

## The Indianapolis Times

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### SHORT CUTS

WE may need a modern Joseph to smash the great American paradox of destitution in a land of plenty. We need only men of commonsense to achieve temporary relief.

President Roosevelt's order for the purchase of \$75,000,000 worth of surplus beef, milk, cotton and other products to be distributed to the states for supplementary relief is a stroke that loses none of its force because of its simplicity. In the cities are 3,500,000 families on totally inadequate relief foods. On the farms the distress is so great that the A. A. A. is trying to retire 9,000,000 acres of wheat, 15,000,000 acres of cotton and 5,000,000 hogs. The President's order will help both.

Such short cuts have characterized the federal emergency relief administration under President Roosevelt and his youthful agent, Harry Hopkins, since its organization last May. Finding the A. A. A. with a lot of pork on its hands, Mr. Hopkins arranged to send 100 million pounds to the states for families lacking meat.

Finding families being evicted for non-payment of rent, he ruled that federal funds could be used to save their humble shelters, but warned that he was not pensioning any landlords. Finding 30,000 teachers' jobs and facing the headlines, he called a conference to arrange for putting them on pay rolls to teach illiterate adults in night schools. Finding Mississippi children going to school without books, he announced this week that he sees no reason why the government should not supply text books in communities too poor to buy them. Finding family relief does in the south running as low as \$4 a month and less, he set \$15 as the absolute minimum.

"There's no use letting people starve to death slowly," he said.

Stubborn in denying federal aid to slacker states and communities, he seems just as determined to carry out President Roosevelt's will that no American shall go hungry this winter. The winter's relief tasks are so staggering that no time or effort can be wasted. The President and Mr. Hopkins' commonsense methods should inspire states, cities, private charity and social workers to cut through red tape entanglements and drive toward the nation's goal without cavil or delay.

### TO FOLLOW REPEAL

NO organization deserves more credit for the repeal now impending than the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment. Under the leadership of Jovett Shouse it was furnished the facts which within a year have turned the tide of public opinion against national prohibition and all of its attendant evils.

This has been possible because Shouse and his association have not been bent fanatically. They have pursued a common sense attitude toward the whole problem, shunning at every turn the tactics of the Anti-Saloon League.

Now that repeal definitely is in sight, the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment is working just as hard for liquor control by the individual states; and it is meeting this problem with a reasonable mind, a commonsense point of view.

"Repeal of the eighteenth amendment," said Shouse in an article written for The Times, "will not constitute a panacea for all the ills to which mankind is heir. The control of liquor has constituted a serious problem since history began. It will continue to constitute a serious problem. But brought into the open where it can be dealt with as an important economic question, where it is subject to the most stringent inspection and regulation, it will embody far less of menace to social institutions and to the body of our citizenship than in the hands of the underworld which has reaped from it during these trying years of the immediate past such enormous profit."

On this intelligent basis, the liquor question, after repeal, can be met successfully.

### ECONOMICAL PARADOX

UNCLE SAM'S effort to help the farmer by plowing under cotton, limiting wheat acreage and killing several million hogs is economically unsound and morally wrong. That at any rate, is the verdict reached in a resolution adopted by the Ohio Methodists' recent state conference.

It is a verdict that a whole lot of people will accept. No part of the recovery program seems more contradictory than this destruction of the raw materials for food and clothing at a time when millions of people have neither enough to eat nor enough to wear.

Yet it is a contradiction that is not peculiar to the farm program. It lies at the very heart of the capitalist system, and it involves the fundamental conflict between production for use and production for profit. The whole recovery program is simply an attempt to settle that conflict.

It does not take much thought to enable one to see that destroying cotton, wheat and pork when millions are in need of clothing and food is precisely similar to letting great factories lie idle when millions need the things that those factories can make. If it is absurd to reduce agricultural production, it is equally absurd to reduce industrial production.

The farmer is as much a capitalist as the factory owner. If the factory owner can not be expected to produce more than people will buy at a price which yields a profit, neither can the farmer.

But stating the parallel in this way does not really get us anywhere. It simply shows how fundamental these objections to the farm program are; how far they reach into the very essence of the structure of capitalism.

For if the farmer ought to keep on raising wheat and cotton and corn and pork even though he can not do it profitably, so long as

there are people who need these things, then by the same token the industrialist ought to keep his factory wheels humming so long as there are people who need the things he makes, whether they can pay his price for them or not. And about the time you begin admitting that, you find yourself wading in very deep waters.

