

# The Indianapolis Times

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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

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## HERR HITLER

Appointment of Adolf Hitler as German chancellor may not be such a threat to world peace as it appears at first blush. For several years he has grown at home and abroad as a bogey. A bogey is very alarming—often more alarming than if it were real.

There is a fair chance that the Fascist firebrand will be more docile in harness than out. That has been the history of Hitler's idol, Mussolini.

Of course Hitler can not carry out his program—if for no other reason than because it is self-contradictory. Half of it is extreme Socialism, bordering on Communism; the other half is extreme reactionary nationalism.

Unless all predictions fail, he will scrap the radical part of his program and act on the reactionary part. If he does, he will tend to lose a considerable portion of his labor following.

That he will continue as an arch-nationalist is not doubted. But in that he is not much different from those who preceded him as chancellor—Von Papen and Von Schleicher.

By the unjust Versailles treaty and their post-war policies, the allies destroyed most of the peace sentiment of the German republic. They caused the wave of military nationalism, on which Hitler rides to power. Hitler is not the cause of anything; he is merely a symptom—a dangerous symptom.

Control of government in Germany is not changing hands with the appointment of Hitler. For many months a capitalist dictatorship has ruled. It will continue to rule through Hitler.

With Von Papen as vice-chancellor and reich's commissioner in Prussia, holding the military balance of power in the country, and Von Neurath continuing as foreign minister, Hitler is not apt to have much more personal power inside the cabinet than outside.

He may have even less strength as a minority chancellor than as outside leader of a militant opposition.

In any event it is important to remember that Hitler is a tool of the big industrialists, the Ruhr magnates, who have helped to finance his movement and furnished most of the brains for its leadership. Though those industrialists are nationalists, it is not likely that they will permit Hitler to provoke a foreign war at this time.

When it comes to the test, the industrialists and Hitler will prove less dangerous as warmongers than the other two elements in the German dictatorship, the Junker land owners and the army of Von Schleicher.

Therefore, the inclusion of Hitler in a reactionary coalition cabinet probably has more immediate significance in domestic than in foreign affairs. It may be a prelude to outlawing the large and growing Communist parliamentary party, and a reign of terror against radical labor organizations.

As indicated by every national election in recent years, the German trend is away from the liberal center and toward the extreme right and extreme left. In that general trend this new Hindenburg-Hitler partnership represents a stronger consolidation of the right against the left.

The immediate drift seems to be not so much toward war as toward reaction.

## JOHN GALSWORTHY

The names of writers are legion; those of creators few. John Galsworthy, who died today, was one of the latter. Out of the cobweb substance of genius he built a universe, intact and compact with people, places, and things. Nor did he neglect to incorporate the element of time in his rhythmic whole.

Necessarily shortened to the requirements of publication, minutes ticked, hours swung around, years went by. Young men grew old as the pages were turned. Girl babies came crying into the world, ripened to beauty, and died wondering at the riddle of existence.

Like all creators, he spun riddles as he went, and gave no answers. His were no textbooks, replete with propositions at the front and indexed with wise saws, homilies, and explanations at the back.

As his trees sprouted, so they grew. As they fell, so they lay. Men and women were born, shaped by experience, helped or harmed by accident and died with unanswered questions in their eyes.

His endings are neither happy nor unhappy. They are merely inevitable. And in making them so their author performed his office of creator authentically.

In one of his less known books, there is a passage of peculiar beauty and peculiar significance.

"Nothing," the passage reads, "is more to be remarked than the manner in which life devolves for each man the particular dilemmas most suited to his nature; that which to the man of gross, decided, or fanatical mind appears a simple sum, to the man of delicate and speculative temper seems to have no answer."

The dictionary might be read through and no words more descriptive of John Galsworthy be found than delicate and speculative.

## THE POWER FIGHT

The fight for federal regulation of water power was won at the polls last November, but it is being fought all over again in the federal courts.

The New river case, in which the Appalachian Electric Power Company is attacking the constitutionality of the federal water power act, has been reargued and a decision will be forthcoming soon. It involves many technical issues, the navigability or non-navigability of the river, the possible effect of a power plant upon interstate commerce in the Kanawha river, and the extent to which the commerce clause of the Constitution gives the federal government the right to provide for recapture, amortization reserves, valuation based on actual cost, and regulation of securities in regulating the flow of streams.

