, Oct. 27.—A President of the United States is not the all-powerful autocrat that our style of campaigning suggests, or that many people believe.

He can exercise a certain amount of influence over public policy and legislation, provided he possesses the right kind of personality, but he can do very little by himself, or on his own motion.

A President of the United States necessarily is under great obligation to his party. He can not defy its traditions, or ignore its advice on patronage, without grave risks.

He must co-operate with the crowd back of him, must consult not only official advisers, but with those who have nothing to warrant it, except the votes they control, or the contributions they make.

A President of the United States is greatly dependent on congress. He can not make important appointments, or conclude treaties, without advice and consent of the senate.

He can not obtain funds with which to run the government, except congress is willing to grant them. He can not get a single law enacted, unless congress is willing, or veto one if two-thirds of house and senate favor it.

He can, however, be impeached and put out of office by congress.

Largely a Pose

THE President's imagined power is largely a matter of political pose. As a candidate, he becomes the front and shoulders of his party. His most trivial phrases are picked up and repeated as though they were of superhuman importance.

His opinions, even when carefully expressed, are accepted as sure to become part of the nation's law or policy in case of his election.

We sidetrack everything for the presidential campaign in our national campaigns. That is one reason why we get no better results. Of vastly more consequence, it represents a dangerous drift in the popular attitude.

An outsider would be justified in supposing that this campaign was for the purpose of choosing a dictator, instead of a representative government.

He would see and hear little to indicate interest in the legislative branch, save the demand for repeal of prohibition. Even in that particular, he would find the expansion of President Hoover and Governor Roosevelt carrying great weight.

He would gather that while congressional action might be necessary for repeal, a President could force it, and that a candidate's promise to do so was equivalent to a guarantee.

He would gather that most people had come to look upon a presidential candidate in that light, not only with regard to prohibition, but other issues.

He would take all this clamor for pronouncements on the bonus as implying a general belief in a President's power to get things done. If he were a philosopher, he would regard all this as tending toward dictatorship.

Congress Is Important

MANy democracies have succumbed to the same careless form of thinking, to an unconscious abandonment of the legislative branch of government for the speedier course of one-man domination.

For Americans are unwise to belittle congress, even for the sake of whoopla. Congress is the one branch of this government which guarantees its republican form, or through which anything like a popular expression of opinion can be written into law.

Congress is the essence of our Constitution. Let it fade out of the picture, even by appearance, and this government will become the mere shadow of what it was intended to become.

Congress deserves far more attention than it has been getting in the last few years, not only by way of respect, but by way of contact with the people.

Views of Times Readers

HAVING only sixteen years' seniority on the railroad on which I am employed as freight brakeman, I am unable to hold a regular assignment, the man power having been reduced to such extent that I was placed on the extra list two years ago.

Therefore, I have much time to sit before my radio that I play and listen in on the many job and listen in on the many speakers for the different parties.

Of course have plenty of time to read the speeches and opinions of different persons.

We have expected the present administration to put high-powered speakers in the field to defend Mr. Hoover and his associates, but we did expect the representatives of a pure party to be honest and truthful. Instead, they have resorted to the lowest and most deplorable methods to swing votes for the G. O. P. And can you imagine anything lower than captains of industry going among employees telling them that unless Hoover is re-elected they will have no jobs.

The Ford Motor Company advocates re-election of Mr. Hoover, stating that any break in the Hoover program will hurt industry. This no doubt was put before the Ford employees to intimidate them and I think nothing less than a threat to force them to vote for Hoover. Mr. Ford recently made a drastic reduction in wages, maybe he is afraid that if Mr. Hoover is not re-elected it will hurt his program of wage slashing. I hope the nine times out of ten their holy causes are the personal animosities and jealousies of a few erring men. I wonder whether they would continue to submit to war—the ultimate tyranny.

However, in my opinion, it was hard for the boys in the field for the G. O. P. to inject into our ears,

with any degree of satisfaction, the propaganda they are spreading.

We have learned through our stomach and empty pocketbook that the Hoover program is not good for the honest working man, willing to do honest labor for a livelihood.

It is time the American people think for themselves and let it be known to the select few that this government is for the people, by the people, and of the people. And that we no longer care to accept the views of those who oppose these principles.

