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Give Light and the
 People Will Find
 Their Own Way

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THE INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

IN spite of persistent rumors that President Roosevelt's plan for reorganization of government departments will cripple the federal trade commission, the federal power commission and other independent agencies, or subject them to political control, there seems to be little justification for such fear.

The President has said nothing to indicate he favors such course, even in the face of urgent need for government economy, and the plan does violence to too many of the principles on which his theory of government is based to be credible.

The federal power commission was removed from control of the executive department only two years ago, after a record so unsatisfactory that congress was practically unanimous in favor of the change.

Its record since then has been clearly better, even with commissioners appointed by a President unsympathetic to the purpose of the water power act. It waits only appointment of the most competent men available and extension of power to become the valuable agency of government it was intended to be.

As for the trade commission, its past contributions have been so valuable, its future possibilities are so endless, that its destruction could appeal only to a spokesman for selfish interests.

It is the only body in Washington that can be expected to investigate and make public facts contrary to wishes of the administration in power. It carried on the utilities investigation, so that would not have hesitated to stop it had it possessed the power.

Less spectacular, but equally valuable as a matter of dollars and cents to the consuming public, is the commission's work preventing corrupt and unlawful business practices. It is the consumers' only advocate in the government. It has saved them hundreds of millions of dollars.

Federal licensing of corporations is proposed and no branch of the government except the trade commission is qualified to handle this important and extensive job. A decision will be made soon as to whether attempts to preserve competition in business shall be continued or whether planned economy shall be substituted.

The trade commission's economic staff, gathered together over a long period of years and trained as a fact-finding agency, is vitally necessary in either case.

As a matter of economy, nothing is to be gained by destruction of the trade commission. Its annual appropriation during its entire period of existence has averaged \$1,196,393.

It showed the government how to save many times this sum in income taxes only last week, and in its entire lifetime its savings are too large to calculate.

INVESTIGATING MORGAN

THE authority of the senate investigating committee to inquire into its investment business is questioned by J. P. Morgan & Co., according to Counsel Peca's report.

A grave mistake on the part of the Morgan firm. Nothing could be more likely to inspire public distrust than an attempt to evade a legitimate official inquiry.

Perhaps the firm's lawyers have found a technical legal basis for resisting the senate inquiry. For that matter, perhaps the Morgan company has nothing to conceal.

But the people of the United States will not feel that the government has investigated American banking if the examination does not include the Pooch-bah of all the banks, J. P. Morgan & Co.

Under ordinary circumstances, any obstruction by the Morgans might be effective. But these are not ordinary times. Too many banks have failed; too much financial racketeering has been uncovered; too many involved and circuitous spider webs of control over interlocking banks, security affiliates and corporation directorates have been revealed, to stop the senate investigation now.

The public is determined to get at the whole truth. President Roosevelt and the administration, unlike the Hoover regime, want to put an end to secrecy where the people's money is involved.

On what ground the Morgan firm challenges the committee's authority is not clear from the published reports. But, if the company actually has found a legal loophole, it will not escape investigation. The senate can grant any necessary extension of authority to the committee to see the thing through.

One of the fallacies of earlier reform proposals was that they stopped with commercial banks and the divorcement of affiliates. Fortunately, it more generally is understood now that the need for effective restriction and regulation of private banks is as great, or even greater, than that of commercial banks.

The private banks, in their secrecy of operation, have been pretty much a law unto themselves. This can not be allowed to continue. A banking investigation and a bank reform law which failed to cover the private banks would be a joke.

MAN'S DESIRE FOR ADVENTURE

IT is doubtful if any airplane flight yet projected is more of a "stunt" flight than the hop over Mount Everest which a group of British airmen will attempt shortly.

The last few years certainly have brought us enough flights whose actual dollar-and-cents utility was difficult to discover. Yet almost all of them have had some practical value, however small.

The day of regular transoceanic air service for example, is undoubtedly nearer because

all the recent ocean flights, ill-advised and luckless as many of them were.

But this flight over Mount Everest is something else again. No air line ever will be established over that wild, storm-racked mountain chain; no knowledge of a plane's action under extremely adverse conditions will be gained that could not be gained just as well elsewhere.

Whether the flight succeeds or fails, aviation will go on just about as before.