These complicated matters wait a decision by the court. But they are of such paramount importance in the economic life of the country that the court decision, whatever it is, will not decide them finally.

If the court finds with the government that the water power act is constitutional and can be enforced, utilities undoubtedly will continue their fight to cripple regulation in every way possible, and

yearly battles will take place over appropriations, appointments, and other administrative matters.

If the court finds with the power company that regulation based on the commerce clause is unconstitutional, and if the higher courts sustain this view, one of two things will take place.

Either congress will discover a new and sounder way of bringing about federal regulation or it will turn to government ownership and operation of utilities. The people of the United States will not allow an industry second only in size to the railroads and of equal economic importance—an industry based upon monopoly of natural resources—to do as it pleases.

Investors and consumers are agreed upon this. Nor do promises of self-regulation and reform of some of the conditions disclosed by the federal trade commission offer any greater hope of reliability than they have in the past.

If the company wins the New river case, its attempt to overthrow regulation may go down in history as the greatest single step toward government ownership.

Pyrrhic victories have occurred many times in the past and will continue, leaving contemporaries in doubt as to their ultimate effect, and following generations amused at their ironic implications.

## SOCIETY, THE SINNER

Thunder from America's pulpits today warns not so much of hell-fire for the unrepentant individual as of the doom that awaits an unrepentant social order. Warnings come from Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish clergy alike.

From one Catholic spokesman we hear that the social revolution is in the making.

"The only question," says the Rev. James M. Gillis, editor of the Catholic World, "is whether it shall be a pacific or a bloody one."

Father Gillis denounces capital's treatment of labor as "worse than that accorded an animal." The present policy, says the Rev. Wilfrid Parsons, editor of America, "actually has produced nothing but unlimited competition and unlimited opportunity for avarice and greed."

Capitalism has been committing suicide, says Dr. John A. Ryan of the Catholic university. If industrial magnates refuse to grant the workers social justice, says Joseph A. Porcelli of Fordham university, "let us pass laws to force them to do so."

The Federal Council of Churches, embracing twenty-six Protestant bodies, with 22,000,000 membership, warns against "the seductive voices" that would "call us back to barren and blighting prosperity and to the worship of things as they were."

At its recent convention in Indianapolis, the council called for downward revision of debts and armaments, control of private traffic in arms, recognition of the right to refuse to bear arms, social planning, unemployment insurance, old age pensions, shorter work hours, abolition of child labor, a fairer distribution of wealth, co-operation instead of competition as the guiding principle.

The central conference of American rabbis at Cincinnati endorsed "such changes as would bring about curbing of the greed which the present profit system makes inevitable," and demanded "not only such palliatives as compulsory unemployment insurance, but also the further reaching demands of the more adequate distribution of the profits of industry."

Capitalism, the rabbis declared, "steadfastly has sought to speak for a return of prosperity on the basis of a return to private profits, rather than a concern with how the great masses of men are going to be able to achieve even a minimum wage."

Private industry has been warned by its secular critics that it is building its house upon the sands of mass poverty and insecurity.

Perhaps with American churches such as these storming against its sins, private industry may heed the signs of danger and rebuild its house upon a rock.

We can look for an increase in the divorce rate. An Ohio judge has granted a decree to a wife who had to fight for her share of the bed covers.

A wild animal importer reports a bull market on bears at his New Hampshire farm. But Washington, D. C., still tops all other spots for monkey business.

The radio commission requires announcers to say whether entertainment is real or by "electrical transcription." But as yet they've put no label on canned applause.

## Just Plain Sense

—BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

THE Conference on Conservation of Home Life held recently in Washington brought out several reasons why modern marriage fails—ignorance, prudishness, failure in intimate relations; over-emphasis of pleasure philosophy; over-dependence on a marriage certificate and law and custom to safeguard marriage; financial difficulties; liquor, drugs, childlessness, and lack of the practical religion that makes husbands and wives considerate to each other.

Sermons might be preached upon each of these points and to good purpose. But behind them all is a basic cause for matrimonial mishap, a cause upon which all these other reasons rest.

It is this: That we, as individuals, make no general plan for our lives. We set ourselves toward no goal of contentment for old age. There is no particular high dream of any beautiful married relationship that we desire.

And so we fail; we fail in the finest, noblest endeavor, though we may succeed in acquiring money, power, and fame. Hence America is filled with unhappy middle-aged men and women and miserable old people.

