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ROY W. HOWARD, President
BOYD GURLEY, Editor
EARL D. BAKER, Business Manager

Phone—Riley 5551



Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

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THURSDAY, JAN. 5, 1933.

THE LEGISLATURE OPENS

Today the lawmakers of Indiana meet under conditions which can be compared only to those of war days.

The emergencies of peace are greater, because there is lacking the solidarity of opinion and the drama which draws together men for a common cause.

The problems they are to solve are more difficult, because they are bewildering in their extent.

The farmer finds himself unable to grow enough food at present prices to pay the taxes which are fixed, to a large degree, by public debts incurred at high prices.

The city dweller finds himself in a similar predicament, due to loss of income and reductions of wages and salaries.

The public servant, as distinguished from the public official, is faced by wage reductions because of reductions in taxation.

On all sides are the pressing problems of poor relief, with their mounting costs, and the more menacing problem of unemployment which has its more tremendous aspects.

In this situation, special groups will fight for advantage as never before. There will be desperate efforts to pass the burdens on to the other fellow.

It may be expected that the utilities, as a habit if not from desperation, will be on hand to protect their holding company exactions and secrecy, their domination of rates at a time when all other factors are depressed, their power over regulatory bodies.

The farmer will be important for he is now organized as never before. His interests in the matter of taxation will clash with those of industry which will not sympathize with the limit of \$150 if that limitation means added taxation upon either its products or its income.

The financial interests, always in the background and generally knowing exactly where they want to go to protect the sacredness of dollars at any cost, will be on hand.

In this chaotic clash of interests, strong leadership will be needed if a sane solution is to be achieved.

Fortunately, the political complexion of the legislature is so strongly of one party that there will be little chance of obstruction for partisan gain. Responsibility is definite and fixed. There can be no chance of the minority group to do anything but protest.

More fortunately, the party in power is pledged to a very definite course of action. It has definite bargains with the people.

The people look to this legislature with hope. The individual members of the legislature will write their own labels. Those who try to deliver the state to the forces of greed against definite party pledges will only invite attention to their own betrayal.

The task is not hopeless. All that is required is a very definite understanding that the "new deal" means more than a phrase and that human beings are the only important factors in any social organization.

IMPORTANT POSTS

Because the positions carry no compensation, many citizens may regard the jury commissioners as unimportant.

As a matter of fact, they are as important, if not more important, than the judges themselves.

These men, one from each of the larger political parties, select the names of those who will serve on juries which will determine not only the liberty of individuals, but the chance of justice in civil courts.

Manipulation of these lists have not been unknown in remote years. As a result, justice has been thwarted.

For this reason, the selections made by Judge Earl Cox of the circuit court are a matter of congratulation. Their standing in the community is a guarantee of clean courts.

THE CHILDREN'S YEAR

Crusaders are launching a new drive upon the forty-four state legislatures meeting this winter for uniform laws to abolish the old evil of child labor in America.

Their attack will be on a new front. Instead of pushing only for ratification of the child labor amendment, they will urge laws setting the minimum school age at 16, regulating the labor of minors 16 and 17 years old, fixing minimum wages for all children under 18, the eight-hour day maximum, harsher punishments for violators of child safety and welfare laws.

Here is a splendid program, and one surely conservative enough. It is to be hoped that ratification of the amendment also will be urged. The very fact that only six of the needed thirty-six states have ratified the eight-year-old amendment shows how difficult it is to get action.

But if any principle deserves to be written into the Constitution, it is that children shall not be worked for wages in this country.

Present conditions plead for quick success to this humane project. With 12,000,000 adults looking for jobs, the most ignorant or selfish employer must admit the folly and cruelty of keeping at work 2,000,000 minors under 17.

No share-work plan compares with this as a depression remedy. No cause more eloquently calls to its colors Americans of good will.

Let us this year take these child workers out of the mines, the factories, the mills, the sweatshops, and send them to school. Let the jobs now performed by their immature hands and brains be taken over by the natural bread winners, their elders. Let us make 1933 the children's year.

WAR DEBT PRESSURE

Week by week, the demand by American citizens for settlement of the war debts problem increases. In reading the scores of New Year's forecasts, it was noteworthy that the business men, bankers, and economists almost without exception listed war debt settlement as essential to business revival in the United States.