Yet there is something about this flight appeals to one's imagination. Perhaps it is the simple fact that it is so useless—and so perilous. Men who insist on risking their lives for no reason except the inner feeling of satisfaction that comes from doing the different and the dangerous always will command our respect, even though they sometimes make us feel that they are acting foolishly.

The human animal, when you stop to think about it, is a queer and unexplainable creature. Fix him up in comfort and safety as thoroughly as you can, he is more likely than not to wriggle out of it and try to break his neck against some ice-bound gale-swept crag on the other side of the globe.

Let him know that on an inaccessible point of the map there is a sea that never has been sailed, or a mountain that never has been climbed, or a danger that never has been faced successfully, and he will not rest until he has tackled it.

Why should this be? Heaven knows. There is something in man that makes it impossible for him to take a dare.

This causes a good many unnecessary deaths, from year to year, and leads us stay-at-homes to wag our beards gravely; but it also gives us a glimpse, every so often, of sheer magnificence.

MRS. BOOLE UNCONVINCED

MRS. ELLA A. BOOLE, president of the W. C. T. U., cries still for the impossible—universal abstinence from alcohol.

Fred G. Clark, head of the Crusaders, an anti-prohibition organization which yet wants to see the sale of beer launched in a way to prevent the old-time abuses of the "liquor traffic," sent a letter to Mrs. Boole and other dry leaders, asking their co-operation in the interest of temperance.

Clark assumed that the world "temperance" in Mrs. Boole's organization meant what it said, which it once did. But Mrs. Boole answered:

"If you sincerely want to get rid of the evils of alcohol, we challenge you to inaugurate a campaign for total abstinence as the only safe method."

The campaign for total abstinence is the campaign which has wrecked itself, after all that wrecking the nation and destroying a great part of the spirit of temperance which existed before Volstead.

Contrasting with the blind refusal of some other "dry" leaders to see truth when it sticks to the heavens is the opinion of the emancipated dry, Stanley High. He declared recently:

"One of the major handicaps in the current dry appraisal of the situation is this ignorance or unwillingness to face the fact that the prohibition law has ceased to be a binding force upon a large body of the very best citizens, whose support in the success of any other social measure would be considered indispensable."

High called for a modern, not a mid-Victorian, leadership of youth toward temperance.

Fortunately for the country, High's voice seems to be the voice in which the dry masses of the country have been speaking for months. In this he is a follower, not a leader.

The former dry masses seem to be heading right. The women among them. We can not believe that many women will follow such leaders as Mrs. Boole, whose unreasonable insistence upon the impossible has been discredited so thoroughly.

A GREAT WORK FOR BOYS

BOY SCOUT week, an annual event, is drawing to a close, with realization brought home to thousands of our citizens that the movement is one that is accomplishing great good.

Scouting means much in moral teaching, in health, in civic education to the youth of the nation. It teaches them to use their hands and their brains. It inculcates respect for their leaders, it arouses in them a protective feeling for those weaker than themselves, it teaches sympathy for the unfortunate.

To the city boy it brings an outlet for his boundless energy, and gives him opportunity to learn handicraft and woodcraft and other useful things that could come to him in no other way.

The Boy Scout movement should have the whole-hearted support of the community and Indianapolis has responded nobly to the call.

THE MOTHER AND HER CHILD

WHAT is the significance of women's increasing interest in child welfare? It is a movement grown to gigantic proportions.

It began with the "modern" mother of twenty-five years ago, taking up the new idea of balanced food for her baby. Grandmother regarded skeptically the folderol of orange juice and strained vegetables. It resulted in the crop of husky young parents of today.

Golf and tennis-playing mothers of preschool children go earnestly to meetings of child study groups. In many parts of the country, neighborhood groups are formed. Diet is a matter of course.

The absorbing matters today are character training, habit formation, development of initiative, self-control.

Now the mother—in the "P. T. A.'s"—is ready to meet school authorities with understanding and carry on the training of her child in co-operation with the teacher. She knows what modern education is trying to do.

She knows whether the teacher is the best to be had, because she has been studying child training. She visits the school room with the teacher's viewpoint. The money problems of the school are hers.

When the board of education can't furnish funds for playground equipment, the new shades for Johnny's room, she helps to raise it with a Halloween carnival.