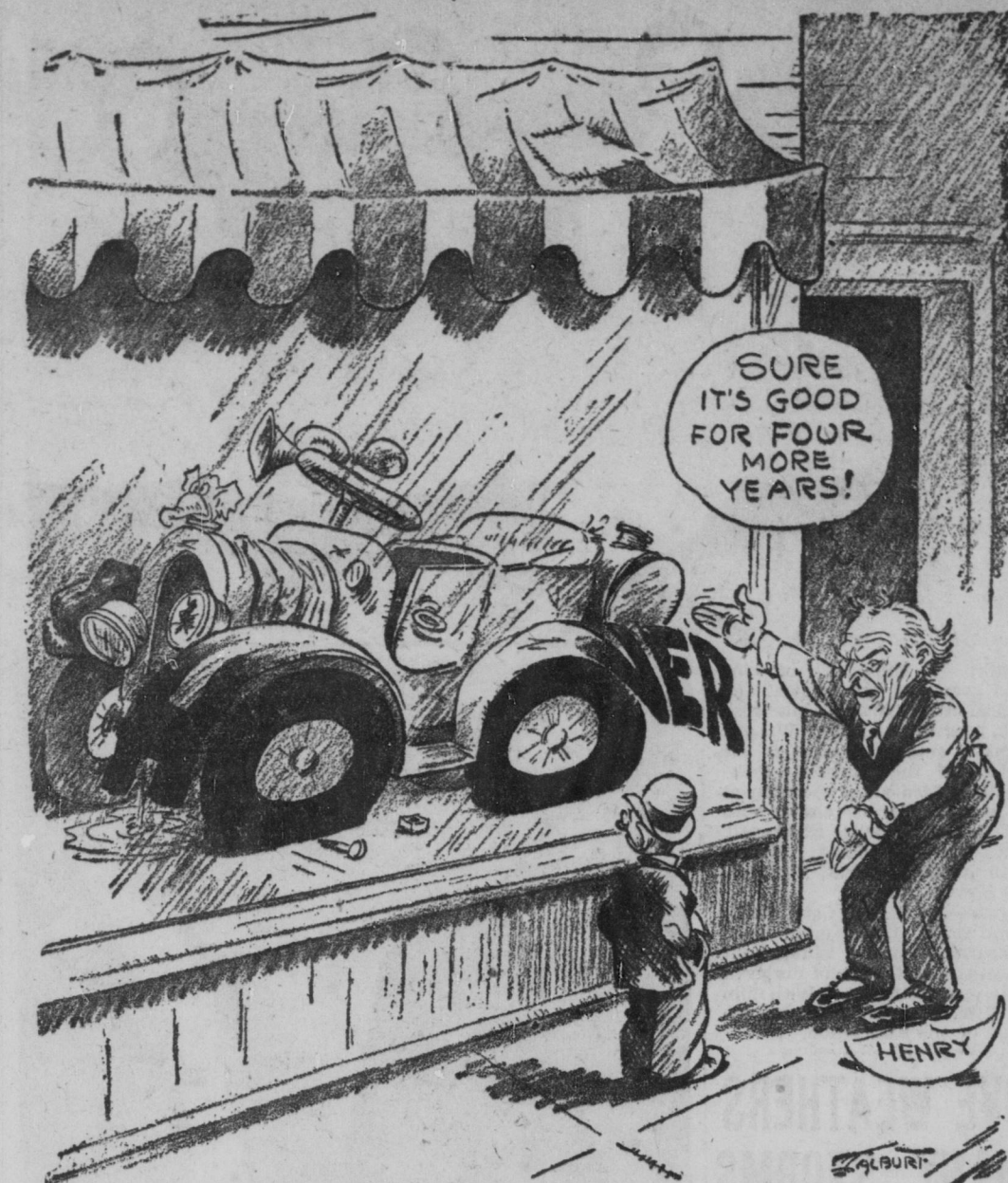
I have not lost faith in President Hoover. I never had any in him. I read articles written prior to his election that convinced me that a man charged with an many un-American principles as he could not, and would not, be a good man to place at the head of a nation of people who had suffered from bad government for some time past, in fact since the beginning of the Harding administration.

