

# The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)  
 ROY W. HOWARD, President  
 TALCOTT POWELL, Editor  
 EARL D. BAKER, Business Manager  
 Phone—Riley 5531



Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Newspaper Information Service and Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-220 West Maryland street, Indianapolis, Ind. Price in Marion county, 2 cents a copy; elsewhere, 3 cents—delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week. Mail subscription rates in Indiana, 43 a year; outside of Indiana, 65 cents a month.

MONDAY, MAY 1, 1933.

## CHILD HEALTH DAY

THIS is one of the days that count! By presidential proclamation, May 1 has again been designated as Child Health day, a fitting way to remind us all that on the health of our children depends the future of the race.

"Mothers and Babies First" is the keynote of this particular Child Health day, selected by the national committee in charge of the day's activities.

They, with President Roosevelt, "call upon all agencies, public and private, and all individuals having the interest of children at heart, to set aside this day for earnest consideration of the needs of the children in their communities and in their homes, and to inaugurate constructive activities to protect and promote the health and physical vigor of the youth of our nation."

A big task for a single day; but not too big, if we understand that nothing is more important than our children and the mothers who bear them.

## A NEW RAILWAY DEAL

THE President's railroad bill, intended to effect economies in our transportation system and thus strengthen it financially, will be before congress soon.

There are wasteful services and practices that should be eliminated. There are consolidations that should be brought about. There is an undeniable necessity for scaling down what President Roosevelt called the "topheavy" financial structures of some of the carriers.

But we are not deluded that economies can be effected without likewise killing off some jobs; or that consolidations can be brought about without injuring some existing railway communities.

For these reasons, the bill should contain full protection for labor. Also, if the railroads thus are to be helped in this emergency by the federal government, it is their duty to follow the suggestion of labor and so rehabilitate their plant and equipment as to provide more work.

Perhaps the railway co-ordinator, who will be appointed under the Roosevelt bill, should be clothed with power to have the carriers undertake the delayed improvement and maintenance of their plant.

In this connection, the railways themselves would benefit and be provided with more traffic, from the proceeds of which additional labor costs would be paid, by the government starting a large public works program.

The bill's provision for suspending the anti-trust laws while the railroads are being co-ordinated is debatable; but there should be no debate about its provisions to bring about financial reorganizations where and when necessary.

Indeed, if there is any doubt that language of the bill, as presented, will not bring these reorganizations about, its terms should be tightened immediately and made completely explicit.

Nor should there be any dispute about having the co-ordinator's orders made reviewable by the Interstate Commerce commission. Otherwise, we would have a railway "czar" and it will be time enough to create a railroad dictator when the government takes over the carriers.

The President's program now is important, not because our system of railroad transportation so far has failed to provide adequate service, but rather because in the railway plant of the country thousands of individual and institutional investors have placed their funds.

The railroads, because their traffic has been reduced so greatly, are in a financial plight which threatens very seriously to injure the insurance policy holders, the savings banks depositors, and others whose institutions have invested in railway bonds and stocks. For this reason, the President's program is timely and important.

But, in passing it, Congress should remember that railway labor is to be considered as well as railroad capital.

## THE RACKET

ATTORNEY-GENERAL HOMER CUMMINGS is turning his attention toward the most intolerable, yet most baffling, of new evils, the Racket. He says he will seek to co-ordinate state and federal activities to "punish the criminals who are preying upon legitimate and legitimate business and society at large." He will move "as speedily as sound judgment permits."

Here is a big adventure in law enforcement. To date the racketeers have had it pretty much their own way. A few have been caught up in the revenue men's nets. Most of them wax bolder under their spreading reign of terror and openly defy their victims and the police.

Spanned by prohibition, this terror has advanced far beyond the locus of the underworld. It preys on laundries, dry cleaners, merchants, shippers, producers, every sort of lawful business. The tribute it extorts through threat of death or property destruction is added to the price the consumers pay, and generally an additional sum is added by way of safety insurance.

