

The Indianapolis Times

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SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1933.

LIFE IS SAFER

IN spite of the fact that 170 persons gave up their lives on Independence day, an American's chance of dying with his boots off continues to grow, as the result of crusades by safety workers.

The National Safety council reports that deaths from accidents in 1932 numbered only 88,000. This sounds large, but in 1930 the number was 99,300.

Last year motor accidents killed 29,500 persons, or more than homicides and suicides combined. Next to streets and highways the most perilous spot in America is the home. Home accidents are increasing, and last year accounted for 28,000 lives.

Occupational accidents, even in a depression year, killed 15,000. Public fatalities, outside of auto deaths, totaled 18,000. Only twenty-eight passengers were killed in railroad accidents, a remarkable record, compared to railroading's early years. And out of 365 deaths from flying, 195 were those of pleasure fliers.

The drop in motorists' deaths since 1913 has been noteworthy, particularly in recent years. In 1931 deaths from auto accidents totaled 33,675. Last year's percentage of decrease was double the increase in motor travel.

The occupational death rate also is declining, having dropped from 20,000 in 1929 to 15,000. Mining, lumbering and construction are most hazardous. Industrial accident frequency rates have declined 61.5 per cent since 1925.

The safety movement just has completed its twentieth year. In its two decades the American accident death rate has declined from 88.5 per 100,000 persons to 70.5. Had the 1932 death rate continued, 175,000 persons now living would have been killed.

Collective effort is saving lives. It also can make those lives more livable.

THAT SMITH-ROOSEVELT SPLIT

DEVELOPMENTS following logically from the administration's recovery program are providing an interesting sidelight on one of the most perplexing features of the 1932 presidential campaign.

One of the high spots of that campaign was the apparent coolness between Franklin D. Roosevelt and Alfred E. Smith.

The two had been comrades in arms for years; furthermore, they evidently had been fairly close friends, as well. Roosevelt twice had put Smith in nomination for the presidency. Smith had turned over his job at Albany to Roosevelt.

But 1932 brought a break. Roosevelt spoke of the forgotten man and Smith promised to take off his coat and fight all demagogues.

The Chicago convention flag left a scar that refused to heal. Not until late in the campaign was there a reconciliation, staged amid the floodlights; and even then hints of soreness persisted.

Gossip had it that the rift was personal. Roosevelt was accused of having gone high hat; Smith, of nursing wounded vanity. Now, however, the basic difficulty becomes fairly clear.

Smith's recent editorial in the Outlook reveals that the gulf between himself and the President is almost as wide, fundamentally, as that between the President and ex-President Hoover.

The recovery act, says Smith, "will cripple initiative, legalize monopoly, raise prices and require higher tariffs." It "goes beyond anything my imagination can follow." The common man is likely to "get lost in the shuffle." We are apt to "sell our American birthright for a mess of Communistic pottage." These comments show that the rift of a year ago was based on something deeper than personal philly. Roosevelt had one political philosophy; Smith has one almost diametrically opposed to it.

Both used to be classed as liberals. Roosevelt has taken the ultra-modern fork in the road and has gone on to evolve a new theory of democracy. Smith has clung to the traditional conception of democracy and has veered steadily toward conservatism.

It is not likely that we ever again shall see these two men in the same camp. The cleavage between them is too deep and wide.

That editorial in the Outlook reveals a basic disagreement too profound to be overcome.

REVIVE THE PROHIBITION PARTY

MRS. IDA B. WISE SMITH OF DES Moines, who succeeds Mrs. Ella A. Boole as president of the National Women's Christian Temperance Union, says she will be a Carrie Nation type of leader if necessary and that her political affiliation is "the prohibition party, when there is one."

Well, there is one still, albeit of late much attenuated, and has been right along since the national prohibition convention at Chicago in 1869, which resulted in the first appearance of a prohibition party and platform in the 1872 presidential campaign.

We hope repeal of the eighteenth amendment is going to mean reinstatement of the prohibition party as the natural and proper refuge for all ardent prohibitionists who still think this the paramount national issue.

We hope the long and painful bedeviling of the two major parties by the Anti-Saloon League is definitely over.