The best thing about the whole farm program, perhaps, is that it makes this moral clear to us. It may work or it may not; while we are finding out we are going to get an education, and our future steps may well be taken in the light of the lessons we are learning right now.

### ANOTHER ALIBI

WITH President Roosevelt and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation appealing to the American Bankers Association for better co-operation in extending private credit for industrial recovery, some bankers seem more intent on destroying the New Deal's mild banking reforms. Among other things, they have started a drive to modify the new Truth-in-Securities law. oModify in this case means to destroy, because the banking group succeeded in modifying the original bill to the point where the law as passed represented the bare minimum of practicable federal blue-sky regulation.

The argument against the securities law parades in the cloth of patriotism. It is said that the new law has prevented much-needed financing, retarded the flotation of securities and thus jeopardized national recovery. That is not true.

The chief business need is obviously short-term credit. That is not affected by the securities law. Still the bankers refrain from lending, despite the pleas of the White House, the RFC and the NRA.

Railroad securities also are exempt from the securities act, and yet new rail issues are not being floated. The railroads are not even taking advantage of the credit facilities for maintenance and equipment available under the NRA.

Municipal issues are another class exempted from the securities law. But defaults continue because cities are unable to refinance.

Apparently the capital markets can be revived only through larger government financing of capital expenditures for public works. While bankers hesitate to extend even short-term credits, it is obviously absurd to argue that the mild securities law is to blame for the absence of long-term issues.

We believe with the administration which enacted the securities law that it is helpful to real business recovery. If corporate securities can not be sold in the light of facts regarding their value, as required by the law, then it is better that they remain unsold. U-sound stock issues can not speed business recovery.

### WRONG BALLYHOO

CIVIC boosters often have a way of objecting to the publication of unpleasant facts on the ground that such publication does more harm than good. The issue arose in Philadelphia the other day, and ended in such a way as to justify those who believe that telling the unvarnished truth is the more wholesome policy.

The Chamber of Commerce issued a report boasting that all business houses on two main downtown streets had enrolled in the NRA. The editor of the Philadelphia Record suspected that this boast was sheer ballyhoo. He had reporters investigate, found that sixteen business firms in the district cited had not enrolled, and published a story telling of the findings.

The result was that the sixteen ditatory firms immediately got into line. And the Record pertinently remarked that whereas the empty ballyhoo of the civic boosters had stopped progress, the active criticism of the newspaper had led directly to some much-needed action.

### REPEAL WHISKY

A GENERATION which regards the kitchen sink as a gin factory and has realized the utter falsity of even the most eminent labels stands today upon the threshold of a new era—repeal.

To innocent modern ears there is no sacrilege in Dr. James M. Doran's suggestion that the surviving seventeen-year-old whisky be used merely as a base for blends, to constitute less than 20 per cent by volume of a new concoction consisting largely of grain alcohol and prune juice.

The great tradition of American rye and bourbon whisky was not built upon—call it what you will—blended, rectified or cut stock. Those were the things which formerly were supposed to make a jackrabbit spit in the bulldog's face. Old Dr. Harvey Wiley, a chemist himself, always contended that the chemist's place was in his laboratory, not in the distillery. And certainly the Kentucky colonels and other authorities on sound drinking stuck to their principles that nothing was too good for a gentleman's stomach.

Yes, this is old-fashioned folk. But synthetic hooch is going to be old-fashioned almost before one can say "Bottoms up!" The good name of repeal should be protected; it was fought for hard enough. The repeal era should not be the ersatz era.

Congress, the bureau of industrial alcohol, the state liquor commissions and, most of all, the distillers and consumers should get busy to insure that repeal whisky will be the best and purest that can be made.

### STARTING RIGHT

THE brewers' board of trade of New York, Inc., took a three-quarter page advertisement in the newspapers the other day to appeal to the public for co-operation to check the operations of the beer racketeers.

It pointed out that the racketeers were trying to keep their control over the beer distribution business in New York, and cited an instance in which a beer garden proprietor had been beaten up for refusing to handle exclusively the products of a certain brewery. To cope with such situations, the brewers' association urged all citizens having knowledge of such outrages to call on the police for help and to notify the brewers themselves; and it pledged the aid of all reputable breweries in the city to stamp out the evil.

Here is a healthy sign. The beer business, now as legal as any other, but must be kept as law-abiding as any other. It is good to see that the leading brewers are fully conscious of the fact.

### PLACING THE PROFIT

"ANY intelligent conception of modern governmental functions," said Dr. Tugwell, the assistant secretary of agriculture, "must embrace the idea of effective consumer protection."

