

## The Indianapolis Times

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TUESDAY, JULY 25, 1933.

## THE PRESIDENT'S APPEAL

WHAT can the common citizen do to hasten recovery? The President has answered this question, which has been in the hearts and minds of millions for months. Get behind the Roosevelt blanket code plan to raise wages and shorten hours. That is the answer.

It will put the jobless back at work. It will increase purchasing power so that merchants can sell goods and factories can produce more goods and employ more men.

The President explained this plan Monday night so clearly that there is no excuse for misunderstanding.

Success of the plan—in which all of us will share—depends on the co-operation of all. Every American has his or her part to play. The employer is asked to sign an individual contract with the President promising to abide by the wage, hour and fair competition provisions of the code.

Labor receives the President's pledge that the government will protect its right, for which labor in turn is asked to work hard on the job. The consumer is asked to buy from those operating under the code.

All this represents a degree of government leadership new in America. Doubtless some are shocked by the departure from old ways of cut-throat competition, which landed us in the bankruptcy and hunger of depression.

But if the doubters will think back a few months, when the country prayed for something—anything—to save us, they will give thanks for the almost miraculous change since March.

The change did not just happen. It was produced by vigorous, constructive, and fearless leadership from the White House.

So when Franklin D. Roosevelt today appeals to the people to follow him in this new and most important step toward recovery, he is not asking them to accept some theory in blind faith. He is standing on a record of actual achievement which has earned the confidence of every citizen in his ability to lead.

No one denies this.

But perhaps the very fact of the President's achievement to date is one reason why short-sighted citizens think that nothing more is needed to assure prosperity. They say things are getting better rapidly; why not let well enough alone?

They do not understand that most of the recovery so far has been on the mere promise of laws and pledges which have not yet become operative. It was the belief that the Roosevelt plan would cause prices to rise and would put millions back to work and stimulate business. But now the time has come when the hope must be fulfilled, or we slip down again.

To prevent that tragic collapse, the President offers the re-employment and recovery code as the keystone which is to hold together the broader program.

The President appeals for co-operation "in the name of patriotism and humanity." It is that, and more. For tens of thousands of business men and for millions of workers, it is a matter of survival.

## SAVE OUR STREAMS

INDIANA is renowned throughout the world for its beautiful streams. Gene Stratton-Porter, James Whitcomb Riley, Paul Dresser, and a host of other distinguished authors have loved them and sung of them for nearly half a century.

Today, those streams, still lovely to the eye, are little better than open sewers. Industry has poured its waste into them. Careless municipalities have made them flowing cesspools. No one can count the number of persons made ill, the livestock killed, the game fish driven away.

It is a condition which never should have been allowed to grow up, but, having done so, still can be corrected. Sewage disposal plants can be built. Greedy industry can be forced to make improvements.

But to accomplish these results, steady pressure from the public will be necessary for years to come. The state conservation commission is well aware of the growing menace of filthy streams. It already has taken steps looking toward correction of some of the most flagrant examples.

The commission can not be effective without public support. For the purpose of informing the citizens just what the condition of these streams is, The Times has employed scientists to analyze their waters. First results of these findings are published today.

There is little doubt about the attitude of the people of Indiana once they have learned of the unspeakable condition into which their streams have been turned.

## NOW FOR REFORMATION

THE penal code shall be founded on the principles of reformation and not of vindictive justice."

This is not the statement of an impractical reformer. It is a direct quotation from the Constitution of Indiana. It is from the most sacred legal document in this state—a document on which all Indiana law is based.

The Times Monday completed a comprehensive and detailed survey of conditions at the state penal farm. This expose demonstrated beyond a shadow of reasonable doubt that the farm has not in the past been operated according to direct mandate of the state's Constitution.

Is the chaining of petty offenders to cell doors for hours at a time "reformation," or "vindictive justice?"

Is the beating of minor transgressors with blackjack and club "reformation," or "vindictive justice?"

Some persons have criticised The Times on the ground that the men who go to the farm

"owe a debt to society" and should be treated with medieval cruelty.

The Constitution of the state is clear on this point—"reformation," not revenge. The Times did not write the Constitution. It merely is demanding that its provisions be lived up to.

If the people of this state want to go back to the Middle Ages for their methods of dealing with small offenders, they have a perfect right to do so. But they must change the Constitution to make it legal and we doubt that they have any idea of doing so. Hoosiers have too much horse sense for that.

Governor McNutt wisely changed the administrative setup at the penal farm as soon as he learned of conditions there. He placed Ralph Howard, an experienced prison administrator, in charge. Superintendent Howard now has had ample time to decide what he is going to do about conditions as revealed by The Times.

This newspaper has presented evidence of unspeakable cruelty to prisoners. It has shown that apparently property belonging to the state has been appropriated for personal use by farm attaches.