This greatest nation of ours is crying for a man that will be honest and upright at the head of our government. To whom shall we turn? Certainly not to Mr. Hoover, who has made such a bad record that he himself must forsake the precedent set by former Presidents to remain at Washington when running for second term and allow his administration associates to do his campaigning, it is so serious that he must appeal to the people to overlook the mistakes of the last three years and give him one more chance to finish the job. Can we believe his words? Can we have faith in his promises? Did he not promise as much in 1928? Some will be fooled, but the majority will answer in November, and we will be pleased to see his retirement to private life, and if he chooses, of course, it will be all right for him to go back to England. Yours truly, J. A. RASH.

Frankfort, Ind.

Who is chairman of the new federal reserve board? Franklin W. Fort.

F. O. B. Detroit



Casts Correct Clubfoot in Child

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

CLUBFOOT first was described by the father of scientific medicine, the great Greek physician, Hippocrates.

He recommended that a child born with its feet twisted be subjected to repeated manipulations, and that bandages then be applied to hold the foot in place until it healed properly.

As time went on, various surgeons studied the question more scientifically, with a view to producing not only a foot that looked well but also a foot that would be as useful as possible.

The methods of treatment of clubfoot have varied and changed from early operative methods, which involved removal of portions of bone and cutting of tendons, to manipulative methods which involved

forcing the foot into proper position, and finally to a gradual change in the position of the foot brought about by a series of plaster casts and wedgings.

Today hundreds of children born with clubfoot have been treated by modern methods, with exceedingly successful results.

The exact cause of clubfoot is not known. Apparently heredity has some influence in the matter, because it is found in some 4 per cent to 5 per cent of the cases that some one in the family has had trouble with this deformity previously.

Dr. J. H. Kite believes that it is desirable to handle the cases as early as possible, because molding is much simpler early in life than later.

Each year after a child has begun to walk, a longer and longer

time is required to correct this type of deformity.

Children treated during the first year of life could have their treatment completed with twenty-three weeks; the second year of life, twenty-four and one-half weeks, and the sixth year, forty-one and seven-tenths weeks.

Out of several hundreds of children studied by one specialist, 88 per cent had the condition successfully corrected without operations through regular molding of the feet in repeated treatments, using casts and wedgings.

It is one of the marvels of modern science that children who formerly would have hobbled through life the subjects of pity, now are enabled to walk about with feet that resemble those of the normal child, and thereby are given opportunities for success and happiness.

IT SEEMS TO ME BY HEYWOOD BROWN

IN a world in which very much now is amiss, it is pleasant to find that at least one pressing problem is being solved by the depression. I refer to the overemphasis placed upon intercollegiate football.

When the football season at New Haven and Cambridge last Saturday, it becomes evident that causes very remote from the campus are working to "give the game back to the boys."

If things move as they now are proceeding, we may find football back in the good old days of its infancy, when the chief rivals engaged in combat before nothing more than a small knot of relatives and friends. No more will each move be tossed through the ether on wide hook-ups, and in another ten years the adjectives of announcers will be reserved for cigarettes, rather than quarter backs.

Out of the Glare
AND I think it will be better so. Even today, although the throngs are dwindling, the crowd and the general interest are sufficient to make close and punishing newspaper scrutiny inevitable.

I do not think that it is desirable from the standpoint of the undergraduate and particularly of the player himself. The nervous tension of the contest is heavy, and I don't think that youngsters of 19 or 20 should be placed under the additional burden of having to face next day's headlines and possibly next day's extremely candid rectorial comment.

For instance, I found in one running story of the game by an intelligent sports writer the most savage sort of treatment for Dean, the Harvard kicker: "Dean's punt at this point was wretched." "Again Dean kicked badly." "His next try was ludicrous."

Now, upon the precise yardage covered by the kicks all this was fair enough, but I think it is far too much to fling in the face of any lad who supposedly is playing a game for the fun of it and doing the best he can.

Twilight of Big Three
FORTUNATELY fates beyond the economic factor also are working to decelerize college football. The leaders of the great tradition in this section of the country are mostly fallen upon more or less evil days.

Last year Princeton football grew so feeble as to be a matter which the student body tried its very best to forget. Certainly it was nothing to sit up nights about, and even a short cheer could be accomplished only by allowing each rooster the privilege of keeping his tongue in his cheek.