THE romantic ideal, with its sentimental stickiness, fostered by moving pictures, popular magazines, newspaper serials, remains a perpetual barrier to any sane, common sense working-out of our marriage problems.

For it promotes the idea that without preparation, without unselfishness, without a congeniality of tastes, a man and woman can remain married happily on passion alone.

Because of this foolish love dream, the American woman fast is becoming a smirking nitwit as sweetheart and wife. Her demands upon a husband often are so petty as to be ridiculous. She has looked so long and so often at these impossible moving picture romances and the stilted males who stalk through them that she does not think of a man as an individual, but as a husband, a mere adjunct to her glamorous personality, a creature made to serve and slave for and flatter her.

These romantic stories are very pretty so long as we regard them as entertainment, but once we believe that they are models after which life should be patterned, we are lost.

Girls today need some training in plain, hard common sense. An intelligent approach must be made, not alone to the puzzling facts of love, but to the problem of how to live with a man.

## The Playboy



## It Seems to Me . . . . by Heywood Brown

I WENT to my first Communist meeting last week.

It was not a trip planned for the gathering of newspaper material or any desire of a lurk which drew me. Indeed, I went with a certain trepidation. But it so happens that I am on a committee which has been appointed to investigate Harlem hospital.

The Communist party has attacked the personnel and purposes of the committee. And so I felt in honor bound to listen to whatever charges might be brought.

I knew I was going to be razed, and I thought I might get in a row. Some years ago I attended an Irish meeting devoted to attacks on Michael Collins. Since I was an admirer of Michael Collins, I came away with the largest black eye which I have known in a career perhaps too largely devoted to the collection of such specimens.

### To Rest and Bleed.

AFTER that I let six or seven years go by without attending any highly emotional gatherings where I was likely to be in a minority of one.

My entrance last night was none too promising. Introducing myself at the door, I asked whether I could go in. The man in charge, who later turned out to be one of the speakers, answered: "I don't welcome you. I'll never welcome you."

"I don't ask that," I said. "I just asked, could I go in?"

He replied tepidly that it was an open meeting. However, I came away without any wounds, except such as may be inflicted by verbal castigation. Not all of the words cut deeply, for I was hardly impressed with the fairness of one orator who declared that there was present in the audience an enemy who had come either as a spy or to disrupt the meeting.

In addition to the fact of giving my name at the door, I must protest that I am a poor build for Secret Service. Not even a hair-cut, one of those white whiskers would help very much.

As for disrupting the meeting, the memory of the deep purple of my Michael Collins eye still lingered too vividly in my memory.

At least several at least debatable charges flew by my head without reply. Before the evening was over, I almost began to believe that I was Harlem hospital.

### Also Abraham Lincoln.

BUT for that matter, Abraham Lincoln took almost as much punishment as I did. One of the speakers said, with entire historical accuracy, that Lincoln was far more interested in the preservation of the Union than in the freeing of the slaves and that the emancipation proclamation was strictly a war measure.

At least as I have read history that is entirely true, but I thought the orator's conclusion was far-fetched when he went on to say that Lincoln was therefore an enemy of the Negro race and one merely desirous of luring Negroes from the south to the north.

## DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

### Undulant Fever Is Serious Ailment

This is the second of two articles by Dr. Fishbein on undulant fever, until comparatively recently regarded as a curiosity in the United States.

EVENTUALLY, the symptoms of a person who has contracted undulant fever develop with sufficient fullness and persistence to make him realize that he is subject to a serious complaint.

The physician finds that changes have taken place in the patient's blood, and it is possible for a laboratory to determine with certainty that the patient is infected with undulant fever.

The disease resembles many other infectious diseases, such as typhoid, tuberculosis, malaria, or almost any other infectious disorder.

In a few instances, perhaps two out of every 100 cases, death may occur as a result of the infection or from secondary complications.

where they could be exploited by northern industrialists.

The influx of Negroes into urban communities was not dreamed of at that time. Indeed, the free states were free very largely because they could see no utility in Negro labor within their borders.

Moreover, adherents of the theory of economic determination should make some allowance for the march of time. Lincoln or even Jefferson might seem not their radical nor even liberal if transported bodily to 1933, but they were ahead of their eras.

No Debs is built in a day.