This is the basis upon which Dr. Howe, consumers' counsel with the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, has begun the issuance of his bimonthly bulletins called The Consumers' Guide. In this, to assist retail purchasers and make them aware of the fluctuations in the prices of processed farm products, he is listing average costs of fourteen leading articles of food over the nation and in some fifty individual cities.

Through this guide, consumers will learn more about the spread between the prices they pay and the prices farmers receive and in this particular Dr. Howe's publication is of especial significance.

If prices are unreasonable it frequently is not the fault of the retail merchants; the blame may lie upon the distribution system over which they, as a rule, have little control. The consumers' counsel has pointed out in the first issue of The Guide:

"... the processors' and distributors' portion of the consumers' dollar was often relatively greater during the depression than it was during the years we are apt to look upon as prosperous."

Consumers and farmers have a vital interest, Dr. Howe explains, in what happens to these margins under the new farm deal. Thus far he finds the program fair in this respect.

The Guide will show whether this fair relationship is maintained.

### HASTE MAKES WASTE

WHEN you are considering the apparent slowness of the administration in getting its vast public works program under way, there are one or two little subsidiary points that ought to be taken into account.

First of all, jobs of this kind are, in the very nature of things, slow in getting started. You can't begin a big construction job overnight. The mere physical work of getting set on blueprints and designs, getting estimates and contracts, arranging for supplies of material, and so on, takes time—lots of it. A certain amount of delay is inevitable under even the most ideal conditions.

Secondly, there is the possibility of graft and extravagance. Haste makes waste nowhere so much as in government spending. This tremendous spending program could easily develop the most monstrous governmental scandal in all our history, if extreme care were not taken. We want it kept free from graft, and graft is apt to slip in if the thing is done too fast.

### INIMICAL FRIENDS

HERBERT HOOVER must have a deep feeling for the man who remarked that he could take care of his enemies if only some one would protect him from his friends.

There is, for example, that friendly Boston hotel man who says that Mr. Hoover, while President, privately favored repeal of the eighteenth amendment, although publicly he did not.

The Bostonian evidently said this with the notion that he was coming to Mr. Hoover's defense. Actually he was doing just the reverse.

The politician who goes counter to his private convictions because he believes he will get votes that way is not a pretty creature. It is ironic that this accusation should be laid against Mr. Hoover, not by an enemy, but by a friend. And the mass of Americans will probably want something more in the way of proof before they believe it.

Aimee Semple McPherson Hutton is getting \$5,000 a week to save souls in New York. She ought to save some money at least.

## M. E. Tracy Says:

THOSE Cuban paraders who celebrated Mexico's Independence day with banners and shouts denouncing "American imperialism" do not misunderstand us as grossly as we would like to believe. They may put a false construction on our intentions, but their very attitude proves the irritation caused by our meddlesome policy.

People simply do not like to be bossed by outsiders, and they find it hard to accept sympathy as an excuse. Those who interfere forever are patting themselves on the back as altruists, but those who interfere with seldom see it that way. As a general proposition, people feel that nobody goes out of his way to meddle with another's business unless he has something to gain thereby, or thinks he has.

To put it bluntly, Latin Americans refuse to take our patronizing policy toward them as genuinely disinterested, and we would do the same if conditions were reversed.

GRADUAL modification of the Monroe doctrine has led us into a very undesirable role. What was designed originally to block the interference of Old World powers with New World politics has been the basis of an arbitrary claim to superior rights on our part.

The Monroe doctrine is obsolete, because the conditions out of which it sprang have disappeared. There is no longer a Holy Alliance to threaten the independence of Latin American countries, or upset the balance of power desired by England.

We can admit that Channing gave Adams good advice without assuming that the international structure of 1823 still exists. We can claim that the Monroe doctrine served an excellent purpose when it was made use of to drive Maximilian out of Mexico without imagining that it confers on us the eternal right to threaten intervention every time Cuba, Nicaragua, Santo Domingo or some other Latin American country runs contrary to our approved methods.

NOT only the Monroe doctrine but every treaty born of its more recent interpretation should be scrapped.

This so-called right on our part to supervise elections, collect customs and preserve constitutional government as we understand the meaning of that phrase should be abandoned, whether it is specified by agreement, or comes to us as the by-product of tradition.

In no other way can we believe the Latin-American mind from the suspicions which now beset it and which make whole-hearted confidence well-nigh impossible.

We are justified in demanding security for our nationals and their interests. We are warranted in acting for their full protection, if convinced that action is needed. All of that is our legitimate business and comes well within the usage of international law. But it is not our legitimate business to tell other people what kind of a government they shall have or how they shall change if they want another kind. We can not make it our business without inviting their distrust and resentment.