It is evident that the legalization of beer or prohibition repeal alone will not end the racket evil.

The Wickersham commission pointed to "the tremendous economic importance of these forms of criminal activity." It recognized "the immensity of the loss," but failed to measure it. Doubtless the annual tribute to Americans pay to these arrogant crooks runs into tens of millions.

New legislation may be needed. New de-

termination on the part of cities, states and nation is more important. If Attorney-General Cummings sincerely puts the full pressure of his power behind a national cleanup of the racketeers, he will earn the blessings of a grateful nation.

Organized society dare not surrender to this new enemy.

## JOBLESS EXCHANGE.

FEW tears will be shed over the passing of the costly and useless Hoover-Doak employment service. Mild was the description of Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins of this unlamented service as "too unsatisfactory." It was rotten with compromise, politics, nepotism.

Its passing clears the way for enactment of the pending Wagner bill. This measure, supported by President Roosevelt and Miss Perkins—passed in 1931 by congress and vetoed by Mr. Hoover—does not duplicate local and state free employment services, as did the old system. It would co-ordinate them into a federal whole, assist in financing them on a 50-50 basis, standardize and guide with expert advice.

In addition to these local-state-federal exchanges, Secretary Perkins proposes to set up regional clearing houses and establish a national advisory council to bring capital and labor together in the business of placement.

Too much can not be said for an adequate, free and closely knit employment service in this broad and complex country. Such a service can aid in orderly reconstruction in many ways. It can not make jobs, but it can provide a free flow of the workers to those jobs that are available.

It can prevent a glut of labor in one part of the country and a shortage in another. It can assist in mass movements of workers from such industrial sore spots as the coal mining regions.

And it can make unemployment insurance systems work. No European country has had a successful unemployment insurance system without a federated system of free employment exchanges.

The Wagner bill should be given early hearings, and made a part of the administration's emergency program.

## VIGOR IN WASHINGTON

LEWIS W. DOUGLAS, President Roosevelt's vigorous young budget director, made a brilliant statement of the case of a balanced budget in his address before the American Publishers Association in New York last week.

In making this clear statement he gave the impression that his administration knows exactly where it is going, is determined to go there, and will go there if the rest of the division leaders have his straight-thinking vigor and the untrammeled social viewpoint we hope he has.

His reasoning was: "The budget must be balanced to preserve the nation's credit. The nation's credit must be preserved for the sake of the world as well as of America. He said:

If the budget is not balanced, falling revenues and retrenchment, to meet falling revenues continue until the process becomes tantamount to running a race and ending at zero. . . . To those who say, 'You must not cut the army,' for instance, I say, 'Which is more important, a national defense which is perfectly futile if the credit of the government collapses, or an unimpaired credit of your government?'

"For myself I say 'an unimpaired credit of the government.' For it is upon that that all human values of our people ultimately rest. . . . There are many ways in which this balancing of federal expenditures and receipts can be expressed, such as employment and happy and contented homes."

With great pain in the task of cutting employees from the pay rolls and veterans from their pensions, he asserted that he will balance the budget. Inflation will be controlled. Then progress. Weed the field and the crops will thrive.

This leaves a tremendous problem. It involves promise of "employment and happy homes." This problem calls for vigor as great as that shown by the firm-mannered young man who made the statements. If government expense must be cut, money also must be got in great quantities to forward recovery. The direct, aggressive drive of Lewis Douglas buoys the hopes inspired by the direct, aggressive moves of the whole Roosevelt administration.

## THE "NEW DEAL" AND RUSSIA

IT is possible that the "acid test" of the Roosevelt administration and the "New Deal" will be the treatment of Soviet Russia. If they do not act decisively on this issue, they may wreck their entire program.

How is it possible to debar a country controlling one-sixth of the land surface of the earth from participation in an economic conference, and expect to reach any vital results? How is it possible to lower tariff barriers, and have the results mean anything, when 160,000,000 people are excluded from recognized economic intercourse?