Since 1920 the prohibition party has hung on chiefly by abusing Republican and Democratic for "nullification, corruption, and maladministration" under the eighteenth amendment and the Volstead act.

The prohibition party platform of 1924, 1928, and 1932 scouted the possibility of any

We Must Build Up Our Navy

An Editorial

THE world for the moment has scrapped the anti-war treaties and blocked disarmament. We are forced to build up our navy to quota strength. The decision has not been made by us, but by the other powers.

The decision is not irrevocable. It can be reversed by the other powers whenever they are willing to abide by the anti-war treaties and to accept our repeated and standing disarmament offers. Meanwhile, we shall arm.

Japan broke the anti-war treaties. The other powers were unwilling to do anything about it. In our attempts to uphold the treaties, the United States was isolated. We were the goat.

Japan now holds the conquered territory. Following the initial failure of the powers to stand by the treaties, Japan was encouraged to go farther. There she will remain. Nothing short of war, if that, can displace her. And the United States certainly has no intention of going to war with Japan on this issue.

Whether we like it or not, that is the situation. Japan defied the treaties and got away with it. Any other strong nation can do likewise.

Nevertheless, we were willing to go on with disarmament plans. Japan was not. The European powers were not. Together they just have sunk the Geneva disarmament conference and are increasing their navies. That is the net result of more than a decade of American effort for disarmament.

Our method of achieving an end has failed. It was a long and fair experiment. We did more than talk and beg. We acted. We deliberately held our naval strength far below treaty quota limits as an evidence of our good faith. All to no avail.

Improvement "so long as friends of prohibitory law divide themselves among political parties seeking the votes of the law violators and the nullificationists," and stressed the need of "a party thoroughly committed to the maintenance and enforcement of prohibition law."

There was logic in this. There still is place and function for a prohibition party in which die-hard prohibitionists can concentrate their efforts and work off steam.

The Anti-Saloon League and the W. C. T. U. should go back to the prohibition party and leave Democrats and Republicans free to rejoice over their deliverance. Mrs. Smith is entitled to her affiliation. She should regain and revive it.

THE VALUE OF PLAYGROUNDS

A BULLETIN from the National Recreation Association hammers anew on a point which requires especial emphasis in time of depression—that lack of public funds must not be permitted to cut down the recreational facilities available to children.

To begin, the bulletin points out that children must, and will, play. Not only their happiness, but their health and character, are bound up in their play.

Under modern urban conditions, the public has to make provisions for playgrounds. If it fails, children are cheated of their rightful heritage.

In addition, public expenditures on playgrounds are connected directly with expenditures on jails, juvenile courts, prisons and the like. If we skimp on our playground expenditures now, we shall pay double, in less pleasant ways, a little later on.

A RECORD ACHIEVEMENT

ONE of the brightest achievements of the United States war department seems to have been recorded in connection with the enrollment and mobilization of the civilian conservation corps this spring.

Robert Fechner, director of the emergency conservation work, reveals that the program laid down by President Roosevelt has been carried out to the letter.

More than 274,000 young men have been enrolled in the forestry corps, and upward of 250,000 of them now are in the corps' 1,300 work camps.

Thus in three months more men have been enlisted and put in camps than was the case in the first three months of American participation in the World war.

Apparently a pretty difficult and complicated job has been done with a good deal of efficiency and promptness.

MEN AND THEIR HOUSES

MILLIONS of men out of work throughout the United States.

Millions of people in the United States living in insanitary, overcrowded firetraps, menacing the health and well-being not only of the occupants, but of the entire community.

Can we put the idle men to work building better houses for themselves and others? We have the materials, the technical skill, as well as the men, in abundance.

To devise plans for doing this in the way to contribute most effectively to the social welfare is the purpose of the National Conference on Slum Clearance meeting in Cleveland today.

It is a great problem. Every city needs the advice of these experts and it is devoutly to be hoped that they arrive at a solution.

Evicted from his studio for nonpayment of rent, a Washington, D. C., sculptor became so angry that he smashed all his statues with a hammer. Very likely, he reached the conclusion that his profession was a bust.