In addition, there have been this week two outstanding statements on the subject, one in the program presented to President-Elect Roosevelt by

twenty eminent economists and the other in an article by Alfred E. Smith.

In asking for a debt agreement approached "in the same spirit of generosity with which we went into the great war," Mr. Smith points to the very practical consideration that by insisting on all we may end by getting nothing.

Using the overthrow of the pro-American Herriot government of France on this issue as an example of our folly, he asks: "What shall we gain if we upset the coalition government of England or the conservative government in Germany? Does any one think we shall collect debts through radical governments which will have as their first plank complete repudiation of all public debts and perhaps even private debts to foreign nations?"

The twenty economists, headed by the financial adviser to many governments, Dr. E. W. Kemmerer of Princeton university, and Dr. B. M. Anderson Jr. of the Chase National bank, state:

"The urgent immediate problem is the foreign trade situation. Lacking an adequate export market, agricultural products and raw materials bring ruinously low prices, and there is an immense unbalance between them and manufactured goods.

"As a result, even the relatively scant output of the factories is marketed with difficulty. There should be prompt reciprocal lowering of tariffs and prompt settlement of inter-allied war debts. . . .

"Settlement of inter-allied debts should be on a negotiated basis . . . which, promptly accomplished, will be immediately beneficial to all countries."

Most of the business men who have expressed themselves, most of the economists, most of the newspapers, most of the church and peace groups, are of the same opinion.

ANOTHER CONGRESS ACTS

The venerable congress in Washington has been offered a valuable suggestion by a congress of youth sitting in Chicago.

The Student Congress Against War, with 650 delegates from universities and colleges in all parts of the country, has condemned military training in schools and summer camps as "integral parts of the country's war machine and methods of disseminating jingoistic propaganda."

They were thinking of the cost of the training in terms of human values. But their resolution has meaning also in terms of tax dollars.

The training so bitterly rejected by young men in a position to know it most intimately is costing this country \$6,692,008 in the current fiscal year. This money pays for army instructors, rifles, and other equipment, summer camps for college men not in financial need of vacation at government expense, summer camps for others who do not go to college, but are recommended for these pleasant vacations by their congressmen.

It pays for publication of a manual on "citizenship" designed to teach youth, along with the arts of force, that our moral, political, and economic institutions are perfect, that monopolies are sacred, that government of the masses is communistic, that working classes need the stimulation of poverty and hunger.

Services essential to the mental and physical well-being of hundreds of thousands of children will be sacrificed so there may be federal funds to teach these things to youth, to prepare them mentally and physically to kill one another.

The congress in Washington has been looking for ways to cut the federal budget. The congress in Chicago has pointed out how this may be done and how, at the same time, a positive accomplishment in the direction of peace at home and abroad may be made.

Technocrats accuse the steel industry of holding lifelong razor blades off the market to keep up the demand; but they can't bring that charge against the stypic pencil boys.

When it comes to holding back improvements to keep sales clicking, it must have taken our best minds years to keep cigaret lighters from lighting.

Charity never seems sweeter than when you enter it in the exemptions column on an income tax return.

Oklahoma sanitary inspectors smashed 18,594 cracked dishes they found in eating places in the state. It's things like that that make pharmacists mad.

Already some folks are finding that their New Year resolutions won't hold water.

Just Plain Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

SOMEHOW I can not appreciate the beauty of tall buildings when at their feet crowd men and women and children van with hunger.

And wherever I go in my country, that is what I see. Several very wonderful, very rich, very splendid works of man, into which have gone millions of dollars and an untold fortune in dreams, all ringed about with squalor and poverty and human misery.

Cities whose towers scrape the sky, whose centers seem made of gold, wear skirts sewed with frayed fringes of woe, littered filth, tumble-down houses, babies creeping in the dirt, empty eyes staring from grimy windows, gaunt and tattered men; frail, defeated women, horrors unspeakable.

We like to exhibit to visitors the things of which we are proud. And civic pride, at least in America, is a strong characteristic. Only we are proud of such strange things sometimes.

