

The Indianapolis Times

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ROY W. HOWARD President
TALCOTT POWELL Editor
EARL D. BAKER Business Manager
Phone—Riley 5551



fixtures comes largely from India and Canada.

Life, even as lived by the humblest people, no longer is circumscribed by home production. We have made it so for the sake of greater comfort and convenience. Now we must accept the responsibilities it implies; must play fair with those on whose labor we depend.

The peace movement and all that goes with it originated in commerce rather than poetry. The men who visualized it for us were not dreamers, but interpreters. They divined the greater forces which were molding public policy and shaping the course of statecraft.

Human progress as made possible by the steamship, wireless, cold storage, cultivated taste, and a thousand other things will not be balked by old-fashioned ideas of patriotism and politics.

International trade has placed the best products of every land at man's disposal. He has found them to his liking, and he will not be denied the blessing they represent.

Depression has forced the people of most countries to get along with as little as they could, but that merely is making a virtue of necessity. Under no circumstances should it be regarded as the keynote of a new order.

We are doing what we must for the immediate present, but it is not what we would like or intend to do later on.

We have adopted economic nationalism for the same reason that a man adopts economic individualism when he has little to sell and less with which to buy. We are concentrating on domestic problems for the time being because it looks like the quickest way to get back on our feet.

The basic theory of restoring business in this country rests on the assumption that people will buy the good things of life just as soon as they are able and that it is the government's first duty to do what it can to make them able.

That theory goes for the whole world, because trade, insofar as it serves to promote civilized life, has become a world-wide affair. Eventually we must apply the same principles to foreign business that we now are applying to domestic business.

ONE HUNGRY MAN ROBS ANOTHER

HERE are times when fixing the blame for human actions is a task almost too complicated for human knowledge.

Consider, for example, this little story from Cleveland.

In that city there lived an unemployed man who had a wife and five small children. He couldn't get a job and he had no money, and the food supplies furnished him by an overtaxed city welfare department didn't provide his youngsters with the sort of diet children ought to have.

So, in his back yard, he started a vegetable garden. Since he couldn't find a job, he could put in all his time on this garden, and he developed a pretty good one.

He developed a lot of fine tomato plants, which was a good thing, because his children needed tomatoes.

Then he began to notice that marauders were visiting his garden at night and looting it. His tomato plants were torn up. The green stuffs that were to make his children strong and healthy vanished.

The gardener stayed up nights to watch. One dark night he saw a prowler crawling through his fence. He raised a stick he had and clubbed the prowler on the head with all his strength.

The prowler collapsed, was taken to a hospital; a little later he died, and the man who had tried to defend his garden was put in jail.

And it developed that the prowler himself was a jobless man who had been driven almost frantic by his need for food.

Now how are you going to weigh out the blame in a case like that?

Technically, the man who owned the garden committed manslaughter, at the very least.

Technically, the man who lost his life was a sneak thief of the meanest variety.

But the man who wielded the club simply was trying to defend the right of his children to get the food they needed; and the man who tried to steal simply was obeying the demands of an empty stomach—which are about the most impious demands any mortal ever has.

Assessing the rightful portions of blame in a case like this seems to call for more wisdom and understanding than most of us ever will possess.

MR. MOLEY'S CAREER

RAYMOND MOLEY'S career as a high government official was brief enough, but it certainly was about as spectacular a career as any member of official Washington ever enjoyed.

To begin with, it had that faint aura of mystery which inevitably focusses attention on a man. Mr. Moley not only was an assistant secretary of state; he was—or at least everybody said he was—head of a mysterious something known as "the brain trust."

He was aloof, unapproachable, wrapped in that odd mantle which descends on those who can whisper in the ears of the mighty.

And then, to cap it all, there came that spectacular dash to London during the conference. For a brief time the eyes of the world were on Mr. Moley.

Now he is a private citizen again. But while it lasted Mr. Moley certainly got a man-sized share of the limeight.

