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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

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THE GOVERNOR SUGGESTS

No member of the legislature will have any difficulty in understanding what Governor McNutt believes should be done to the state government in order to meet present emergencies.

His message to the law makers does not evade nor pussyfoot. It goes direct to the point of every question and there is his answer to every problem.

On the matter of state government, he would abolish the present public service and highway commissions and replace them with men who will have at least a different attitude toward their duties.

On the matter of various boards and commissions, most of which under the inspiration of Stephenson, were placed under the secretary of state in order to make that office powerful politically, he would bring about efficiency by a different grouping and the elimination of overlapping duties.

There is nothing doubtful about his attitude toward the duty of the state. Roads and buildings may be deferred but the education of the children of the state must not wait, a complete reversal of the policies of his predecessors.

In a word, in a matter of choice, human beings and social welfare is to be placed above material considerations.

It is upon the question of public utilities that the Governor is most specific.

He demands an easy road to public ownership of these utilities by such cities as may desire to buy or erect them, with wide powers of credit and financing.

He proposes that all holding companies be brought under strict regulation by the new commission. This is the one proposal which the utilities in other years have fought with vigor. It will be fought again this year.

But Indiana has had some sad examples of what holding companies can do to communities and to investors.

On the matter of the repeal of the Wright bone dry law, Governor McNutt stands by his platform with firmness. It must be replaced with a workable law, when modification or repeal comes.

With a course clearly outlined and with much of the preliminary work done, the legislature can win equal favor with the people if it rushes through the measures suggested and give evidence of a desire for economy by an early adjournment.

The people will demand nothing more than has been suggested by Governor McNutt. Nor will they accept less than he has asked.

THE TIME IS COMING

The munitions makers have won again. With the help of President Hoover, they have blocked the state department's effort to strengthen the peace treaties with an effective power of armament boycott.

Three weeks ago we reported that Mr. Hoover was considering a special message to congress, asking power to embargo war shipments when necessary to preserve peace. We expressed the hope that the President would go forward with this very important peace policy, prepared by Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson.

But the munitions makers got busy. Unable to influence the state department, they brought pressure on the war department and the White House. Now the President has thrown down the Stimson policy.

The President's message to congress on this subject is a weak gesture, which may fool some of the people, but which does not disturb the war manufacturers and does not in any way solve the problem.

The President asks the senate to do one of two things: Either ratify the Geneva arms traffic convention of 1925, or give him power to ban arms shipments in agreement with other nations. But Mr. Hoover virtually admits that his first request is only a gesture, when he says in his message that ratification of the 1925 treaty "seems" impossible.

As a matter of fact, the 1925 treaty, which never yet has received the fourteen unconditional ratifications necessary to put it into force, is so timid and ineffectual that it hardly is worth ratifying.

As an alternative, the President requests embargo power only in conjunction with all other principal arms manufacturing nations. The President probably has power already. But it does not mean much in the case of arms embargoes, because usually one or more foreign governments can be depended upon to prevent joint international action—at least until they have shipped to Japan, or to Paraguay and Bolivia, or the belligerent of the moment, all munitions required.

It was precisely because experience showed that an arms embargo, to be effective, sometimes had to be undertaken by the United States quickly and alone, that congress in 1898, 1912 and 1922 granted the President specific power to embargo war shipments to Latin-American countries threatened by civil war.

What Secretary Stimson wants, and what President Hoover should propose to congress, is an extension of this traditional American doctrine to include not only civil war, but fighting between nations.

This is a natural corollary of the Kellogg pact outlawing war, and without which this anti-war treaty never can be effective—as it is not effective in the areas of the far east and Latin-America today.

For the United States government to go on heading a commission insisting that Paraguay and Bolivia stop fighting, while discarded army uniforms and American-made munitions are being

It would be splendid if we could get all other nations to act with us in an emergency. But that is not always possible, so long as members of the British parliament share the large profits of Vickers and the British arms trust, which supplies more than 30 per cent of the international traffic; so long as the Skoda works of the great Czech-French combine pay an annual dividend of 28½ per cent on this traffic—which compares with the 50 per cent profit on World war contracts made by the United States Steel Corporation.