### Two Amendments.

NATURALLY I heard a great deal about the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments, because five years ago in idle fantasy I declared that if I were President (a somewhat academic scheme) I would not favor a force bill.

That is part of my pacifism, but it is more than that. Force was tried after the Civil war and failed lamentably. I believe that race problems are fundamentally economic problems. They can be solved only by a co-operative commonwealth.

Of course, the Negro should vote, but it hardly can be said that a wavering allegiance between the Democratic and Republican parties in the north has brought the race any tangible benefit. And surely the Communist party, which has no faith in any part of the Constitution,

hardly has a right to contend it believes in shedding blood for such feeble things as exciting amendments.

Indeed, I think there is little logic in the attitude of the Communists toward the Negro. At the meeting the same speaker would urge class consciousness and race consciousness in the same breath. The two things are not compatible.

Jim Crowism is the result of an overdeveloped race consciousness upon the part of the super-Nordic Nordica. Exaggerated racial consciousness is the bane of the world.

You can tell a man to work shoulder to shoulder with a fellow white worker for a new world, or you can tell him always to remember that before all else he is a Negro. But I don't see how you can tell him both.

The Communist promises complete equality and also the foundation of a separate Negro republic. I can think of no better way to keep race distinction alive. Certainly the classless society for which radicals struggle would also be a raceless society.

Anyhow, it was a good meeting, and, though I distinctly heard hisses as I left the hall a little before midnight, I took one Communist leader unaware.

"That was a good speech you made," I said with complete sincerity, and he was so flabbergasted that he forgot to refuse to shake hands with a Socialist.

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## Every Day Religion

—BY DR. JOSEPH FORT NEWTON

A PROVERB has been defined as the wisdom of one. Some one, by a happy phrase, sums up swiftly what many have learned by living and the phrase jingles in the talk of men for ages.

It is truth in a nutshell, and therefore no larger than a nut—never the truth, or even half of it. Also, nearly all of our proverbs are pessimistic, if not fatalistic, as if born of hard lot.

Run over in your mind the proverbs most often quoted, and you will discover how discouraged they are. They see the seamy side of life as final, if not fatal. For that reason they are false, since a half-truth can do more harm than a downright lie.

For example, take the ancient saw: "Old dogs can't learn new tricks"—a proverb worn smooth by long use. As dog-philosophy, it may be valid, but as applied to men it is absurd.

Yet how often it is used to depress people as they try to make a new start. It makes old age, even middle age, not an adventure, but an obstacle; it disheartens us when we must need help. Many a man would like to change his work or change himself, but he goes on telling himself that he is too old for that sort of thing. So inevitably he gives up.

lets go, decides to be old, and lets his mind petrify.

AMAN once asked Franklin the question: "Why is it that a bucket of water does not weigh any more after you put a live fish into it than it did before?"

At once Franklin replied: "Is it true?" He tried it out and discovered, of course, that the bucket of water weighed as much more as the fish weighed.

Just so when the maxim about old dogs and new tricks is put to the test—it is found to be a bit of misinformation.

To give up, to be old, set, inflexible, in mind or in body, is absurd. The mind never grows old unless we let it do so. The array of facts is overwhelming the other way.

Even in poetry Tennyson and Sophocles refute the fallacy that age can not sing. Age is an attitude of mind, not a number of years. The soul does not grow old; it is immortally young.

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### Daily Thought

What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the Son of Man, that thou visitest him?—Psalms 8:4.

THE language of truth is simple.—Euripides.

had typhoid. He must be put into a separate room, the health authorities are to be notified, all excretions and secretions must be sterilized before they are disposed of in any way.

This means either burning, boiling or the use of proper antiseptic solutions.

The patient must, of course, remain in bed and be fed properly to overcome the loss of weight, the anemia and the weakness that are due to constant chills and fever.

The wearing effects of such conditions on the body are extremely serious in producing changes in the nature of degeneration in important organs.

Thus far no specific method of treatment has been discovered, such as a serum or a chemical preparation which quite certainly will overcome the infection with the germs of undulant fever.

But in laboratories throughout the world this quest goes on.

## M. E. Tracy Says:

WHAT IS CIVILIZATION'S AIM?



THE time has come to ask ourselves, what is the object of civilization? Is it to gain leisure or to produce a more vigorous race of human beings, to develop system of men, to exalt machinery or intelligence?

The sudden collapse of modern business has driven men to think about such things, though in the detailed way.