CHICAGO FIGHTS BACK

ONE bit of news which has gone almost unnoticed in the last few weeks is the fact that Chicago seems at last to be making a determined effort to get her notorious underworld under control.

During a three-week period ended Aug. 26, more criminals were sentenced to prison in Chicago than in any similar period in Chicago's history. It took the courts just one day to convict the murderer of a policeman and sentence him to death. All in all, 207 thugs were sent off to prison.

It would be easy to get too enthusiastic about this, of course. Neither Chicago nor any other American city permanently will solve its underworld problem until it tackles such problems as poverty, poor housing and political corruption, which created the underworld in the first place.

But that right always has, and always will, determine the success of every commercial enterprise, whether operated privately or by the government. Increased consumption, as made possible by courage, confidence and a happy outlook, is the basis of prosperity.

It never has, and never will be, brought about by compulsion. We must not forget that the American revolution was precipitated by a comparatively small tax on tea.

ISOLATION DAY IS GONE

ECONOMIC nationalism is the by-product of an emergency. Each country is forced to put its own house in order for the same reason that individuals must do so when the village or town in which they live has been wrecked by a hurricane.

But economic nationalism is no more in harmony with the modern world than any other kind of self-centered nationalism.

Humanity has gone too far in the development of international trade and exchange to turn backward. Whether we like it or not, we have made ourselves hopelessly dependent on one another, not as members of any race or as citizens of any nation, but as inhabitants of the earth.

The rubber on which we Americans ride so smoothly over our concrete highways comes from foreign lands. So does the coffee with which we begin the day's work and the tea with which we wind it up.

The tin can which plays such an important part in distribution and preservation of foods owes its existence to British and Bolivian mines. The mica in our electric fuses and

the American people have become large and consistent eaters of pork, mainly because of its modest price. Jump that price and heaven only knows what their appetites will take.

Gentlemen at Washington are betting on everything except the average reactions of human nature. Their plans, especially in connection with farm relief, provide for every contingency except the consumer's God-given right to buy or not to buy.

Probably right now, all the townsheads from Miami to Maine are aflutter with hope. Thousands of young girls with white skins and honey-colored looks will dream nightly of fame and fortune and of loves come awooing.

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Free hint to Professor Moley in conducting his new magazine: Why not cash in on the long series of "Ex" books, with a serial to be called "Ex-Brain Trustee"?

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

THE BABE'S LEGS QUIT

BABE RUTH says the old legs won't stand the strain any more, and that he's through as a ball player.

This is news as sad to millions of fans, especially to the youngsters, as it must be to the Babe himself.

But it does not mean that Babe is through with baseball. Even though he can't take his regular turn in the outfield and in the batter's box, Babe is too valuable a man to be chased off the field entirely.

Some major league team unquestionably will want him as manager. The publicity value of such a connection would be enormous. It would mean lots of money at the gate.

Different talents are required for permanent success as manager than the talents required for socking homers. Whether Babe Ruth has those talents remains to be demonstrated, but there is little doubt that he will have a chance to put on the demonstration.

LOYALTY IN MELTING POT

THERE came to this desk the other day a copy of a Slovak newspaper, printed in McKeesport, Pa., for circulation among Slovaks in American industrial cities.

To the eyes of a native American it had a strange, foreign appearance. It bore the name of "Samostatnost," it was printed in an incomprehensible tongue, and it seemed to be just the sort of publication that sometimes makes a 100-per cent wonder if the national melting pot ever is going to Americanize our foreign-born citizens.

But the editorial page proudly bore a large NRA eagle; and under it, in English, there was a double-column editorial which summed up the aims and policies of the NRA program as well as the most devout patriot could wish.

In it the editor undertakes to tell American Slovaks what they can do to make the program a success. His remarks are worth quoting.

"First," he says, "Franklin D. Roosevelt is set to re-establish a truly fair balance between American employer and American employee, but it stands to reason that such tremendous readjustment can not be done over-night."

Therefore, let us give him our faith and confidence, that in due process he will do so, and our understanding that it must be done gradually.