How can we expect to secure disarmament, much less world peace, when we feed the fires of hatred and misunderstanding by keeping in quarantine a country as large as Russia?

Alfred E. Smith refreshingly brushes away all the cobwebs from this issue when he concludes: "I believe that we ought to recognize Russia; I do not know of any reason for not doing it."

He adds: "Somebody says they owe us \$100,000,000. We kept troops in Russia for quite a while when we were not at war with them. I think we could sit around the table and settle the matter very easily."

Let us examine the objections made to recognition and see how much validity they possess.

We are told that Communism and its practices are abhorrent. The guiding principle in American foreign policy down to 1917 was that the institutions of a foreign state are strictly the business of its own citizens.

We are told that Russia is unstable. This argument is absurd, since Russia has proved herself one of the most firmly established of all modern states.

It is held that the Soviet regime is unrepresentative. The answer is that it is far more representative than the old czarist regime, and just as representative as the Lever revolutionary government in Russia, which we were the first to recognize.

It has been asserted that Russia has re-

puted the debts of the imperialistic czarist government. Many states have in the past repudiated even their own debts, but we have not hesitated to preserve diplomatic relations. Russia has been denounced as an "economic vacuum" to employ a phrase of Mr. Hoover. Such a charge is in poor taste from a country in the throes of a serious depression when Russia admittedly is doing more remarkable things in an economic way than any other country.

Russia is held up as a horrible example of arbitrary economic changes and forced labor. Long ago, we set up the principle in our foreign policy that internal changes and domestic policies in another state should not concern us in our formal relations with it.

Further, forced labor certainly is better than forced idleness and bread lines. It is alleged that Russia desires to promote revolution abroad. But so have we at different times in our history.

It is said that if we recognized Russia and traded with her, we would be helping the Communist cause. This is doubtful, but other capitalist states will trade with Russia if we do not.

Russia, it is said, does not discharge her international obligations. Soviet Russia may not have discharged the obligations of the rotten regime which it superseded, but it has discharged its own obligations.

Suppose, for example, Soviet Russia had repudiated war debt payments to this country!

## WORLD PARLEY MAY TURN TIDE

IF any one doubts the supreme importance of the forthcoming London conference on international finances and economic policies and disarmament, he has only to read the day-by-day news dispatches in the daily papers. If these do not convince him he is beyond persuasion.

Currently, we have a cable from Paris remarking that a spy scare like the one that swept Europe just before the World war is gripping France, Germany and Italy.

France has been rounding up spies along her German and Italian borders. Germany has been swooping on secret French agents. Italy has been doing the same. With each arrest, suspicion and fear increase in each country.

Simultaneously, another cable from Paris reports that "the United States and the principal European governments have lost all hope of immediate progress in disarmament," and adds that the situation will not grow easier until "the world-wide political tension lessens."

On the heels of this, Chancellor Hitler declares in Berlin that "Germany no longer can be treated as a power of the second rank—she must be recognized as an equal partner"; and the National Alliance of German Army Officers issues a statement declaring that restoration of the Hohenzollerns is the crowning glory of a reconstructed Germany.

All these dispatches together and you have as gloomy a picture as any Jeremiah would care to look upon. Then, to make the bill complete, lump in with them the innumerable stories testifying to economic breakdown in this country—the stories of cities that can not pay their school teachers, their firemen and their policemen, the stories of closed banks that can not reopen, the stories of mounting breadlines, of sweatshop wage scales and the like.

What you get, beyond argument, is a picture of a world in turmoil and distress.

One hope is that the London conference can straighten out world difficulties and get us back on the right path again.

At last we know who the Forgotten Man is—Charlie Curtis!

Running a matrimonial agency is just a sort of male order business.