The ugly scandal was circulated that Princeton had gone "smooth." And this means that some of the undergraduates actually were reading books and indulging in conversation about Hemingway, Cather, and Lewis.

The score of each game when duly posted served to drive the students deeper and deeper into intellectual activities. It was a bad football team, and that's the way culture is born.

At New Haven this year there are brighter prospects than have been known at Yale for many decades. I mean for poets, essayists, and those who want to take a fling in fiction.

The fact that Yale so far has failed to win a single game should serve to send a thrill of pride along the spine of the entire English department. It may even inspire the chemists, the Latinists, and the Greeks.

Those old rough edges which were used to scarify opponents have been worn down mightily since the beginning of the season. Yale has grown smooth with a vengeance in everything save its running attack. And when an Ell play is piled up for no gain because of lack of power or inept execution the shock as the carrier meets the stone wall in front of him is felt in distant quarters.

Some freshmen, sitting near the top of the Bowl signs once and then brightens as he says to himself, "I think I'll write a poem."

Out of Lodge of Sorrow
MUCH of the great literature of the world has been distilled out of frustration, and this year New Haven offers that commodity

SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

Passenger Pigeons, Once Millions Strong, Are Extinct in United States.

THE passenger pigeon has gone the way of the dodo. It is extinct. Once it was one of the most abundant creatures upon the North American continent.

But the last one died in 1914 and its stuffed form now graces a shelf in one of the exhibition rooms of the Smithsonian institution of Washington.

During the last few years there have been frequent reports that the passenger pigeon still exists in remote localities.

Letters frequently are received by various institutions from persons claiming to have seen one.

The Smithsonian institution believes that all plausible clues should be investigated. Nevertheless, it feels certain that the passenger pigeon is extinct.

The last authentic report of the bird being seen in the wild state was received in 1898.

The last known passenger pigeon died in captivity in the Cincinnati zoo at 1 P. M. on Sept. 1, 1914. That day marked the closing chapter in the book of what man had done to the passenger pigeon.

For it was the spread of the city, the cutting down of the forests, and the slaughter of the pigeons by the thousands that led to their extinction.

Size Is Deceptive

REPORTS regarding the passenger pigeon range from statements of bird lovers that they have seen one of the birds somewhere to the wildest sort of stories.

"Unfortunately," says Arthur C. Bent, ornithologist, who has prepared a brief report on the subject for the Smithsonian institution, "the mourning dove often is mistaken for the passenger pigeon. In the west, the band-tailed pigeon has been mistaken similarly."

"It seems to be a common idea that the passenger pigeon easily is recognized by its size, which is larger than that of the mourning dove. All ornithologists know how deceptive size can be."

"Even to an expert ornithologist, a mourning dove may look as large as a passenger pigeon. The fact that the observer may have seen thousands of these birds in previous years, and has handled and plucked them, does not necessarily mean he is a good judge of the bird."

Among the stories circulated to account for the extinction of the passenger pigeon are tales of forest fires, tornadoes, epidemics of disease, and drowning of large numbers of the birds.

One story is that they became exhausted while flying over the Gulf of Mexico and that immense numbers fell in and were drowned. There seems to be many stories in circulation that the birds existed in large numbers and then suddenly were wiped out.

It is believed by some that the bird still exists in small numbers in remote parts of northern Michigan and Canada, Bent says.

Birds Lost Heart

BENT, however, is not inclined to believe that colonies of passenger pigeons still exist.

"It seems quite probable," he says, "that a bird accustomed for ages to living together in large numbers and close ranks, whether in feeding, migrating, roosting or nesting, might find it impossible to continue these functions satisfactorily with greatly reduced and scattered ranks."

It is probably no mere figure of speech to say that under these circumstances such a community bird would lose heart, nor is it fanciful to suppose that sterility might in consequence affect the remnants.

When the white man first arrived on this continent, the carrier pigeon was present in incredible numbers. An account written in Pennsylvania in 1740 says of them:

"The big as well as the little trees in the wood, sometimes covering a distance of seven English miles, became so filled with them that hardly a twig or branch could be seen that they did not cover."

"When they alighted on the trees, their weight was so heavy that not only big limbs and branches the size of a man's thigh were broken straight off, but the firmly rooted trees broke completely under the load."