

## The Indianapolis Times

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SATURDAY, SEPT. 16, 1933.

## THE COAL CODE

NOTHING more important has happened under the new deal than the bituminous coal code. Drafted by a committee of operators, miners and NRA officials, it deserves, and doubtless will receive today, acceptance by the operators and signature by the President.

It is a great victory for labor. But it is much more than that. It is a victory for the nation.

For coal has been America's sickest industry. Before the depression, and since, its disease of disorder has infected other industries and sapped the economic vitality of the country. Labor wars, company gunmen, starving tent colonies of strikers' families, sordid towns in which companies ran everything—local government, church, stores, on down—feudalism in the midst of a democracy which it belied!

Few profited from the feudalism, not even the average mine owner. It was a cut-throat business. When the operators were not fighting labor they were fighting one another.

Meanwhile, one of the nation's most valuable natural resources was being wasted by careless and inefficient exploitation.

Purpose of the code is to bring order out of that costly chaos. It is not perfect. It does not go the whole way. But it will constitute, when signed, probably the most sweeping advance ever made at one time by any American industry.

Labor did not win recognition of all its demands. There is to be no automatic unionization. The code's basic week of forty hours is not the thirty hours requested. The base wage scale of \$4.60 in the north, \$4.20 in the south, and in one western field \$3.75, is not the \$5 demanded.

But those wages and hours, unsatisfactory as they may prove not only for labor, but for national purchasing power and recovery, are temporary and subject to negotiated revision within a few months.

The main thing is that labor has won the right to negotiate. The efforts of short-sighted employers, led by the steel-coal group, to evade the collective bargaining clause of the national recovery act have failed.

Labor is to be protected by the government in its right to negotiate through unions and officers of its own choosing. While the company union is not outlawed, it can not be forced upon any worker.

And when labor does not get justice in this and other matters, it has recourse to boards on which the government has the balance of power. Child labor under 17 is prohibited in the mines.

This may seem elementary. It is. But it is a long distance from the barbaric state which has degraded the industry for so many years.

The price-fixing provisions are under ultimate government control. They can be justified here—as they can not be justified in most businesses—because a basic natural resource is at stake.

If consumers are intelligent, they will not be gouged. They should pay a fair and living price for coal, which they have not always done in the past.

All in all, the coal code offers new hope. If the Roosevelt administration, by its patience and wisdom, is able to handle this problem, other industrial problems should be easier.

If the new deal achieves nothing more than bringing health to the sick coal industry, it will be worth the faith the American people have put into it.

## FROM ONE WHO KNOWS

PEOPLE always react to General Smedley Butler. They like him very much, or hate him a lot. When he is not in action—though he is most of the time—he usually is talking. Sometimes he pontificates on subjects of which he is not master, and makes a fool of himself—not a unique distinction among our great and near-great.

But if there is one thing his bitter critics and equally extreme admirers would agree on, it is that he knows the game of military intervention. He ought to. Instead of "the marines have landed and have the situation in hand," it might have been said during the last thirty years that Butler had landed and had the situation in hand—in China, Haiti, Santo Domingo, Cuba, Panama, Colombia, Mexico, Honduras and Nicaragua.

He led the marines—not only in bravery, but also in being high-handed and hard-boiled.

But the general gives us the lowdown. "I know that many of those expeditions were nothing but collection trips for the bad debts contracted by Wall Street brokers," he says.

There is nothing new in that. But it is news coming from the commanding officer who has done more intervening for imperialism than any marine, alive or dead. And, speaking of courage, it probably required more bravery for the general to make that statement than to win the many medals he neglects to wear.

Butler now opposes future American intervention of the old type. He has found a better way. He explains:

"I certainly hope that it never again will be necessary to land sailors and marines in a sovereign country on this side of the world. But if it becomes necessary to preserve law and order, then I think the President of the United States should ask several of the Central and South American republics to co-operate in the expedition by contributing warships and men.

"That would remove any stigma that intervention was planned as a Wall Street debt-collecting expedition of our government."

That, in effect, is what this newspaper and

most American liberals have been saying for a long time.

That is more or less what President Roosevelt had in mind when he appealed to representative Latin-American governments to co-operate with him in the present Cuban situation.

Although the President did not go that far, he will might have extended his invitation beyond diplomatic co-operation to include military co-operation if necessary. It is bad enough for any nation to interfere in the affairs of another sovereign nation at any time for any cause.

But international action of that kind often can be justified. International action here means Pan-American action.