No less an authority than a conservative league of nations investigation commission since has long reported that "armament firms have been active in fomenting war scares and in persuading their own countries to adopt warlike policies . . . have attempted to bribe government officials . . . have disseminated false reports concerning the military

and naval programs of various countries, to stimulate armament expenditures . . . have sought to influence public opinion through control of newspapers . . . have organized international armament rings, through which the armament race has been accentuated by playing off one country against another."

But President Hoover should not need those league revelations to open his eyes. He himself once issued hot White House statements on the subject. Has he forgotten the Shearer investigation, which he ordered?

The United States is not the keeper of the world's conscience, but of its own. The United States can not enforce treaties and stop wars single-handed, but it can keep its own hands clean.

At least it should restrain American munitions makers from starting or feeding foreign wars, and from profiting in blood. That time is coming.

When the American profiteers-in-war sink a Geneva naval conference or blow up a Stimson embargo plan, they hasten the day when the government will take over their business in self-protection.

SAVE THE SCHOOLS

Attitude of the Hoover conference on the crisis in education will cheer those fighting to save the American school system from unwise economy raids.

The original agenda was disquieting. It suggested the possibility of drastic cuts in teacher salaries, school hours, night classes and other programs. President Hoover, Secretary of the Interior Wilbur, Dr. Cooper, United States commission of education, and others stood against such easy but dangerous budgeting solutions.

"In the rigid governmental economies that are requisite everywhere, we must not encroach upon the schools or reduce the opportunity of the child, through the school, to develop adequate citizenship," said President Hoover. "There is no safety for our republic without the education of our youth. That is the first charge upon all citizens and local governments."

"Let us," said Dr. Wilbur, "have fewer miles of highways, if necessary, and more schools for our children."

Minor economies can and should be made in the interest of greater efficiency without injuring the schools.

The conference adopted a resolution in support of some measure like the George bill to grant federal aid to states to maintain "reasonable standards in their public schools system."

This action is more in the American spirit than the defeating of some of the counties and states that are letting their schools take the brunt of the depression. But free education should be the last to go.

THE FAMILY'S FOOD BILL

There is something deeply interesting about the food supply budget for the average family, as worked out recently by experts at Clemson college.

Figuring that the average family consists of two adults and three children, the experts estimated that during a year it would consume the following amounts of food:

One hundred chickens, 1,456 quarts of milk, 2,600 eggs, 260 pounds of butter, 650 pounds of fresh meat, 174 pounds of leafy vegetables, 234 pounds of fresh tomatoes, sixty-five heads of lettuce, 108 quarts of canned tomatoes, 303 pounds of other fresh vegetables, 130 pounds of canned vegetables, ten bushels of potatoes, twenty bushels of wheat, ten bushels of corn, twelve bushels of fresh fruit and 180 quarts of canned fruit.

Somehow, it comes to a lot, when you add it all up that way. And when you contrast that list with what thousands of the unemployed actually are getting, you can see just how far short of dietary requirements some of our depression menus are falling.

Dowager Queen Marie of Rumania is reported writing a novel baring the romantic affairs of her son, King Carol. It looks like Carol's about to be dealt a royal flush.

"We want beer that tickles our noses," says a Cleveland ex-bartender. Ah, so that's the source of that old remark about "a snootful."

Some Indiana housewives had a neighbor raided, charging that their husbands had been getting liquor from him in exchange for canned goods from their pantries. The trouble evidently arose from the pickles their mates brought home.

A Civil war veteran of Minneapolis has a bottle of beer given him at a G. A. R. convention in Milwaukee fifty years ago. Now there, at last, is one fellow who "can take it or leave it alone."

Just Plain Sense

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

HERE'S a bit of cheer for the New Year.

"Time was," runs the letter, "when fortune smiled upon us, but no babies came, so we went to a foundling asylum and adopted one, a boy of 11 months.

"Tomorrow our boy, a handsome young giant, with his football letter and his scholastic laurels, comes home to his old Mother and Dad for the holidays.