The White House Conference and the follow-up State Conference on Child Health and Protection come home to us in the county children's council, with its steering committee.

Is it composed entirely of women?

The mayor, the county judge, the doctor, the dentist, the farm bureau head, the superintendent of schools are drawn into active

co-operation with the Council of Parents and Teachers.

Their problems are helping the handicapped child before he becomes a problem in the schools, providing for the undernourished in the schools.

What is the significance? The school problem has become one with the home problem. The women will ask:

"We have no money? Why? How was it spent?"

They are going to know why. They are going to see that the schools—their children—are the last to suffer in economic crises, instead of the first.

They are going to demand the highest paid teachers who understand child psychology, instead of the poorest who "just are making a living."

Their children are going to be taught things in education they should know. They are going to have the foundation of health and the ability to think for themselves, instead of following the herd as the course of least resistance.

THE NEW RIVER DECISION

A CLEAR right of way for federal utility regulation stretches ahead of the Roosevelt administration.

The federal water power act is constitutional, a federal district court in Virginia just has found in the New York case. The federal courts now see in the commerce clause of the Constitution powers sufficiently broad to permit recapture, determination of investment, amortization from excess profits supervision of securities, and other broad regulatory requirements in the public interest.

To the electric rate payer this decision of tremendous importance. It removes a serious obstacle in the way of fair, courageous, federal control over the important water power projects of the country.

Such control can mean millions of dollars saved in electric light bills and in taxes where recapture is contemplated. To the purchaser of securities, it affords new protection.

The New River case has hung like a cloud over the federal power commission for eight of the thirteen years of its existence. A series of different commissions struggled with the problem, but stood firm in their contention that, if the water power act meant anything, it meant control over this sort of development.

Other government officials were not always so alive to the public interest. Former Attorney-General Mitchell, of the Hoover cabinet, at one time advised the commission not to insist on its regulatory powers and questioned constitutionality of the water power act. At once the power company began its fight in the courts.

The higher federal courts probably will be asked to review the decision just made, but the hardest battle has been won.

When President Roosevelt has assembled a personnel for the power commission in full sympathy with the purpose of the act, the country may expect the very material benefits which the power act was framed to confer and for which the people have waited so long.

Patients in government hospital for the insane in Washington demand more jigsaw puzzles. But plenty of jig-saw puzzle fans still are at large.

Beer bung boom boosts business in Berwind, W. Va. Buying bigger and better bungs brings bright burst of balm to the bank-burdened.

Coldest spot in the world is Verhovyan'sk, where it gets 95 below zero. Imagine trying to pronounce it with your teeth chattering.

Some of those frozen assets undoubtedly froze so easily because they had been well-watered.

M. E. Tracy Says:

THERE is nothing at the top of Mt. Everest but ice-covered rocks, thin air, and a moment of glory for the first man to reach it. Something of importance may be gained, however, from the new ideas and devices employed. That is the real advantage of most achievements. What we learn invariably means more than what we accomplish.

Nothing was found at the poles to warrant the expense and sacrifice which their discovery involved, save the knowledge of how to live and travel in frigid weather. That knowledge may come in handy one of these days—a shorter, swifter route from New York to Moscow, over the top of the world, being one of many possibilities.

The profit of victory lies wholly in what it enables us to do next.

Whether we like it or not, we must go on. The laws of progress are such as to permit no time out save what is required for rest and recuperation.

The plight of civilization today can be traced to the simple fact that it failed to make constructive use of the knowledge it acquired from the great war.

THE plight of our own country arises from a similar failure to make proper use of its capital gains and increased power.

"Back to normalcy," we cried in 1920, which meant that we were blind to the necessity of such changes as innovations as our resources and knowledge made possible.

It was in everybody's mind that, having won a battle, we could afford to take things easy, that most of our major problems had been solved permanently and that we faced an easy going future if no one "rocked the boat."

Success became its own defeat, as it always does when not made the basis of more heroic efforts.

Right now we are dreaming of ways to get out of the depression, but they will lead us only into another unless they include a better set-up than existed before.

While many people realize the necessity of a new and improved set-up, they think of it as something planned, something permanent, something that will relieve everybody of risks and responsibilities.

GIVE us plans, by all means, but leave out the permanency. We labor with too much rigidity as it is, too much control, too much inhibition.