## M. E. Tracy Says:

WHEN this conferring is all over, we are going to learn that European statesmen are interested chiefly in a debt settlement. They will discuss tariffs, the gold standard, disarmament or anything else, but in the end they will come back to the question of how much we are willing to cut.

If the answer fails to satisfy them, they will agree to nothing of any consequence. Europe has been sold on the idea that war debts could be recovered and that the state must be wiped clean, or nearly so.

Our theory that German reparations had no connection with what the allies owed us never has been accepted in London or Paris.

Ever since it became apparent that Germany would not pay, Europeans have contended that we should share the loss.

Working from point to point, many of them have reached the conclusion that we should write off the entire obligation.

To begin with, they assume that we can stand it without acute distress, and that our moral duty toward the future outweighs their moral duty toward the past.

In addition, they assume that we are hopelessly sentimental, that we always can be touched by an appeal for sympathy, and that our miserliness, though very obvious, is only skin deep.

We are, in the estimation of most Europeans, just a nation of shopkeepers, with more or less talent for accumulating cash, but with very little stamina or finesse when it comes to the more important phases of internationalism, such as well thought out schemes of expansion, carefully arranged alliances, diplomatic intrigue and the long drawn battle of wits to which they have been trained.

Europeans believe that we can be worn down after a certain length of time and persuaded to give them what they want, rather than continue the haggling.

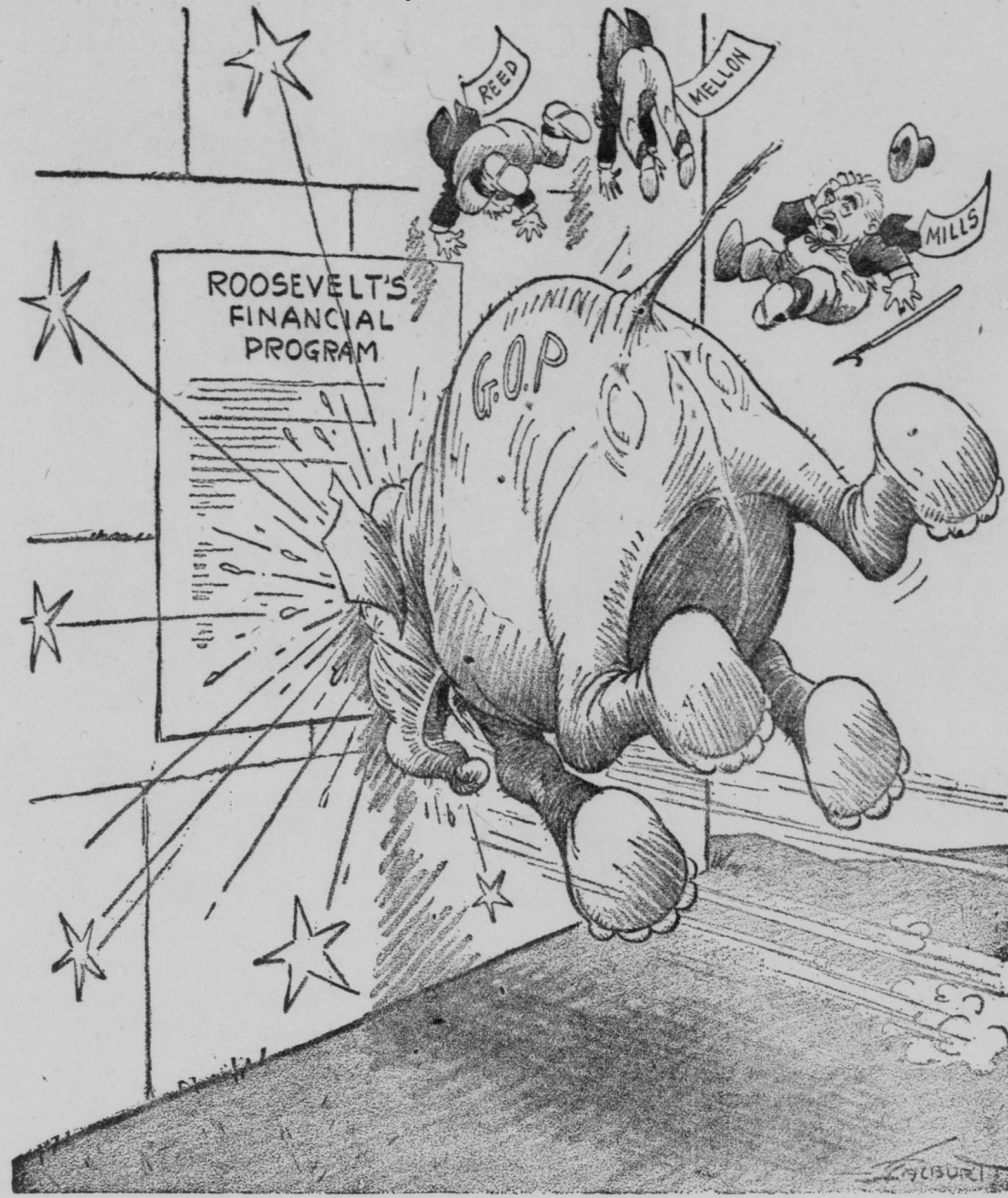
They believe that our great desire is for business improvement and that they need only sell us on the notion that it can be had through debt reduction to get what they want.