"Second, the least we can give to a daring fighter, like our President, is our confidence and trust that he will win, and what he helps us to earn, let us throw it back into circulation, that more and more of the little fellows, like we are, shall have a chance to earn and spend again and in so doing this nation might go full speed anew, in full production and in full consumption."

"So we print today in our masthead the sacred insignia of the NRA."

If our foreign-language newspapers are printing advice of that kind, the 100-per cent can stop worrying right now.

You might be able to smooth out the wording of that editorial a little, but you couldn't improve on the general spirit of it if you tried all week.

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M. E. Tracy Says:

SATISFIED with results on the wheat and cotton sectors, the agricultural adjustment administration now proposes to move on the pork sector. A million sows and four million little pigs are going to market, with your Uncle Samuel acting as buyer and a process tax to foot the bill.

As tentatively outlined, the program appears simple and effective. An extra half-cent on each pound of pork consumed by the public will provide the \$55,000,000 necessary to pay for the pigs and sows.

Elimination of these pigs and sows then will raise the price of pork 25 per cent, maybe. Consumers who pay the extra half cent a pound, as well as the promised 25 per cent rise in price, eventually will get their money back through improved business.

Meanwhile, the agricultural adjustment administration will sell edible products of its pigs and sows to the relief administration, but in such way as will not interfere with private business. It will dispose of the inedible products as best it can, but also in such way as will not interfere with private business.

The NRA is going to do what the slave-driving business man has refused to let the unions do. I, for one, am a strong man for unions, and I am going to do all I can to see that every cook or waiter, bartender or dishwasher gets what is coming to him.

If Mr. Wheeler would take a little time out and have a conference with Martin Shane, 318 North Illinois, he might learn a lesson on the treatment of humanity, and I am sure Mr. Shane would obliges.

If the restaurant association had a man like Mr. Shane the union would be obsolete, with all due respect to everybody involved. I would say that if Mr. Johnson says we are entitled to these 10-cent

meals for 25 cents I am sure that every employee in the industry would be satisfied, but if he says we eat free, I say every employee eat free.

Another thing we are not feeling so brotherly about is the attempt of Mr. Wheeler to take the tips away from the waiters. He should don an apron himself and earn his tips, as we do.

The Restaurant Men's Association also tried to deny us the right to organize, but if he thinks we can't, tell him to come up to Room 208, Holliday building.

It was time when food supplies in the United States were limited in the same manner, but today, by means of modern transportation, there is no food substance anywhere in the world that can not be made promptly available.

Although many different varieties of food are available, many people live on very limited food supply. In some parts of the country the standard dinner is meat, potatoes, gravy, bread, coffee, and molasses.

People who believe in eating only raw foods, who believe in getting back to nature as much as possible, argue that primitive men were more healthy than civilized men because

the diet is more natural and less refined.

It is amazing what trifles can do to the retail trade or how powerfully such a small item as a cent can popularize products.

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Those Pajama Poses Look Hopeful



:: 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.)

By William Murphy.

THE gentleman who labeled himself Fair Play in your issue of August 31 either is woefully ignorant of the facts or is trying to be misleading. Firemen do not receive \$10 a day; less than half of that, to be exact. The actual time that they put in would amount to the equivalent of twenty hours a day if they had to be on duty every day.

Their kitchens, including gas, are furnished by the men themselves and do not cost the city a cent. The beds were placed in the cheapest houses long before the gentleman ever thought of raising the fire department; there is no organized crime or racketeering, due to the alertness and modern methods of a well trained police force. So it would be much more advisable for him to find something else to howl about, rather than an investment which is yielding him a hundred cents on the dollar.

For this man's special benefit, it would be well to inform him that the police and firemen have been cut 15 per cent. So, to sum it all up, the brother is enjoying the lowest fire rates that could be procured, due to efficiency of the fire department; there is no organized crime or racketeering, due to the alertness and modern methods of a well trained police force. So it would be much more advisable for him to find something else to howl about, rather than an investment which is yielding him a hundred cents on the dollar.

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