Pennsylvania thief was arrested when he attempted to pawn a \$1,900 watch for a measly \$15. He should have known that time is precious.

An erroneous impression that Mary Pickford intends to remove to Texas to live probably arises from the fact that after her divorce from Doug she will be in the lone star state.

The average doctor knows 25,000 words, says a lexicographer. Two that we wish ours could forget are "Please remit."

"There is only one thing to be said when a husband persists in coming home late at night," declares a woman writer. The trouble is, however, that most wives don't realize this.

Instead of this method hastening disarmament and the substitution of effective peace machinery for war preparation, it actually has encouraged Japan and others to take the opposite course.

Very well. Our method having failed, we must, as realists, try the other method. The other method is to meet them on their own self-imposed terms of preparedness. When the world sees that the United States is rich enough and strong enough to play the preparedness game, perhaps then the other powers will be glad to bargain for disarmament and real peace treaties.

That was the costly, but effective, method by which we achieved the Washington naval treaty—the only effective arms limitation to date.

It is important, however, that the American government, in being forced into its new naval building program, make clear to our own citizens and to the world that only our method temporarily is changed; that our end remains the same.

Our purpose is a warless world. For idealist reasons, yes. But also for practical reasons. War does not pay. All lose by war.

The practicability of peace has not been disproved by the tragic drift toward force. The great world powers merely have proved their temporary inability or unwillingness to co-operate for peace.

We dare believe that this epidemic of militarism and supernationalism is temporary. When Japan and the other world powers no longer misunderstand our anti-war and disarmament program as an evidence of weakness, the enduring American peace policy can be advanced with more hope of success.

AN ELECTRIC YARDSTICK

IN May, 1932, the labor department's wholesale commodity price index, based on 1926 prices represented as 100, was 64.4. On the same basis, electricity prices were fixed at 106.1. Thus, general commodity prices decreased 35.6 per cent, while the power price had increased 6.1 per cent.

In April of this year, the general wholesale price index was 60.4, a decrease of 4 per cent compared with a year ago; and the electricity index had decreased 7.8 per cent to 98.3. But the general index figure still was 39.6 per cent below the base year, while the wholesale electricity price index was merely 1.7 per cent below 1926.

These figures stress only one of the unique price phases of this depression: How electricity rates have been maintained while all other prices, to say nothing of all other buying power, have dropped drastically.

Through the years there has been no national yardstick against which electricity rates could be measured accurately. But one has been provided in the New Deal. This is the Muscle Shoals-Cove Creek project, just getting under way.

At its own power plants, within a short time, the government, through the Tennessee Valley Authority, will manufacture power, and over its own transmission lines it will make this energy available to towns and cities within the 40,000 square miles of the river basin. In this we will have the power yardstick needed so badly.

Chairman Arthur Morgan of the Tennessee Valley Authority recognizes the vital function of this board's operation, and he and his associates are to be congratulated on their announced intention of instituting from the outset a system of cost accounting squarely comparable with that used by the private power companies.

The price of electricity should not be so far out of line with the prices of other necessities.

M. E. Tracy Says:

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT's rejection of the French proposal to stabilize money in such way as would bring back the gold standard evidently was based on disagreement with the basic theory of value.

Up to this time, it generally has been assumed that money should be rated in gold and that the value of all other commodities properly were subject to the fluctuations of gold, whether naturally or artificially created.

If gold went up, the general scale of prices and wages went down, and vice versa. Such a condition placed all people at the mercy of those who possessed or controlled this one metal.

Theoretically, governments were the chief operators in gold, but its free circulation enabled international bankers to usurp their function.

Comparatively small groups of men not only have had it within their power to manipulate the price of gold by direct action, but to affect government policy by exerting financial pressure. This narrowed speculation to unwholesome limits.

By tinkering with gold, a government or a powerful combination of financiers could depress or raise general price levels and shift currents of trade. More than that, they actually could threaten the solvency of nations, if not the demoralization of world economies.

Such power is not safe. The purpose of money should be to facilitate exchange, to act as a measure of values. It can not perform that service honestly or consistently if it contains the element of value within itself or is made dependent on any one commodity.

Stabilization must go beyond the gold content of a coin if commerce is to be established on an equitable basis. It is manifestly unfair to expose wheat growers, oil producers, or auto manufacturers to arbitrarily lowered prices through manipulation of a single metal.

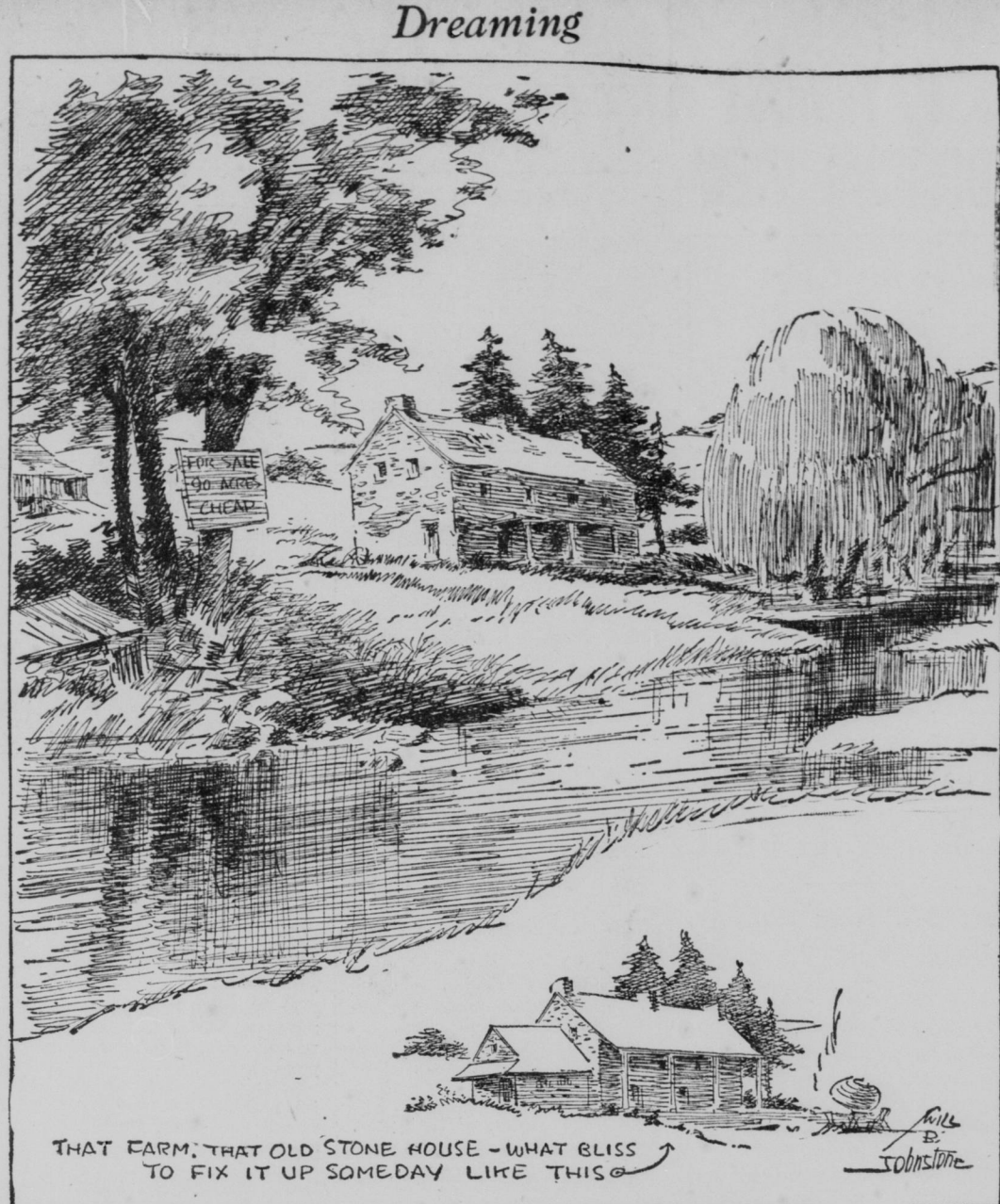
It is vastly more unfair to expose taxpayers of a nation to unjust burdens by a similar process.

This so-called gold bloc countries are for a kind of stabilization which either would guarantee them some of the advantages they now enjoy through the arbitrary manipulation of gold or open the way for further manipulation.

To illustrate: France would like to see the gold standard maintained, provided the franc would be recognized as worth a small fraction of its former value.

European governments in general are sore because the Roosevelt administration has succeeded in depreciating the dollar and their chief interest in re-establishing the gold standard is depreciating money, which they have exercised in an unconscionable way and which they hate to lose.

President Roosevelt has earned their displeasure by meeting and beating them at their own game. The efficacy of his method is proved amply by the favorable reaction in this country. We are getting our price levels back, and we like it.



The Message Center

I wholly disapprove of what you say and will defend to the death your right to say it.—Voltaire

(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.)

Thank You

I AM afraid the working people little realize how much they are obligated to your paper. I read the editorials of the three papers each day or at least I read the headlines of the articles in The Star and The News, but usually they are so uninteresting or far-fetched that I get disgusted and quit.

The Times editorials always say something. And it surely is a brave bunch of employees that do some of the things that you do. It's almost like canceling your salary.

The most simple-minded can see that you lose the big advertising on account of your hard shooting. And we who appreciate it have nothing to help you except buying the paper, which we realize is a very small item.

Do you know that firms in Indianapolis are paying as little as 12½ cents an hour and working eighty-four hours straight time for \$12?

The managers of this company still buy new twelve-cylinder machines, play golf half their working hours, drink high priced whiskey and eat at the Columbia Club. We still need a Patrick Henry along with this new deal.

It is proved by the wholesale butchery indulged in by the warring factors. Let the other nations clamor for peace and brotherly handclaps, but keep our armaments at their highest possible efficiency and the most powerful nations will hesitate to rupture the peace.

The series of articles written by our foremost army engineers on our inefficient and obsolete coastal defenses can not be ignored, or our

Daily Thought

But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money.—Acts 8:20.

MONEY is not required to buy one necessity of the soul.—Thoreau.

Ticks Carry Mountain Spotted Fever

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN  
Editor Journal of the American Medical Association of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.

ALTHOUGH most people are familiar with the common infectious diseases, such as scarlet fever, measles, diphtheria and whooping cough, few have adequate information concerning some of the more unusual infectious disorders which attack people in various parts of the United States.

For some time it was thought that Rocky mountain spotted fever occurred only west of the Mississippi river. In 1930, investigators for the United States public health service found the disease in some of the eastern states.

It has not yet been seen in the New England states, but with the present means of transportation, it might, of course, appear at any time.

Rocky mountain spotted fever is spread to human beings by the bite of infested ticks, particularly wood ticks and dog ticks. These appear early in the spring, are most numerous during May, June and July, and disappear rapidly during August.

The ticks develop on long grass and bushes, and from these pass to animals or human beings in search of blood.

The tick, once on the body, does not begin feeding promptly, but usually looks first for a place that will be suitable, including especially the back of the head or the arm pits.

In avoiding infection by the bite of the tick, it is necessary, of course, to avoid the places where they are found.

Prophylaxis does not fail us; we failed prosperity. With everything for happiness and contentment within reach, we used every device for bringing about our own disaster. We were faithless to each honorable code of humanitarianism. We boasted of our greatness, while the rich filled their strong boxes and the poor lived out of community chests.

As we were posing on our money

It Seems to Me

BY HEYWOOD BROWN

NEW YORK, July 8.—I did not think it ever would happen to me. Particularly at my time of life.

For twenty years my recreation, like Bernard Shaw's, has been "anything but sports." And now the athletic bug has bitten me. I'm nothing but a big outdoors boy.

The first thing you know somebody will be putting up my name to join the woody folk. It even may come to nature talks, in which I point out the differences between the oriole and the robin.

As yet it isn't as bad as all that. The craze is only in the spring stage. One can hang around a country club without impairing his urban standard, but this is a pioneer course composed of three slightly dented coffee cans and a few handfuls of sand.