This is no mere academic question. It is the crux of the very practical and very critical problem in Cuba today and in our entire Latin-American relations.

## THE AMERICAN HABIT

ONE of the queer things about American politics, when you stop to think about it, is the habit we seem to have developed in the last few years of making up our minds on things all in a bunch.

The current vote on prohibition repeal is an example.

Prohibition was voted into the Constitution without a hitch. If the action of the state legislatures can be taken as a gauge—and it is hard to see why it can't—acceptance of the need for prohibition was pretty general from coast to coast.

And now prohibition is going out in the same way. Wet states like New York, dry ones like Maine, Iowa, and Arkansas—they're all going the same way.

It has been the same way in presidential elections. Not since 1916 has there been a close one. The rest have all been landslides.

Evidently, when we make up our minds on something, we make them up almost unanimously.

## WE REVERT TO JUNGLE

DEVELOPMENT of the Einstein theory seems to prove that our own little earth is older than the universe. "Seems" is said advisedly, because it is doubtful if Einstein himself knows what the theory proves. It's only a theory, and, as Professor de Sitter says, "the universe is only a hypothesis, like the atom."

What we know about the universe or the atom justly can be described as infinitesimal compared to what we don't know. Few facts have been established. The bulk of our supposed knowledge rests on guesswork.

Meanwhile, the problem of preserving human achievements for future generations grows more complicated and bewildering.

Professor Einstein, who caused all the rumpus, finds himself an exile, not because of anything he has said or done, but because he happens to be a Jew.

That looks like reversion to the jungle, and star-gazing won't stop it.

However little we may know about the cosmos, we know that it is wrong to persecute men for something they couldn't help.

Instead of arguing over his theory, great minds would be rendering better service if they concentrated on the problem which Einstein represents.

Whether the universe is contracting or expanding, civilization is drifting into an era of narrowness, bigotry, and intolerance.

On every hand, men are making economics an excuse for persecution. In many cases the persecution has no bearing on economics. What, for instance, has religion to do with communism in Russia, or what can 60,000,000 Germans hope to gain by the expulsion of 600,000 Jews?

It's the same old story of abused power, of authority proving itself to be the real thing by singling out victims.

The so-called civilized world is full of refugees today—people driven from their homes, robbed of their property, denied their right to earn an honest living, because somebody dislikes their ancestry.

Our own country has joined the parade to the extent of barring immigrants and boosting tariffs.

The scramble for equality has caused us to forget liberty and fraternity, as though the benefits of co-operation were possible without the responsibilities.

What has happened to our civilization on its former ideals, to recreate faith in selfishness, and cause men to find satisfaction in new forms of brutality?

Where is our boasted progress and enlightenment, that we make use of it to erect unnecessary barriers against one another, to interfere with the natural processes of human development, to abandon those principles and standards by which we emerged from barbarism?

What Einstein stands for in his present condition is more important than anything his theory seems to prove, and whether civilization shall survive is of greater consequence than how old the earth may be.

## TENNIS DIGNITY PASSES

AMONG the ancient institutions that have had a good bit of their gloss rubbed off by contact with a rough-neck world during the last few years one must not forget to list the once snooty game of tennis.

This game, which started way back when, as an amusement for the nobility of Europe, has been carried along on the tide of events until now it is becoming a diversion for the masses, much like baseball and football; and the sign of its change is to be found in the way the galleries behave at the big matches.

If you have followed the newspaper accounts of the recent matches at Forest Hills, you hardly can fail to have noticed that players, umpires, and presiding officials were pained every so often by the effervescence of the paying spectators.

A one-time tennis queen was booed justly when she walked off the court; shouts of applause punctuated all the games, the umpires were obliged often to call for quiet, and the players protested that the yells of the cash customers disturbed the Sabbath-like quiet in which the games were being conducted.

All this is contrary to the ancient dignity of tennis. You are not supposed to cheer loudly, or to administer the raspberry, in a tennis stadium. A little refined handclapping, now and then—that's the limit.

But the crowd gets unruly, in spite of tra-

dion. And the whole business is just one more example of the thing that inevitably happens to any game when it is trotted out of the seclusion of an aristocratic club and made a spectacle for the people at large.

These big tennis matches make their bid for popular support. The stars are national characters in precisely the same way that star baseball players, golfers, and pugilists are national characters.

Some of them, for all the fact that they are "amateurs," make a very good living out of the game. And they have precious little kick coming if the cash customers get noisy.