## Go Ahead—Drop Him!



## :: The Message Center ::

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

### Stench Supporter

By Joseph Moran.

As an employee of Kingan Company, I protest against the editorial appearing in The Times, Sept. 20.

This company has provided me with a pay check and a living for the last three years.

On the stink question, let people exercise a little more will power.

they ask for none; they demand work and good wages.

2. Let's look around in our respective communities for needy families, helping them if necessary. Let's forget our color, race, creed and political beliefs. We all are children of God. God will help us, but we must help others.

3. To you, wholesalers and retailers of all business, refrain to take advantage of the present situation. Regulate your prices according to the present value of our dollar, lest you bring about suffering, and, perhaps, a severe disaster.

4. Let's be loyal Americans at heart—mere words do not count—and let's not commercialize the first duty we owe to our country, loyalty!

5. Our school teachers deserve appreciation of the highest degree, and good pay. Their work is valuable, and they prepared us for our respective trades, professions and businesses. They now are preparing our children.

6. Our ex-soldiers should not be forgotten. They deserve the best of treatment. They have defended our country, our homes during a dark hour. They have protected our business, our liberty.

7. Let's get back on the "Ameri-

can scale of living wages," the good old wages which put plenty of money in circulation. The latter, eventually, will benefit every one, including the employers, the manufacturers, as more money in circulation means more buying power.

8. Let's reduce taxes by eliminating the waste of government. Reducing salaries and wages merely is a stopgap. Eliminating wasteful methods and antiquated machinery is constructive. The one is superficial and temporary, and the other is far reaching and permanent.

My fellow countrymen: Let's be mindful of the present responsibility we are facing. Let's face it bravely, and like good soldiers. Let's continue to be law-abiding, industrious, loyal citizens. Let's have a unity of action.

By Times Reader.

I would like to express my thoughts and feeling in regard to accidents that are caused by police and fire trucks running red blocks and wig wag lights and bells at railroad crossings.

The fire department makes a fast run to some \$10 or \$15 fire in a garage or woodshed, running red lights at street crossings, endangering lives of the firemen and pedestrians.

The police cars make calls running all lights, and if for some reason a man would not hear them, coming they would have him arrested (that is if they didn't kill him) and the call they were going to would be some fellow that was stealing a loaf of bread, or some sort of a petty thief.

Let the police and the firemen practice what they teach (safety). Who tells these men to run red lights and danger signals.

## Goiter Caused by Insufficient Iodine

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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

TO most people a goiter is simply an enlargement of swelling of the thyroid gland causing a bulging appearance in the throat.

This gland is composed of two parts connected by a short bridge of tissue which passes over the windpipe. There was, perhaps, a time in the development of man when the gland used to pour its secretion directly into the throat and the digestive tract, but it is now known as a gland of internal secretion since the material that it developed is poured directly into the blood.

When the thyroid gland is normal, it is not visible. There is no bulging of the skin; in fact, it is felt with great difficulty. However, in abnormal cases, it changes in consistency so that it may both be easily seen and felt.

According to Dr. Robert C. Cochran, the thyroid is the chief organ of the body containing iodine. Iodine is an essential substance for health and growth. It is perhaps the most important function of the

thyroid gland to store this substance and to supply it to the body as needed for the control of various processes.

The thyroid gland is very sensitive to stimuli of various sorts. In response to these stimuli the gland enlarges. For example, if there is a deficiency of iodine in the food and water taken by the body, the thyroid gland enlarges, perhaps due to the effort of trying to meet the demand of the body for this substance.

It is also well established that infections elsewhere in the body may stimulate the gland to enlargement and there may be other causes not yet known.

Physicians recognize various types of goiter dependent on the nature of the changes that take place in the thyroid gland. The most common type of goiter is that which occurs in young girls around the

ages of 12 and 13. This is the type associated with the deficiency of iodine in the diet.

If the condition is recognized early and treated by small amounts of iodine the enlargement is seldom great or permanent. The condition may be prevented by making certain that the child has a sufficient amount of iodine in its diet.

This is particularly important in the northwestern portions of the United States and in the Great Lakes area, where it has been well established that the water and the soil are deficient in iodine. The state of South Carolina is known as the "Iodine state" because it probably has the greatest amount of iodine in its soil.

If the gland becomes much enlarged due to a deficiency of iodine and the enlargement is permanent, there is no way to control it except to remove the excessive tissues. The chief reason for the operation is the removal of the unsightly mass and the prevention of pressure on the nerves, blood vessels and other tissues of the throat.