Something for Memory

The three holes are named wistfully after old cronies of mine whom I probably shall never see again. The punch across the slag pile I've named after Barney. Tony is a sporty half mashie shot down to the foot of the big tree, and you have to cross two flower beds to get to Jack and Charlie.

The record for nine holes (that's three times around the course) is thirty, held by me. I also hold the eighteen-hole record, the thirty-six-hole record, the amateur and professional titles. Mostly I play by myself.

People who thought I was a bore before I took up golf should hear me now. I can talk for hours about how I got a one at Jack and Charlie when there was money bet upon the round and of the manner in which I saved my championship after being two down and two to go.

The match, which was played at 6 in the morning, is a whole chapter, and I can draw out endlessly the episode in which Captain Flagg saved me from going out of bounds by allowing my overstrong approach to hit him in the hind quarters and bounce upon the green. He always was the most intelligent of Airedales.

But I am interested in the larger aspects of the situation. I am wondering what happens to a slugard when he suddenly becomes lean and hard and artfully co-ordinated. That hasn't quite happened yet. I will still be stoutish for another six months, and even after I am down to bone and muscle the myth of corpulence will linger on.

I see Paul Whiteman has been compelled to write a book to inform people that he is no longer fat. I suppose I shall have to advertise my new build in some way. But I hardly can see it as a book—"From Brown to Brawn." Maybe I'll just go it as a couple of columns and keep my secret to myself.

Adding a Little Gristle

YET, since newspaper columnists, even more than novelists, write out of themselves, it may be that the point of view and the manner of this strip will undergo a subtle change. The very keys may respond to the deft putting touch.

I may from now on occasionally sink into a state of merely curling around the cup. Perhaps my somewhat obvious sentimentality was less a matter of heart than of superfluous flesh. A fat man loves everybody. He is afraid to deal with the world on any other basis.

Bring Shaw up to Chesterton's girl and he, too, might grow whimsical. I have always thought that charm increased in a direct ratio with blood pressure.

If I can only lose another thirty-five pounds, I'll have a civil word for no man. I mean metaphorically to get myself a nubbick and risk explosion shots.

Lost in the Rough

BUT it may not work out like this at all. In the beginning golf was no more than a means to an end. I dedicated myself to it in a sacrificial spirit. When a fellow is all dressed up in three sweaters and a rubber shirt, he needs somewhere to go. I mean somewhere in the great outdoors.

And so I sunk the coffee cans into the earth merely to lure myself into the trap of reducing effort. I realized that to be of any use as a radical agitator I must provide myself with a look more lean and hungry. I was growing a little weary of the role of being a speak-easy pink.

But I must not let this new interest in golf become a passion. Heaven deliver me from the gospel of sport for sport's sake! I don't want to swap the speakeasy for the locker room.

And so I have framed a little prayer to be said by myself every night at 9, just before going to bed. It runs: "Please don't let me become too good at this game, and lead me out of the temptation of trying to be Sarazen or Walter Hagen."

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Aunt Gambles

BY NELL MACE WOLFGANG

My Aunt Mary's very pious, Also very sedate— She wouldn't gamble on anything; Oh, no, nor speculate!

She says it's wrong to bet on things When we don't know how 'twill end— She wouldn't draw baking powder Even to please a friend!

And she thinks it wrong at parties To give away a prize— But she doesn't know what she's missed, Sometimes it's a surprise!

Lately I've been watching Auntie. She does one thing I know— She sure gambles on cantaloupes From early spring till snow!

But she wouldn't call that chancing; I know better than that— Sometimes they're good, sometimes they're not And that is gambling flat!

A Woman's Viewpoint

BY MRS. WALTER FERGUSON

THE cult of the greedy capitalist was the lowest form of folly—as time has proved. And a social conscience is the most important asset for government.

Things are looking up today, not only because it was time they should look up, but because there is evidence that the powers are preparing to put into practice some sound, unselfish theories of economic planning.

I predict without hesitancy that in another quarter century, we shall regard as an enemy of his country the man who can hold in private possession billions of the nation's wealth, and at the same time have power to close his factories at will and put thousands of men out of work.