When you court public favor, build a big stadium, and collect cash at the box office from all comers, you can't complain if the crowd behaves as it would at any professional exhibition.

Lawn tennis, college football, polo—all of these sports are being professionalized, because they woo the crowds. If the sponsors of these sports are pained at the way the crowds act, their one remedy is to stop selling tickets.

## ANOTHER MILESTONE PASSED

WHEN you are traveling fast and have no speedometer, one way of gauging your speed is to watch the milestones along the road and see how rapidly they are whizzing by you.

One of the handiest milestones now available for Uncle Sam's children is that provided by the banking business.

Less than a year ago finance still was the sacred mystery of the old days, a realm which ordinary mortals might not criticize and into which a mere public servant might not venture without first removing his hat.

Today we find responsible government officials declaring that it soon may be necessary for Uncle Sam to assume virtual control of the whole banking industry.

The R. F. C. it is pointed out, is ready to invest a billion dollars in stock of tanking institutions. In this way it could get a 25 per cent ownership in American bank capital, and would have an important voice in control of most of the nation's banking resources.

It would, of course, take the seventh son of a seventh son to say right now whether all this actually will be done. But the mere fact that the administration is talking about it is immensely significant. . . . Do you see that milestone whizzing past?

Now it is easy to find good reasons for opposing this proposed step. The principal reason that will occur to most people, probably, is that we have no guarantee whatever that the scheme would work out well.

No one, that is, knows whether Uncle Sam is qualified to run the banking business. He might make a fine hash of things.

But any question of this kind must be considered against its proper background; and the proper background for this one is the simple fact that the existing system has been working very badly indeed for a long time.

Bank depositors and stockholders have lost a great deal of money, and trade has not had the credit facilities it should have had. We may be moving at a frightening pace, but we had plenty to be afraid of when we were standing still.

Unhappiness among married women is caused largely by worry over the past, asserts a psychologist. Maybe they're just trying to recall their Miss-spent lives.

We note from his picture that Cuba's new president wears one of those Hitler mustaches, but being fair-minded we are willing to give him the benefit of the doubt.

Beer exposition and inventors' congress ran concurrently in Cleveland recently, but so far as we have observed nobody has as yet invented an improved brand of beer.

## M. E. Tracy Says:

IT is about time that civilization took stock of its philosophy, balanced the account between its lip music and the actual record, compared the liberalism it has preached to the intolerance it has practiced.

Ninety thousand Jews have been driven out of Germany, several million Russians are scattered throughout the world, Italian and Latin-American refugees can be found in almost every country—what a background for peace, democracy, and alleged solidarity for minority rights!

We are hysterical without realizing it, seeking the brotherhood of man through higher tariffs and more ruthless discriminations against one another.

Not in 100 years has there been such a general suppression of liberty, such a tyrannical control of life and property as now exists.

Half of Europe has lost its right to free expression and free movement. We call the thing progressive, but without knowing why. We assume that science, if allowed to play the despot, can do something for us which we are unable to do for ourselves.

CONFUSION has driven us to a point where we gladly accept tyranny in the name of mechanical skill, just as though the dynamo and combustion engine could prevent men from abusing power.

Unless I am mistaken, future historians will describe the last twenty years as an era of delusion, when statecraft first going mad over war, then over debt, and then over reform.

We have sought progress in wholesale murder, have looked for prosperity through borrowing ourselves into bankruptcy, and have turned our backs on those principles which brought about the greatest season of development this world ever knew, because our folly resulted in chaos.

You can trace most present-day ills to the crazy notion that strife was good because it brought glory to some men and riches to others. The ideals for which we supposed we were fighting have succumbed to the methods which organized strife compelled us to follow.

Civil life has become a matter of hard-boiled regimentation in several great nations, while several others are flirting with the idea.

LOOK over the civilized world, and you will find statecraft adopting the fashions of militarism. There are more dictatorships in the world today than there were in 1913. They may be called by pleasant names, but that makes them none the less real.

The speed and efficiency with which armies were mobilized, bonds sold, and nations brought under disciplined control caused us to forget the ultimate effect.

Even persecution seems legitimate if it promises to establish the new order a little quicker, and the benefits of the new order are measured in terms of cash rather than in those of human happiness.

The trouble with this theory is that people will not put up the cash very long unless they find a reasonable degree of happiness in so doing.

## Let's Hope the Watched Pot Won't Boil Over



## : : 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 Sue M. Farrell.

My attention first has been called to an article in your issue of July 20, under the caption "Value of Vaccine Proved in Typhoid Fever," in which typhoid conditions in the World War are compared with those in the Spanish-American war.