## It Seems to Me

—BY HETWOOD BROWN—

NEW YORK, Sept. 23.—Here in Washington I am told there are many things which the blue eagle has failed to do. But one man owes it a debt of gratitude. I refer to Herbert Hoover, at one time President of the United States.

But for NRA the commerce building would go down into history as "Herbert's Folly."

The legends of General Johnson have served to tramp down the grass which, otherwise, might be growing in its corridors.

Not that the general is enthusiastic about his quarters. They recently have been improved, but on the floor originally assigned to the recovery administration all the doors and partitions were done in green steel reaching slightly higher than a man's head and very violently suggesting rest rooms. Indeed, Johnson is reported to have said: "When I come to my office I'd feel that I was in the Union station."

The Commerce building was Herbert Hoover's pride and joy. After walking ten miles in a single afternoon in a vain effort to visit two offices, I want to testify that although Mr. Hoover may have been a great engineer he was something less than that as an architect.

### Five Furlong Journeys

ZONING laws impose a regulation on the height of buildings in Washington. But Commerce building is even more squat than the regulations provide. It covers innumerable acres and rises only six stories above the flatlands of the sidewalk.

The net result is that everybody is about five furlongs from the place at which he wishes to arrive. Nor are conditions improved by the fact that various ingenious jokers have been inserted in the numbering of the various offices. For instance, I walked six and a half miles looking for Room No. 4027. I eventually discovered that there is no such place, and accordingly one of the brilliant resident statesmen missed an opportunity of having an amusing chat with one of the most promising of New York's younger journalists.

There is a No. 4019, but the intervening figures have been left out. Still, why complain? I suppose the whole thing was designed in a spirit of good clean fun by the genial Mr. Hoover.

During the summer recently expired it was my opinion to reduce by going in for golf. The season being over, I think I'll change my plan and apply for the job of Washington correspondent. But if this is to do me any good I must avoid the lazy habits of the local commentators. Since every press room is situated one-quarter mile from the office on which it depends for news the sluggish correspondents take up a strategic position leaning against some convenient wall in the hope that during the afternoon General Johnson, Edward McGrady, Wolman or one of the other founts of news will happen to pass by.

Why Lamont Withdrew

THERE has been some speculation as to the reason for the resignation of Robert Lamont from the Steel Institute. It has been said that he quit in holy terror over the provisions of NRA. But there is another explanation. He was himself an inmate of the Commerce building for several years during his term as secretary. While attending the recent hearing on the steel code he tried to leave the building and found himself lost in a maze.

For hours he wandered around, and it finally was suggested that bloodhounds be employed to extricate him. By a strict party vote of 265 to 264 it was decided to hire the dogs and Mr. ex-Secretary Lamont was rescued.

But he has not been quite the same. Hundreds of less notable individuals are probably lost forever in the vast corridors of the edifice designed by Herbert Hoover. During the two hours that I was without orientation I became pretty panicky. I wondered just who would send for me and provide searchers. I listened for friendly patter of St. Bernards bearing small kegs of rum, but there were no dogs, nor any alcohol.

### Where Blame Will Lie

I FELT that in spite of the awful situation I must remain calm. "If I follow this corridor it is bound to lead somewhere," I said to myself. I did, and found nothing but an office occupied by a technical adviser. Turning due south, I walked for two miles more and ended in the cul-de-sac of a code enacted.

I was brought back to civilization again by the happy accident of running into a little group of Washington correspondents who were proceeding through one of the corridors roped together for safety.

So, if anybody points out to you that this or that is wrong in the administration of NRA, do not blame it on the statute itself or upon the personality of any of the administrators. Remember only that when the situation comes in which a tired official gravely needs the advice of some fellow expert he may be pardoned if he says: "Oh, well, let it go. I'm afraid it's too far to walk."

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## Ex-Soldier

BY JOHN ROSE

War called me once. It calls me not again.

Its thunder deafened me. My unbridled eyes Have seen such visions on the stormy skies Of smoke and flame, that never more shall pain Of killing fear my soul and never rain.

Of women's tears rebuke the hope that lies Though broken, pinioned, at my door, while dies Forever, hope in breasts where sons have lain.

I see their young reproachful faces look conquered—had they stayed! Toward worlds they might have conquered—had they stayed! Toward wars uncharted in their vasty spaces.

—Of love-of-war. Not Glorified that shook Mad throngs of kings is stripped of masquerade For men like me who saw it face to face.