"Riches have proved evanescent, but year by year the tie has grown closer and what care we for poverty—our son is with us in our little flat and we know more true Christmas joy than many a luxurious childless home. I can think of no greater tragedy than growing old alone and I know that God smiles on those who help the helpless.

"Sincerely yours,

(By adoption) A HAPPY FATHER."

DOESN'T it make a lump in your throat—this expression of frank, simple, old-fashioned pride and love?

I always have thought that the adopted parent gets more benefits out of such transactions than does the adopted child. Too many evidences of this truth may be seen on every hand for us to attempt to deny it.

When you take a baby into your home and your heart, you commit an act that is not entirely unusual, because subconsciously you are moved by a desire to get for yourself unadulterated happiness.

And should this father who speaks so simply of his joy ever be grieved or hurt by the son he loves, he still will have been rewarded amply for his deed—since he already has been repaid a hundred times over, repaid by acquiring a deeper meaning of life, by the sheer fun of watching his boy grow up, and by the affection he has received from the infant, the lad and the youth.

This man, moreover, is my notion of a real father, because his relationship with his son is based on friendliness and he considers that the happiness he has received is more important than the benefits he has conferred.

There should be no such word as duty between parents and children. Love is the only link that truly can bind them together.

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

Blind Man's Buff!



M. E. Tracy Says:

COOLIDGE HAD SUBLIME FAITH



CALVIN COOLIDGE was a typical New Englander, embodying the rugged simplicity, assured faith and unbreakable will of his forebears.

In this respect he stood for what once was a great force and what remains a great tradition in the making of America. Naturally enough, his thought ran backward and his philosophy of life was rooted in precedent.

The composure and ballyhoo of present-day life had little appeal for him. He saw no reason why an ex-Governor should not go back to a \$35 rent or why an ex-President should not dwell in modest retirement. Ready to turn an honest penny, he was unmoved by the temptation of display.

Ready to serve in the highest capacity, he found it possible to become a private citizen, once the job was completed.

In a certain sense, Calvin Coolidge's elevation to the presidency was anomalous. He did not seem to belong to the rearward days of post-war boom and speculation. One sometimes wonders whether he sensed the hollowness of it all, even when he appeared to sanction it with an official blessing.

There are those who believe that he refused a third term because of canny insight. Be that as it may, he stepped aside at the right moment.

Guided by Loyalty to Principle

MY own judgment is that Calvin Coolidge was guided by loyalty to principle, rather than by realization of what was about to happen. His faith in the original ideals and principles of this republic was little short of sublime.

He had no doubt of the Constitution, the law, or the standards created by custom. When he came to the question of accepting the nomination for a third term, he decided it by the precedent which Washington had established. I was one of those who predicted that he would.

Reliability was Calvin Coolidge's outstanding trait. If you knew his code, you could guess what he would do. He was no mystery, save to those unfamiliar with the New England background. His very silence was eloquent with advance information.

The American people found a measurable degree of assurance and relief in following such an unbending apostle of the old order. They knew they were in the breakers, though they had little idea that shipwreck was so close at hand, and were glad to have a man at the helm who wouldn't try any superfluous experiments.

Far Above Leadership of His Day

IT is doubtful if the greatest genius who ever lived could have done better. The crowd, including our best minds, was obsessed with the idea of going straight ahead.

All is as far from the government as a steersman who would hold the tiller steady. That is what Calvin Coolidge did and the nation was well pleased.

Now that we know what was just ahead, we are inclined to criticize him for doing what we demanded, what was consistent with his character and what he could not have helped doing even if he tried.

We are inclined to blame him for not foreseeing and preventing what few of us foresaw and what is doubtful if any human agency could have prevented.

History contains no ifs. There stands Calvin Coolidge and there stands the country, as revealed by the record. Posterity, of course, will undertake to psychoanalyze both.

My guess is that the ultimate verdict will place Calvin Coolidge far above the average leadership of his day and generation.

SCIENCE

Science Sky Is Rosy

BY DAVID DIETZ

RAY'S of hope illuminate the scientific sky as 1933 gets under way. It may be that the pessimistic and gloomy views which began to gain momentum from 1920 on, and which reached their climax in the last year, will be abandoned during the present one.

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