Not only commercial and political systems are at stake, but the philosophy on which they rest.

The Russian experiment defies the traditions and standards on which civilization has been operating for many centuries.

Technology, though a passing fad, shows how far the human mind is ranging into speculative realms. As a matter of fact, the economic structure of this country is quite contrary to the principles on which it was established.

We are confronted with a new set of problems, because new conditions have arisen. Those conditions were not born of accident, but of deliberate choice.

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## New Conception of Business Arises

A WHOLLY new conception of business and industry has developed in America. Vast organizations have taken the place of individual enterprises. The corner grocery has become a chain store, the blacksmith shop a steel mill.

The modern boy is led to believe that his best hope in life is a job. The old-fashioned home has given way to huge apartment houses. Tenantry and landlordism have become enormous factors in our social as well as our economic setup.

The craze for city building has not only drained the land, but placed millions of people in a helpless position if and when the mechanism of modern industry ceases to function.

Existing conditions are admittedly intolerable. We can not go on as we are. Either the system must be elaborated or decentralized. If elaborated, a greater degree of government control is inevitable.

Paradoxical as it may seem, the over-expansion of private enterprise is driving us to Socialism.

Big business, as we call it, represents paternalistic control. If it comes to a question of being governed by a privately selected board of directors or a publicly selected commission, we shall, of course, choose the latter.

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## Must Consider Its Effect on People?

BUT why assume that we must go on putting things together, subordinating people to a more and more concentrated authority? The problem includes more than building bigger structures or developing more elaborate systems.

We can not solve it without giving primary consideration to the effect on people.

We have said this is a government of laws, not men, and look where we have landed by following such an absurd precept. There is more law in this country to the square inch than there is in most others to the square yard, with widespread disrespect and disobedience as the outstanding result.

The same thing occurs whenever human beings are subordinated to some human creation.

In the end, people will not admit that anything they do, make, invent is superior to themselves. They may glorify, or even worship it for a season, but in the end they will rule it or destroy it.

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## Helped by Technocracy

—BY DAVID DIETZ

TECHNOCRACY, in the opinion of its multitudes of critics, did the nation a service by calling attention with dramatic forcefulness to certain tendencies in modern life. The technocrats did not discover these tendencies; they already were known to students.

But by capturing the attention of the nation at large, technocracy set every one talking about them. Technocracy, in the further opinion of its numerous critics, did nothing to help the present situation by talking in vague terms of some "Walden solution" which would abolish the "price system."

Apparently Columbia university has joined forces with the critics, for the first chapter in the history of Technocracy is brought to a close with an announcement that Howard Scott, chief technocrat, no longer is affiliated with the university.

As no less than six books on the subject of Technocracy blossom upon the bookshelves of the nation, Professor Walter Rautenstrauch of Columbia, in which department Mr. Scott and his associates have been working, announces that "Technocracy ceases to exist as far as we are concerned."

At the time this is being written, Scott is reported confined at his home by illness.

Columbia university will carry on its study of the Machine Age. One assumes that since Scott no longer is connected with it, there will be no more talk about the "pathology of debt."

### The Columbia Study

THE new study at Columbia will be concerned with three items. In these three a discerning eye will see the history of the last 100 years, a picture of the present, and a statement of what must be accomplished for the future. As announced by Professor Rautenstrauch, they are:

1. A study of our natural resources, such as coal, oil, water power, iron ore, copper, arable lands, forests, etc., and the rates at which these things have been consumed during the last 100 years.

2. A study of the quantitative changes in time during the last century, in the processes by which we, as a people, provide ourselves with food, clothing, shelter, and services; and particularly as these changes affect the labor of men and the use of energy.

3. A study of the principles of organization and management, by which the processes of production, distribution, and consumption may be controlled and maintained in balanced quantitative relationship.

The picture behind these statements might be painted roughly as follows: The United States is a country rich in natural resources. The rate at which these resources have been developed and the rate at which power has been generated have been increasing tremendously in the last 100 years.

At the same time, technological advances have decreased the need for labor. Today we find ourselves in the strange predicament that men are hungry because too much food has been grown, poorly clothed and housed because it is too easy to manufacture clothing and houses.

The big question behind the third item in the Columbia program is the question of how we can control the business cycle, or whatever you care to call it, to prevent such conditions as the world now finds itself in.

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