Our economic system, especially as it affects the average life and career, is stagnant with inflexibility. We are permitting ourselves to be bound and gagged by a snarl of wires and interlocking directorates.

We can not make effective use of many agencies and devices which science has placed at our command.

The radio, airplane, telephone, and auto should make for less congestion, yet we are employing them to make more. Our home life should be freer and more expansive than it ever was. But, instead, it is growing narrower.

Past triumphs and achievements have opened a door to rebuild this nation if we only could see it, and it is the only worth while door they have opened. If we would progress, we must do big things.

In no other way can we provide ourselves with work or the incentive which makes work tolerable.

Wings Over Europe



:: The Message Center ::

(Times readers are invited to express their views in these columns. Make your letters short, so all can have a chance. Limit them to 250 words or less.)

By Owen Spencer.

After reading your paper and others, and knowing our immense indebtedness to be far more than our assessed valuation and having a vast horde to feed and care for, it amazes me to think of the gold that has been shipped out of this country. Now we are locking the door after the horse has been stolen.

Can any one get us out of this great depression? The time is here when we should all work together, lay all issues aside and work for our country alone. In unity there is strength and power.

We should put our shoulders to the wheel and push and see that no one is pulling back. If our learned congressmen would all try and lay all politics and prejudices aside and work together for the good and upbuilding of this great and wealthy country, we surely would be in far better condition.

Our first aim should be to lower our taxes and then tell the amount of taxes we are paying. If every one would figure his real tax, it will surprise him.

More than a century and a half ago our forefathers fought for our freedom, against taxation without representation. And now we are about to forget that we are taxpayers and they have no representation.

Even high school girls and boys pay from \$5 to \$50 each year. Then our college girls pay an enormous tax each year and have no representation either. Now why not (I ask you all to be fair to yourself and country) cut down all the salaries raised during and after the war?

Keep Politics Out

By Disgusted.

THE wets had no one to blame but themselves for prohibition. Now, when it appears that we have a chance to get rid of the incubus, it appears that they again may wreck the works by their own dumbness.

It appears to the casual observer that Governor McNutt and his Democratic henchmen will bring a revulsion of feeling, by their mixing of beer and politics, that will defeat the hopes for repeal at the coming election.

Let's have our beer without politics. If not, the grafters will find that they have overreached themselves, and the dregs will have the last laugh.

because of the plea of the high cost of living?

Then, if that is not enough, cut down salaries a certain per cent, and do away with officers that we do not need and publish all the federal expense the same as we do the county.

Federal officers itemize their expense. It has been told that some congressmen have their wives and children on the pay roll and are going to school at the same time. I saw a statement in a paper where a congressman had more than \$1,000 barber bill.

I surmise some of them will tell you they will quit if you cut their salaries. Tell them to quit, for some one has this country in an awful shape. No one will quit, I assure you.

If he does, there will be many waiting to get his place. Why should not all of us get together, by counties or townships, and petition congressmen and tell them what we want. Perhaps it will do some good.

Use of Syringe in Ear Is Delicate Process

BY DR. MORRIS FISHEIN

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

THE cerumen or wax of the ear when it becomes hardened is removed most easily by use of a syringe with slightly warm water.

This need not be done often, and harm can be done by needless or too frequent syringing. The syringe always should be sterilized by boiling before use and the water should be previously boiled and then used warm.

Before a person attempts to syringe an ear for himself or for a child, he should learn the technique. The persons whose ear is to be syringed usually sits in good light. It is customary to put a towel or cape around the neck and tuck it in over the collar, to prevent soiling of the clothing.

A kidney-shaped pan is held at the edge of the ear, so that the fluid ear seldom will run in the basin and not down the neck. In an adult the ear is pulled up and backward, to straighten out the passage.

Then the nozzle of the syringe, which has been filled and had all the air expelled, is placed just inside the outer opening.

The water then is projected along the back wall slowly and without too great pressure, to permit return of the flow as the water goes in.

After the ear has been washed, the head may be turned on one side and the extra fluid allowed to run out. A person who understands the technique then may wipe out the canal with a small wisp of cotton.

If a permanent antiseptic, softening material, or lotion is to be used, the physician can prescribe the proper one, and this is held in place with a little wisp of cotton, never inserted under pressure.