NEARLY always there are objects which we have created out of brick or stone or marble, our wide, well-paved streets, smeared too often with blood, our green parks with their signs asking children to keep off the grass; our fountains, iron protected, in which babies may not bathe when the days are hot; our churches closed to the poor, our exclusive clubs into which those who are starved for beauty may not enter, our opera houses, where only the fortunate may go.

And how carefully we avoid showing our less lovely possessions. Seldom do we visit them ourselves.

We do not say to our own ears, "These, too, are mine, these low streets of despair, these wastes of ugliness, these lowlands of languishing mortality, where hope is dead."

Yet how can any town or any city or any government, for that matter, build permanently only with stone and marble and brick?

Today, it seems to me, we have enough sky-scrapers, enough smooth white roads, enough golf courses. But we do not, my friends, have enough human beings who are happy, nor enough small homes that are free of fear.

America, whose dreams always have been so high and fine, must needs dream now, for a while, of tall men and comely, well-fed women and sturdy babies. For these are the true riches a nation should be able to boast.

The Orphan



M. E. Tracy Says: SHALL MEN OR ROBOTS RUN THE WORLD IN THE FUTURE?

CONSERVATIVE or radical, the cry is for more organization, efficiency and control. Those advocating regulated monopoly in America work toward the same end as those experimenting with Communism in Russia.

In each case, the idea of producing finer, stronger human beings is subordinated to that of building bigger, better machines.

As a minority of one, I think that civilization has come to a parting of the ways, and that its immediate problem is to decide whether men or robots shall run the world, whether progress is a matter of mechanical speed or intellectual growth.

There is, I believe, a larger efficiency than that which goes with factory output and cost accounting, and a side to competition

which is much more important than the effect on trade.

It is unnecessary to belittle the benefits of modern industry to realize that it includes disadvantages, or that its most important aspect is not the leisure it makes possible, but the physical and psychological effect of that leisure.

It requires ambition and ingenuity to develop an automatic machine, but it requires neither to sit down and watch one operate.

Consolidate the Gains

DOING things, especially in a creative way, seems to be man's destiny, or if not that, his surest method of attaining a reasonable degree of satisfaction in life.

The last few generations have been quite happy in their work. They have been discovering, inventing and improving all sorts of devices. They have wrought a great change in methods of work and habits of life.

They have gambled with Fate, some of them winning and some of them losing, but all of them getting a kick out of the play and all of them a little stronger because of it.

Now we propose to consolidate their gains, take the mechanical set-up they have left and stabilize it.

We are going to provide jobs for everybody, even if we have to get down to a three-hour day and a three-day week.

After we have planned industry,

we are going to plan leisure, since that is the only way to keep industry going—so many hours for the movie, so many to drive the automobile, so many for the radio and so on.

It's Old Stuff

THERE will be a stop-and-go signal not only on the street corner, but in the apartment, warning us to feed the baby as well as when to step on the gas.

The eighteenth amendment is mild compared to what some of our best minds are cooking up by way of regulation, whether through a board of directors or a soviet.

We already have reduced education to a standard brand, and we are approaching the same goal through supervised play.

Except for mechanical power, which obviously is more soulless than slavery, it is all old stuff. The Incas tried it some centuries ago, with a social system that was virtually automatic in its control of the individual.

Every little Inca knew exactly what he was going to do in life as soon as he was old enough to be told; knew that he would be taken care of until he was 18, that he would work at some prescribed vocation or trade from that time until he was 60, and then be taken care of until he died.

The Inca civilization was great in many ways, but not great enough to withstand the shock of a thousand Spaniards.

Every Day Religion

BY DR. JOSEPH FORT NEWTON

YES, it is literally true; everybody is lonesome. The world is full of lonely souls, especially in cities. It attacks the rich and poor alike, the brazen and the bashful. Nobody escapes, and it drives people to do desperate things.

It is the secret of much of our hectic gaiety, and our huddling together. At times all of us are overtaken by the fact that life is a lonely thing, a something which even those nearest to us can not share.

It seems that women suffer from loneliness more than men, perhaps because it is a part of their lot. Anybody, they put up with it better; they have to. There always is sympathy for a lonely man, but seldom for a lonely woman.

She may be alone because a long relationship has come to an end—her heart is like an empty house. It has no tenant.