THERE is nothing underhand or insincere in their attitude. They have argued from the beginning that they could not pay us if Germany failed to pay them, that reparations and other war debts were inseparable, that the war was a common adventure, that what we loaned them really was part of our contribution, that the debt burden had grown too great for civilization to carry, and that the one safe thing to do was to jettison most of it.

We have taken the ground that "a contract's a contract," that if the allies could pay whether Germany did or not, that the trade slump caused the existing financial stringency, that trade could be restored with the right kind of leadership, that nothing was needed but a little loosening up all along the line, that unreasonable military expenditures constituted Europe's worst trouble, and that if these were lowered everybody could pay.

No matter what the argument begins, it invariably ends with war debts and disarmament hooked together.

## A Smashing Attack!



## ::: 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 Warren E. Cox.

I am wondering how much longer the people of this city are going to endure the Indianapolis Water Company and the high-handed methods of its dealings with our people. A year or so ago Boyd Gurley, then editor of The Times, made a talk before our Kiwanis Club, in which he gave us facts and figures, taken, in great part, from the reports filed by this corporation. Then he gave us other data that proved beyond doubt to any thinking man that those reports were lies and misrepresentations.

He showed how this man in the east, who is the principal owner, took bloated profits. One item stands out in my memory, because I happened to know something about it. That was what they claimed they paid for coal, and it was a lot more than any individual would have paid. It did not look possible that anybody who believes they did, stand on his head.

Mr. Gurley cited similar things for thirty minutes; he published them in his newspaper; he brought them and many more before the public service commission, and yet the public service commission granted these people higher rates. Oh, yes, they made a lower minimum charge, but one glance at their new rates shows anybody that it would bring them greater amounts of money.

When our mayor came out with a statement asking the people to accept these rates, my thought was that they had "put a fast one" over on the mayor. But a few days later when the rates were published, it did not look possible that either he or the commission could be that dumb. There must be some other reason.

I don't know what is going to be the attitude of this new commission, but if it is like the old one, about the only thing left for the public is somehow to force the abolition of the public service commission, and then force this present water company to surrender its franchise and get out of our city.

This can be accomplished if the people will get back of this newspaper and fight for our rights. If we just keep still, we will get no relief. These people, when prices were on the upgrade, always claimed they had to base their rates and valuations on replacement costs and therefore got increases. Now, when these replacement

## Another Barrage

By a Working Man and a Socialist.

MR. TAXPAYER, I see by your statements in The Times, April 24, that you do not agree with Governor Olsen of Minnesota. You have a right to disagree with him, but you have no right to say the things you said about the people who are idle and in distress through no fault of their own.