These things are too grave to be passed over in silence. It is time for the new superintendent to tell the public what his plans are. You have the floor, Mr. Howard.

## A GREAT EDUCATOR PASSES

INDIANAPOLIS has lost a good citizen and a great educator in the passing of Milo H. Stuart.

Unassuming, kindly, helpful, he did a great work in a great way, asking no credit, seeking no fame. Children of this generation owe him a debt far beyond their realization, as do many fathers and mothers of the generation now progressing toward middle age.

His accomplishments at Manual and Arsenal Technical high schools were outstanding. In the face of discouragements that would have made a less capable and conscientious educator falter and surrender, Mr. Stuart carried on to achieve a success that has placed the city in his debt for decades to come.

Before his death he had laid the cornerstone of a structure that may endure as his greatest monument—the junior high school plan for the city of Indianapolis. Mr. Stuart played a major part in this advance in the city's educational system and its success, in large measure, will be due to his devoted efforts.

The city's loss can not be measured in words.

## A PLANNED COUNTRY

FOR 150 years the United States, like Topsy, "just grew."

Result: Sprawling, Jerry-built cities, with streets often almost inaccessible to modern traffic; germ-breeding slums and half-vacant skyscrapers; industrial sore spots, like the soft coal hovels, one-industry cities, overspecialized rural regions; waterways competing with railroads; billions wasted in uneconomic subdivisions, abandoned towns, useless schools, needless highways; billions more wasted through the unwise use of land and greedy over-exploitation of forests, gas, oil, and mineral wealth.

Today comes a gleam of collective intelligence, the beginnings of nation-wide planning.

Under Title 1 of the National Recovery Act it is possible for some 7,000 trade associations to organize for self-discipline, to plan their businesses, to conserve their raw materials, and gear their output to probable need.

Under Title 2, the \$3,000,000,000 of public works money can be spent with conscious effort directed toward a national building plan. Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes just has named a national planning board of three experts to guide his public works administration in its spending. The type of men he has selected gives promise that this will be more than a pious gesture.

Cities like New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles are building with the aid of planning councils. Iowa has a state planning commission. Cleveland announces an ambitious slum clearance project. The federal government is out to build the great Tennessee basin development from the blueprint of social need.

Under the \$25,000,000 "subsistence farm" clause in the recovery act, the government will settle families on part-time farms in accordance with President Roosevelt's dream of a farm-city type of civilization.

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With a controlled industry and planned public works program, America can outgrow Topsy age.

## HOW TO TEACH CHILDREN

EDUCATIONAL master minds, we are told, "dissected" the child this week while 2,000 school teachers, gathered at the Teachers' college, Columbia university, listened.

The twelve speakers divided in the support of the traditional and progressive methods of teaching children. Professor Kilpatrick stated the case clearly:

"In the progressive school, the child acts as a whole, and the response comes from inside. In the traditional school, learning is a succession of added things."

Professor Rugg said: "I think the curriculum of the traditional school tends to inhibit learning, not encourage it."

Whereupon Professor Bagley: "I see no reason why the traditional subjects can not be treated separately, but in a related way. Using a fact of geography in a history course, for instance, depends not on the curriculum, but on the culture of the history teacher."

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which dominates and prostitutes this framework.

Progressive education calls not simply for method, but for a new conception of freedom and courage in schools. Given the latter, education at any time in the history of the world would have become progressive in spite of itself.

## WAR SPIRIT CAN WIN

ANOUNCEMENT from Washington of the blanket code for all American industry is in some ways the most encouraging thing that has happened in this country in years.

That is not so much because it offers a new chance to wipe out the depression as because it will enable us to unite emotionally in a way that seldom is possible except in war time.

The drive to get co-operation in this code is to be conducted just as the Liberty loan and draft act drives were conducted during the war. And in that fact there is something extremely heart-warming.

A great many people have remarked on the singular fact that a nation usually is able to focus its effort and its emotions on one point only in time of great danger.

Destructive and frightful as war is, it usually is the only thing that can make a people feel truly united, the only thing that can make them forget their differences, bury self-interest, and work together in a common cause.

It often has been said that if only a people could get together on a peace-time project with the spirit that is displayed in time of war, it could surmount almost any obstacle.

That is the chance open to us now.

We are being asked to submerge selfish interests for the common good; to be Americans first and self-seeking individuals later; to stand united for the sake of those fellow-citizens who have not yet had a fair break.

This brings us a great challenge and a great opportunity.

It is a challenge because it will test our intelligence, our patriotism, and our endurance just as deeply and just as truly as any war-time emergency ever did.

And it is an opportunity because it opens the way to a new day in American history.

Upon the events of the next six months, probably, will depend the fate of our fight to escape from the depression.

We can shape our future to suit ourselves; and if we are as wise and brave as we like to believe, we can pave the way for a better, freer life for every one in America.

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