After have clubs to go to. Their spare time is occupied. An extra man at a party is welcome, but an extra woman is looked on with horror. A man can go alone to

the theater, to a restaurant, but a woman must have a consort.

Yet men suffer from loneliness, too, either in isolation in space or insulation of spirit. Some people can not get close to their fellows, and are doomed to live aloof and alone.

IN Australia there is a sickness called "bush-madness." It is born of loneliness, and takes the form of talking. Those who suffer from it talk to the trees, to the fire, to a horse, a dog, anything, just for the sake of hearing the human voice, even if it be their own.

Is that why we talk so much to any one who will listen? One meets a man casually, and he tells his whole life story in detail. Is it "bush-madness" in another form?

To be able to be alone and yet not be lonely, is one of the finest arts of life. Next to it—or, may be it is the same thing—is to help to destroy loneliness in others. What a blessed business! Here is the meaning of religion, if we know how to use it.

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DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Posture of Child Is Important

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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

FOR instance, the head must be held correctly if the jaws are to meet and the teeth are to bite as they should.

The chest must be held correctly if the heart and the lungs are to perform their functions to the best advantage.

The feet must be right and the legs correct in their relationship to the feet if the child is to walk at all, let alone run, jump or dance.

Furthermore, the relative positions of the exterior portions of the body are significant in relationship to the positions of the internal organs such as the lungs, the heart, the liver and the intestines.

The position of any one part of the body is likely to affect all the other parts.

A child that is overfed may have a strong forward curve to its back for a while to carry around

its little stomach with its contents.

Of course, natural for little children to have rather large abdomens. However, these tend to become smaller in most cases, and the position in which the child stands and walks has a great deal to do with this change.

THE development of straight legs for children is nowadays less of a problem than it was before mothers understood the necessity for sunlight and plenty of the vitamin that is available in good cod liver oil.

However, in addition to the vitamins and the cod liver oil, the baby should have opportunity to kick and squirm about even before it can stand erect.

It is particularly important never to put too much strain on the child's bones, muscles, ligaments, and joints. Don't prop the baby up before it seems to want to sit up.

If parents will watch their own posture and ask their admiring children to imitate them, the effect is bound to be good.

It Seems to Me:

BY HEYWOOD BROWN



THE three-year study of American life made by the President's committee seems mild enough if one is to judge by the headlines. There is nothing particularly startling, for instance, in "How the Board Wars of New Social Trends." In fact, in this shipped version nobody knows whether he is expected to put his shoulder to the wheel or lock the brakes.

In fact, we have been talking about trends for so many years that we are a little slow to grasp the fact that a tendency has become an actuality. It even has a vague feeling that the revolution concerning which so much has been shouted already is here. It got off at One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street and was recognized by one.

"Don't You Know Me?"

IT is always very hard for a revolution to get itself recognized. The conservative will call it a "readjustment," even "business going on as usual during alterations." The radical will chase the child back into the house and warn it to quit skipping phases.

Around here no revolution will be considered official until the full length portrait of Karl Marx walks out of its gold frame, pats Morris Hillquit on the head, and sings the "Internationale."

For the Communists the official indication will consist of Corliss Lamont calling up Malcolm Cowley at the New Republic office and saying, "Guess who this is?"

But while the orthodox and the dogmatic are looking to the sky for signs and portents of the genuine, unadulterated revolution, it is quite possible that some less addicted to set formulae may carry through the work right under the noses of the star gazers.

The gentlemen who call themselves technocrats have aroused a vast amount of attention, although there is nothing in their philosophy of man and the machine which was not said by Socialists in America years ago, and before the Socialist movement here took the followers of Edward Bellamy. Incidentally, that somewhat forgotten New England author assumes with the years increasing prophetic inspiration.

This Would Be a Good Time

IN the eyes of many visionaries it is rank heresy to talk of "Socialism" in our time. Frankly, it seems to me that if we do not get it now (and by now I mean within a period of eight years) we are likely to wait a century or forever.

In spite of loss of employment and all its accompanying symptoms, it has been difficult to convince people that we are not dealing with a depression. No sane person believes that industry in America ever will be carried on again in precisely the same forms which obtained in 1929. At least no sane person should. Sane people seem to have a capacity for believing anything.