I will attack you in the same spirit in which you attacked Mr. Olsen. No sensible man would make such statements in the face of the fact that the peasants, as you call the unemployed, are victims of a social system which not only has made paupers of the toiling masses, but has wrecked business of all kinds.

Mr. Taxpayer, you may be an employer of labor, one of those who believe in cutting wages to bring back prosperity or you may be one who has accumulated a dollar or two and thinks under Socialism you would have to divide.

Relieve your mind, Mr. Taxpayer, for when that change comes that Mr. Olsen is talking about, if you will send in your name, maybe we can put you off by yourself somewhere, as you don't seem to care anything about the welfare of any one but yourself.

mission, but if it is like the old one, about the only thing left for the public is somehow to force the abolition of the public service commission, and then force this present water company to surrender its franchise and get out of our city.

This can be accomplished if the people will get back of this newspaper and fight for our rights. If we just keep still, we will get no relief. These people, when prices were on the upgrade, always claimed they had to base their rates and valuations on replacement costs and therefore got increases. Now, when these replacement

costs are reduced as much as 50 per cent on some items, they still ask for and get advanced rates. How long are we to endure this?

By Indianapolis Unit, B. E. F. This is an answer to the former chief of staff of the B. E. F., Doak Carter, who had a writeup in the D. A. V. paper.

I think and so does the B. E. F., the same about Doak Carter. I would like to have Mr. Carter understand that the B. E. F. is not red. Neither are the boys going to Washington, reds or being misled.

Mr. Carter is more red and radical than any one I can think of. Mr. Carter wears a \$35 pair of officer's boots and a high priced pair of whipcord trousers, which we charge were bought with B. E. F. money.

The B. E. F. here would like to see Mr. Carter come back here and straighten up some of the matters he left while trying to organize what is known as the Emergency Expeditionary Forces.

It is true John Pace was radical, but he didn't sell his buddies out. It seems as though Mr. Carter has turned his buddies down and joined the Economy League. We hope Mr. Carter will read this and ponder upon it.

## So They Say

Experience has shown how difficult it is to direct discussion at international conferences into practical channels of definite accord. James A. Farrell, chairman of the National Foreign Trade Council.

A real hair cutter is an artist. He doesn't merely cut hair; he sculpts the head. A. N. Naso, president Ohio Hairdressers Association.

When a man is hungry, he seldom evinces much interest in a beautiful woman.—Cecil De Mille, movie director.

## Study Needed to Prevent Flat Feet

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEN

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

This is the first of three articles by Dr. Fishben on the cause and cure of flat feet.

The feet of the baby should be studied soon after birth, perhaps not later than at six months and then again each year to make certain that they are developing properly, and that corrective measures in the form of suitable shoes, supports, or braces are not needed.

The exact cause of flat feet is not known, but it is believed that there is an hereditary tendency. Moreover, some races tend to be more flat footed than others.

When the feet grow rapidly, especially in adolescent girls, and when improper shoes are worn at the same time, flat feet are likely to develop.

Flatness of the feet appears most commonly in fat people. It is a result of the fact that the child is generally found to be under par so far as its general muscular condition is concerned.

These children frequently have knock-knees, the back is rounded, and the mother says that the child is awkward. The shoes are run over in unnatural ways along the borders.

The foot usually is not painful in the child because it is still flexible.

but the child manifests disinclination to run and to play.

A competent study of the feet by one who knows how to measure the arch and to determine its functional condition usually will reveal the character of the disturbance.

A mere print of the foot, the type of examination frequently given in shoe stores which promote "health" shoes on a pseudo-scientific basis, is not sufficient examination to indicate the real nature of flat foot.

The specialist in care of the feet first determines the extent of the disability and then applies his treatment specifically to the causes and the conditions found.

His purpose is to teach proper walking, to increase the power of the supporting structures, to stimulate the circulation of the blood, and to correct conditions associated with flat feet, such as knock-knees and bow-legs.