A foreign body in the external ear seldom will cause much discomfort, unless it is a living insect. Cases are on record in which living insects have entered the ear and remained for many years.

gradually being surrounded by hardened wax or cerumen, to the point at which a person lost his hearing entirely.

The damage from foreign bodies in the external ear lies in rough attempts to remove them.

It is not well for any one to attempt to remove a foreign body from the outer ear if it can not be syringed out, unless he has special training in this type of work.

Several interesting techniques have been developed for removing foreign objects, one being the use of a device with an adhesive material at the end which sticks to the body that is to be removed. It is then withdrawn gradually.

A foreign body that is infected may produce irritation and serious infection with the form of boils or abscesses which, in the external ear, are a menace frequently to life itself.

A boil in the external ear demands the immediate and competent attention of an expert.

:: A Woman's Viewpoint ::

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

I FIND myself in complete accord with Mr. Ordinary Husband when he says he is sick and tired of all this stuff about how men must be counting their wives constantly and keeping up the ardors of the honeymoon.

"The trouble is," he writes, "that all these advisers seem to think a woman is doing a man a great big favor when she marries him."

He probably is more than half-right in this idea. For until recently girls were taught to think that when they "gave themselves in marriage" they conferred a tremendous benefit upon the fortunate man.

The gift of the body was the ultimate gift, and no matter how badly they may have behaved in all other respects, so long as they remained faithful they were good women and, therefore, good wives.

Unfortunately, men, although they have talked a great deal about feminine chastity, always have required much more from us than that, and, generally speaking,

never have repaid faithfulness with fidelity.

MR. ORDINARY HUSBAND represents the fact that he is expected to go out at stated intervals.

Questions and Answers

Q—Are there any American-owned factories in Soviet Russia?

A—No.

Q—Could the entire population of the world be accommodated in the state of Texas?

A—Texas would provide about 3,656 square feet for each person in the world.

Q—Do Indians pay taxes on their land when living on government reservations?

A—Not when the government holds the title, but when the Indians have been given a full title to the land, they must pay taxes.

By J. W. Mann.

I see in your paper of March 27 that Mayor Reggie has a new car. I don't wish any one bad luck, but I wish he would drive out West Michigan street to Little Eagle creek bridge. He probably would have another wrecked car. The approach to that bridge, 153 feet long, is full of holes six to eighteen inches deep and not more than ten inches apart.

By the time he reached the bridge, I am sure he would be awake enough to slip up that street commission and fix it, before some stranger entering or leaving the city hits that mess and goes into the creek.

This approach is positively dangerous and with so many men looking for a little work to leave it in that condition is a disgrace.

By Single Democrat Times Reader.

I would like to say that our Governor, Paul V. McNutt, is as good a Governor as we ever had or ever will, I believe. But there is one great thing that would help the unemployed, and that is to lay off all the single men working for the city and hire married men, as there are plenty of married men between 25 and 35 walking the streets in rags who could do the work.

These men have paid taxes and also have children to feed. If the married men were working, the single men could eat, because most of them have fathers. I know of cases where three and four in one family are working for the city.

Daily Thought

Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.—Revelation 4:11.

We rise in glory as we sink in pride.—Young.

It Seems to Me

BY JOE WILLIAMS

(Rating for Heywood Brown)

NEW YORK, March 31.—I suppose when you come right down to cases—or even schooners—it doesn't make much difference one way or the other. I mean whether a patriotic citizen inhales his beer standing up or sitting down. Still, at the moment, there is sharp legislative controversy over the point.

There is Assemblyman Anthony J. Canney, for instance. The good man belongs to the perpendicular school as opposed to the chair dwellers or sedentary sniffers. The matter of etiquette, comfort or relative piquancies is not involved.

No, indeed, Mr. Canney simply wants a place where the working man—the working man in overalls—can stand up, with foot on rail, and toss off a few beakers of foam when the day is ended and the factory whistles have sounded.

And up to now the New York bar has made no such provision. There are provisions for the down drinker, but none whatever for the stand-up drinker. And Mr. Canney considers this a vicious social discrimination, verging on feudalism, or at the very least something terrible.

"We fought to bring beer back for the working man," cries Mr. Canney, "and look what happens. The only way he can get a drink is to go into the Waldorf-Astoria or some such place."