Within a year we will all of us recognize much more acutely than we do now the complete severance which has been made with the old way of life. I'm afraid I'll have to go back to the story of the Gurkha and the German in the war. The Gurkha slashed at his neck with his curved and marvelously sharp blade.

"Never touched me," said the German.

"Ah," said the Gurkha, "just wait till you try to turn your head!"

Tired of Doing Anything

WITHIN a year the realization will come home that our economic system literally has been decapitated. Modern machinery has made the old forms impossible. And all that is so true that people are tired of saying it or hearing it. They even seem tired of doing anything about it.

It is by no means certain that the immediate way out will be by radical readjustment under radical leadership. That can happen only in a radical party has the courage and the vision to see itself as a present power.

It takes no vision to talk about what is going to happen a hundred years from now. The real test of keen eyes is a recognition of what lies immediately at your feet.

Mr. Everybody, the American toiler, can make himself one of the hundred million rulers of America. There's only one catch in the scheme. He must do it now.

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SCIENCE

New Science Era Here

BY DAVID DIETZ

THE year 1932 will go down in scientific history as the beginning of the great revision, if we are to judge from what Dr. Harlow Shapley, internationally famous director of Harvard observatory, said here before the annual convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

During the last few days I have attempted to suggest how 1932 might go down in scientific history. I suggested that as a result of Dr. Joel Stebbins' studies, which showed the Milky Way to be only one-third the size previously imagined, 1932 might be remembered as the year when the depression hit the Milky Way.

I also suggested that it would be remembered as a year of confusion because of the battles over cosmic rays and the expanding universe, and because of new discoveries in the field of the atom, which seemed to upset old established physical laws.

Dr. Shapley, viewing the conflict of contradictory theories in astronomy and physics, calls upon astronomers to throw overboard their old theories and to begin to accumulate additional data upon which new theories can be built.

If scientists respond to Dr. Shapley's call, 1932 will mark the end of a scientific era and 1933 the beginning of a new one.

A Faster Era

ONE scientific era began with Newton's theory of gravitation and ended, centuries later in 1895. During it, scientists developed a mechanistic view of the universe which to them was wholly satisfactory.

The next era started with discovery of X-rays in 1895. X-rays were followed by other startling discoveries—radio-activity, radium, the electron, the quantum theory, relativity and cosmic rays.

Science moved faster in this era and decelerated in place of centuries. By 1929 scientists once more built up a completed picture of the universe.

The layman will find this picture summarized in a reasonably simple language in Sir James Jeans' book, "The Mysterious Universe." This new universe substituted mathematical laws for the mechanistic views of the previous era.

And now it looks as though the picture will do. Dr. Shapley tells us that there are more objections to present-day theories of the origin of the moon, earth, and stars, than those theories can meet. He tells us that we will have to abandon the idea that the moon was formed from material torn from the earth while the earth still was molten, and that the earth and other planets were formed from material cast out by the sun.

He says that it is probable that moon, earth, planets, sun, and stars are all the same age, all formed simultaneously from the condensation of one parent gaseous nebula.

Plenty of Work

DR. SHAPLEY dismisses present theories of stellar evolution very quickly. He waves them aside as inadequate and superficial.

He is pleased to see so many new big telescopes being built, because he thinks that by working hard for the next ten years we may begin to develop some new theories.

Since the problem of stellar behavior is essentially a problem in the behavior of atoms, Dr. Shapley's pronouncement means that much work must be done in the realm of the atom.

In this connection, it is interesting to note that the glorification of mathematical rules at the expense of mechanical models never has pleased all scientists.

Sir James Jeans and others in upholding the mathematical nature of the universe, have said that the behavior of the atom was such that it defied the making of a suitable model or picture, that it could be explained only by mathematical formulae.

Opponents to this view, however, felt that the inability to make a suitable picture or model meant only that we did not yet know enough about the subject.

Among those who have been outspoken in their protests of this taking refuge in mathematics has been Professor Frederick Soddy, eminent scientist, who made many of the important discoveries in the field of the atom between 1895 and 1910.

Such recent discoveries as that of the existence of the neutron, a particle like the electron, but without any electric charge, would seem to indicate that Soddy and those who think like him, are right.

Apparently we are not yet in possession of all the facts.