NEXT: Exercises helpful in correcting flat feet.

## ::: A Woman's Viewpoint :::

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

AFTER reading the slim little story of frontier life, "Let the Hurricane Roar," by Rose Wilder Lane, you will realize, if you already have not done so, that each age requires its particular kind of courage.

So when we tell ourselves that we must cultivate the fortitude of the pioneer, we stop short of truth. That, for us, is not enough. For, though we may have learned to overthrow the barriers that nature erected to hinder encroaching man, we can not yet fall ignominiously to overcome the complexities that we ourselves set up in urban civilizations.

There is something splendid, profound, everlasting, in the struggle between man and his earth. It is a sort of primeval effort in which man never may win. But what does that matter? There always will be the striving, the exhilaration of battle.

He confronts a job that never is quite finished, and is spurred to added endeavors by menacing winters, by the recurring glory of

spring, by the opulence of rich summers, and the heartaches of the autumns that pass over his head. The land destroys, but it also sustains him, and pours fresh courage into his veins after every defeat.

BUT what of the people who find themselves enslaved in an existence regulated by mechanisms instead of seasons? Thousands of the city-bred live in treadmills, and must stop eating when the machinery ceases to function.

In spite of industry, thrift, and fidelity, they often find themselves cast upon the economic scrap-heap. For their problems there is required a new sort of courage, that of the mind; they must cultivate a different bravery, the kind that will dare them to rebel against a system that sustains tools and utensils and implements while it lets men die.

They must try and try and try again, even as the farmer goes back each spring to cope with hurricanes, droughts, and insect pests, and, for that gigantic task, fortitude that girds the soul instead of the body is needed.

And he was hardly more than child. Still innocent and undefiled. And as I watched him disappear. I wondered if none held him dear.

Perhaps his forebears long ago Knew bondage in the sun's fierce glow; But he was free. For what? To roam The earth, with neither friends nor home?

His childish face, in memory, With startled eyes comes back to me— One of the many free to go Adventuring with sin and woe.

## It Seems to Me

BY HEYWOOD BROWN

NEW YORK, May 1.—In a recent newspaper letter I read, "the Scottsboro verdict was inevitable. I do not believe that the defendant was guilty, but it is foolish to blame the southern jury. The defense is to blame. It was tactless."

That seems to me a monstrous sort of thinking. Here is a person who calmly suggests that an innocent man should be electrocuted because, in his opinion, counsel for the defense was less than discreet in all his procedure.

And, worst of all, this attitude is by no means unusual. Very often in regard to other famous cases I have heard it said, "I don't believe that the jury's verdict was correct, but it was a perfectly fair trial."

In other words, there are those who will be satisfied if the record is without flaw, no matter how mistaken the judgment.

## Check and Double Check

SURELY justice must be a little better than that. After all, even twelve good men and true can not make a false thing true simply by agreeing upon it. There ought to be the sort of review which considers not only legal technicalities but the weight of evidence as well.

As a matter of fact, I can not join in the criticism of the Scottsboro defense. It is charged that the Communists hurt the chances of the Negroes by taking over the defense. On the other hand, it is only fair to say that but for the Communists the trial would never have attracted world-wide attention.

And it is also true that in many phases of the case the Communists have entrusted the legal end of their battle to lawyers who had no connection whatsoever with any radical party.

Some of the editorial writers in New York have spoken in the apparent belief that Sempel Leibowitz is a Communist. Of course, the truth is that he is an extremely shrewd and successful New York trial lawyer, without any palpable affiliations whatsoever.

His leanings certainly would be toward the party in power. He is not by reputation a visionary, even though it is true that he undertook the Scottsboro defense without a fee.

I have been told by several interested observers that it would have been the part of wisdom for the defense to have hired some eminent attorney to plead the case in Decatur. My own opinion is that no lawyer could have won under the setup which existed.