This is most decidedly unfair, for while in the Spanish-American war there was practically no sanitation, in the World War sanitation was almost perfect.

During the Russo-Japanese war, the Japanese had no inoculation and no typhoid; and it is well known that among the British soldiers sent to Gallipoli there were numerous cases of typhoid, despite their having been inoculated.

In the United States Public Health Reports, March 28, 1919, there is an article entitled "Typhoid Vaccination No Substitute for Sanitary Precautions."

By Martha Pilger.

Under the ruling of the national recovery act of Sept. 8, the unemployed school teachers of America now know that they can not look to NRA for consideration of any kind. On the assumption that schools, colleges and universities are nonprofit-making institutions, 80,000 unemployed teachers, prepared intensively for one profession, are discriminated against without parallel.

Robbed of the right to work, at present encouraged officially for all other type of employment, they face destitution. All hope for the future is cut off by the continued discharge of those still on duty and by the annual increase of new teachers produced, themselves going into blind alleys.

The result rapidly is undermining faith in the principles upon which our democracy is founded.

and an eventual and distinct peril to the future of our country.

It is with this situation in mind that we, the unemployed teachers of America, seeing no hope from any source, and with nothing to lose by so doing, make a desperate appeal. We lay our case respectfully before Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, herself a leader in education, and a supporter of NRA.

Already she has in many ways proved her active interest in the welfare of the oppressed. In the unprecedented feat, accomplished almost overnight of establishing camps for unemployed women, she has given a brilliant example of her pioneer spirit.

We humbly solicit her leadership on our behalf, with the plea that she intervene for NRA support for teachers out of work. Through her influence we request the government in Washington to reconsider its tacit consent to the tremendous waste of training and talent, the untold despair, and the patent injustice of refusing attention to one particular group who

have labored conscientiously, and are now, without fault of their own, the victims of a ruthless employer, the educational system in America.

I ask that each teacher, instructor and professor now out of work and his dependents write at once to Mrs. Roosevelt, on the plea of justice to his profession, and sign his name under the caption, "NRA Codes for Teachers."

By R. H. Stearns.

Just as long as the chain system of selling the necessities of life is allowed to operate in this country, just that long will we have an economic depression.

All communities depend upon the profit from the sales of these commodities for support. Where do you place your support? If you want to live and own property in one town, and give your support to another town, that is your business, but your Creator gave you brains to use. Why not use them in this case?

The people must decide these questions for themselves.

By Samuel Waldger.

I note an item in The Times which states that "Nazi Germany is pledged to admit Catholic Jews to full rights of citizenship under terms of a memorandum from the Holy See."

Now, will some of your readers be so kind as to attempt to answer this: If Christianity is synonymous with the ideals of humanitarianism, why did the Holy See fail to insist on equality of all German minorities, regardless of race or creed?

## Danger to City

By M. W.

If Indianapolis police are sincere in their effort to stamp out invasions and slugging in city homes by Negro prowlers, here is one sound, constructive suggestion which can be followed.

Police Chief Mike Morrissey should order all police to pick up, and order into the open street, all Negroes who go through alleys, rolling pushcarts in front of them.

Those pushcarts are nothing but blinds. The first thing one knows, those men are in his back yard and in his house. Dozens of Indianapolis persons can testify to the merit of this suggestion.

Of course, there are some honest pushcart men. But the majority are nothing but thieves and slugs—potential killers. How about it, Chief Morrissey?

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THE grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the word of our God shall stand forever.—Isaiah, 40:8.

God is truth, and light His shadow.—Plato.

## Daily Thought

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periods so as gradually to bring about complete movement of the joint again.

Doctor Wright mentions the fact that it is possible to prevent mechanical strain on the cartilage by elevating the heel of the shoe on the inner border in cases in which the inner semilunar cartilages are the ones involved. Usually the foot is elevated from 1/4 to 3/4 of an inch.

The eminent writers on "Football Injuries," Drs. M. A. Stevens and W. M. Phelps, feel that after the cartilage has been dislocated or torn three times in the case of any one football player, it is well to have it removed by operation if the player wants to keep at work.

A player who has had a torn cartilage may play again as soon as the swelling and pain disappear, but the knee is likely to be thrown out in any game.

In such instance it becomes locked, making it impossible for him to continue and, at the same time, giving him severe pain.

## 'Loose Cartilage' Comes Often in Football

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN