

The Indianapolis Times

(A SCHRIPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

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GIVE LIGHT AND
THE PEOPLE WILL FIND
THEIR OWN WAY

SATURDAY, DEC. 2, 1933

CLEAN UP THE STREAMS

ONLY twenty-nine days remain for Indiana cities to obtain federal funds for eliminating stream pollution. Applications for these government loans must be in Washington before New Year's day. Many communities are letting the chance of a lifetime slip by not availing themselves of this aid.

Municipalities should act immediately. Indiana's streams are known throughout the world because of the prose and verse the state's authors have written of them. Greed and carelessness have changed those same streams from things of beauty and health to pestilential open sewers. Must we have a serious epidemic before our public officials act?

There is another advantage in constructing adequate sewage disposal plants now. Prices are lower than they are likely to be for many years. Taxpayers actually will save money by building during 1934. Unquestionably the legislature and the courts are going to force a cleanup of Indiana's streams eventually and stubborn cities may find that their delay has been extremely expensive.

If these disposal plants are started within the next few months thousands of worthy, unemployed citizens will be given jobs and hundreds of building material firms will sell supplies.

The state conservation department is doing all it can to persuade communities and individuals to stop poisoning our rivers. It has accomplished much already, but it can not do the job singlehanded. The public must swing in behind and demand that their city officials act.

SOUR GRAPEFRUIT

AL SMITH'S criticism of the new deal is sour. First it is the public works and civil works administrations. There is room for constructive criticism of these policies. But, unfortunately, the Happy Warrior is so full of feeling these days his shots miss the mark.

If he had stressed the dangers of uncontrolled currency inflation and given the President credit for escaping these dangers to date, Al probably would have been listened to by the public and the President. Instead, he misinterpreted the Roosevelt policy and engaged in calling names. And the public gave him a shrug of the shoulders.

Now he drops in with a belated blow at the public works administration. It is true that Secretary Ickes was slow in getting the program under way. But friendly critics of the administration did not wait until December to discover that fact. They pointed it out last summer. Without calling names they were able, by publishing the facts, to move the administration. During the last two months the federal government has moved as fast as humanly possible in this matter. Upward of \$3,000,000,000 has been allotted from the \$3,300,000,000 fund. Responsibility for recent delays rests with certain state and local authorities and private contractors rather than with the federal government.

Of all the criticisms of the new civil works administration which might have come from Al Smith, the most unexpected is that it will "further discourage private initiative." That is his reaction to a program which in one short week, up to Nov. 25, put 1,183,267 charity recipients to work—the figure at the end of the second week is an estimated 2,000,000.

Before Al started wackering about lemons and grapefruit, in the old days he used another line very effectively—"Let's look at the record." If Al will look at the record he will find that "private initiative" carried only 26 per cent of the national relief burden even in the early years of the depression. Even President Hoover, who originally delayed federal aid on the same absurd plea that it would destroy private initiative, discovered that the alternative to federal relief was starvation.

CHILD NUTRITION

NOW that the well-rounded woman is the vogue again there will be an internal expansion. Gravies, butter, pastries and white breads are taking their place on the menus. Women are murmuring that they had forgotten that eating was so much fun.

There is another group in America who have forgotten, too. You see, it has been so long since they have had a warm, appetizing meal. So very long since a table spread with food has been more than a little match girl's dream.

The United States children's bureau estimates that "Today somewhere in the neighborhood of one-fifth of all pre-school and school children are showing the effects of poor nutrition, inadequate housing, and lack of medical care."

It seems a little cruel that women laugh lightly about the number of calories to add or subtract while children wonder if the hollow places in their stomachs will go on hurting forever and ever. No one means to be unkind, of course. But thoughtlessness doesn't relieve a perennial emptiness in the stomach. There isn't much to do about it except to supply the vacuum with baked potatoes and milk and oatmeal. Stomachs are biological hangers. Science, with all its understanding of atoms and relativity, can't do anything about them.

A child can't be expected to locate Madrid and Tokio and Bangor, Me., on pink and blue maps when his stomach is empty and his head light. He doesn't care that wheat is the chief export of Minnesota and corn grows in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois when he never sees the finished product.

If we would give up some things that we don't need the situation would be relieved immeasurably. In 1930 the United States spent \$2,325,000,000 for drinks and narcotics, \$333,000,000 for confectionery and chewing gum,

and \$1,075,000,000 for cosmetics and personal adornment.

It is a woman's privilege to be beautiful and every man's privilege to do what he pleases with his pocket money, of course. But anybody knows that people—men and women and children—need food. It comes first on the list of necessities. Even the children of Israel, who spent forty years journeying through the wilderness, received a supply of manna at breakfast time every morning. But nothing is said of beads or tobacco.

The children aren't asking for luxuries. They don't plead for birthday cakes with pink candles; cookies with frosting and a raisin in the middle; bread spread half an inch thick with jam. They just want something to eat.

It may be the return of the curved ear is a good thing. Women will take an interest in foods again. And as they begin to cultivate a taste for rich and fattening dishes they will realize how much small boys and girls need them, too. They will grow hungry. They haven't for a long time.

The stomach shrinkage among children is much more alarming than the tilt of a cock-eyed hat or the matching of rouge and lipstick. Children aren't created free and equal. Environment is never balanced. But they do have stomachs. Teachers sometimes believe that Johnny Jones or Mary Smith is dumb when that isn't the case at all. He is just hungry. He doesn't know how to beg for a dime—or a potato or apple. It is more important to banish malnutrition in children than it is to cultivate the rounded slope, however much your favorite gentlemen like it.

COMMON SENSE IN GOVERNMENT

IN one of his weekly articles on the state of the nation, the distinguished publicist, Mark Sullivan, laments that men able to use calculus and the higher differential equations are coming into the government at Washington. Specifically, he attacks Mr. Mordecai Ezekiel for his attempt to state statistically the demand, supply and price of hogs in the United States for some years ahead. Mr. Sullivan jokingly alludes to such equations as "hogarithms" and goes on to say:

"That sort of thing, statistics like that and charts and graphs and curves, are the main-spring of the government as now administered. How it would surprise Grover Cleveland to return to the White House and see a President of the United States in 1933 with his desk covered by immense charts, charts from the department of labor, from the treasury, from the reconstruction finance corporation. One chart contains the line called 'purchasing power,' and another line called 'productive capacity.' To make the line of 'purchasing power' rise above the line of 'productive capacity' is the principal present purpose of the NRA. The spirit of the administration can be exposed roughly as one which undertakes to manage the country on the basis of these charts."

It is possible to put a very different interpretation on these developments in Washington. To many it means the first real effort to bring government thoroughly up-to-date. The fact that men like President Cleveland had not the slightest grip on the mathematical and scientific facts which have created the modern world is one reason why we are in our present mess. Many other Presidents were even worse off in this regard. Even Woodrow Wilson, a university president, was blissfully innocent of modern science and engineering and relied upon the rhetorical methods of the age of Cicero.

Our modern material civilization has been built up by the use of calculus and higher mathematics. It is not unreasonable to assert that a comparable intellectual equipment and apparatus are needed to control our institutional life. Without the calculus and higher differential equations, we could not build a complicated machine, a skyscraper, a bridge, a subway, a railroad, a large ocean-going ship, an electric lighting plant, a telephone, telegraph, cable, radio or any other representative manifestation of modern mechanical ingenuity.

If this be so, how can one expect to run a government, which is far more complicated than any machine or engineering project, without at least some appreciation of the function of higher mathematics. We may be glad that there is a man in the White House whose perspective has advanced beyond long division.

It is high time that our statesmen should begin to think in terms of modern science instead of relying upon the rhetoric and hot air which has dominated politics from Pericles to many of the present spellbinders in the United States senate.

Still, there is a real need for common sense in the background of government by statistics. Here Mr. Sullivan makes a telling case against the administration. We find one branch of the government spending millions to increase farm acreage through reclamation projects, while another branch of the government is spending more millions to buy up and retire already productive farm acreage. Or, again, we have one phase of the recovery program devoted to increasing mass purchasing power so that men may get enough to eat and to cover their backs. At the same time, the farm relief agencies are buying up hogs to reduce breeding and the pork supply and are plowing under many acres of cotton. All this is designed to raise farm prices, thus making it more difficult for the city worker to supply his material needs.

The best way for the administration to escape from this kind of criticism is to go over whole-heartedly to the theory of the "plenty economy" and relentlessly refuse to curtail production until it is certain that enough is being produced to meet the legitimate consumption needs of every normal American. Taking this as the basis for judgment, it will be hard to show that there has ever been a great deal of excess production in this country except in certain luxury industries.

THE LESSON OF SAN JOSE

THE San Jose lynching should mean something more important and far-reaching than mere notification to the would-be kidnappers of the country.

The administration of Justice in America, publicly declared Chief Justice Taft of the United States supreme court, is a disgrace to civilization, and America, with all of her churches, schools, intelligence and enterprise, is the most criminal country in existence.

The other name for American Justice is sloth.

Between the murderous deed and comple-

tion of the administration of justice there are all the complications, red tape, lawyers' chicanery, monotonous court procedure, that law-makers could concoct and, after justice has worked her hard way through the labyrinth, there is still the leniency of Governor and pardon board. The laws and court procedure furnish unlimited loopholes for the guilty, while innocent men may languish for months in jail because too poor to furnish bail. Justice moves on feet of lead when the blood of the victims ceases to run.

There was not one iota of doubt as to the guilt of those San Jose kidnapers and murderers. The discoveries by the searchers for young Hart's body substantiated, beyond possible question, the confessions of the murderers in every detail.

When the people of any otherwise orderly and in every respect fine community rise, face legal authority's machine guns and bombs, batter down their own jail and hang their own citizens in their own public park, there is something more in it than madness for vengeance, to whatever extent such madness is aroused by the frightful brutalities of the crime perpetrated, something much more serious than notification to the kidnappers of the country. There is in it a terrible demonstration of utter popular elimination of confidence in the administration of justice.

Laws against capital crimes are written in the books and the constitution of the people guarantees every accused person the benefits of a fair trial. Of deadly threat the times when the administration of justice is written in the hearts of communities in terms of madness for vengeance and hopelessness of the speedy administration of justice.

And there will be more of the same, unless there is decided reform in the administration of American Justice.

JUSTICE DENIED

CONVICTION of one of the Scottsboro defendants in the third trial yesterday would seem even more terrible but for the hope that the United States supreme court will set aside the verdict as it did in the first trial. In the second trial the trial judge himself threw out the verdict.

It is unthinkable that these Negro boys shall be executed on contradictory and discredited evidence. There never was anything but the flimsiest case against them. Since one of the two girls confessed that her earlier testimony was a lie, there has been no real case.

Judge Callahan's charge to this jury was so unfair that he even failed to tell the jurors how they might assist until the defense counsel protested. The state's attorney confessed that his own speech to the jury was "an appeal to passion."

It was a partisan trial drawn on the color line. Justice was denied by race prejudice.

BETRAYING THE VICTORS

CONGRESSMEN, says a Washington correspondent, are getting ready to do a little gunning for Dr. Arthur E. Morgan, chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority, when the next session opens.

One reason is that the Tennessee valley program was a bit slow in getting under way. The other is that Dr. Morgan has been absolutely impervious to the appeals of patronage-seeking politicians who want to hand out jobs to party hacks.

Criticism on the ground that there has been undue delay is one thing; criticism on the ground that Dr. Morgan has rebuffed the spoilsman is something else again. Any congressman who has the nerve to squawk about this second point automatically will convict himself of having a peanut-sized conception of his own duties and responsibilities.

If Dr. Morgan has turned down the deserving-Democrat boy, he deserves the thanks of the nation.

M. E. Tracy Says:

THERE is a great difference between criticizing a plan and committing or encouraging overt acts to spoil it. The manner in which Professor Sprague quit President Roosevelt furnishes a vivid illustration in point. He could have stayed without surrendering his opinions or he could have resigned without expressing his viewpoint in such a way as to invite a general attack.

Professor Sprague should have realized what his harsh letter meant at such a critical moment; should have known that it would be accepted as nothing less than a signal for opposition by every disgruntled politician and financier; should have foreseen that many shallow-minded people would have taken it as an excuse for substituting under-handed and under-mining tactics.

I happen to be one of those who disagree with the President's gold-buying experiment except as it may be employed to determine where the dollar should be pegged, but I certainly would not lift a finger to interfere with it, or help those who would jeopardize the government's credit for the sake of proving they are right.

This is no time to withdraw support from government securities regardless of what one thinks should be done about the dollar.

PUBLIC credit must be maintained at all costs.

While it is perfectly proper for men to express their views, it is little less than criminal for them to regard those views as justifying acts which can only make the situation worse.

If public credit is shaken, inflation of the worst conceivable type will loom as the most probable and, perhaps, unavoidable alternative. The idea seems to be gaining headway in many circles that the purchase of gold has been undertaken, not to cut out where the dollars should be pegged, but as a permanent means of managing our currency. While some theorists may have that in mind, I do not believe that it is President Roosevelt's intention, or ever has been.

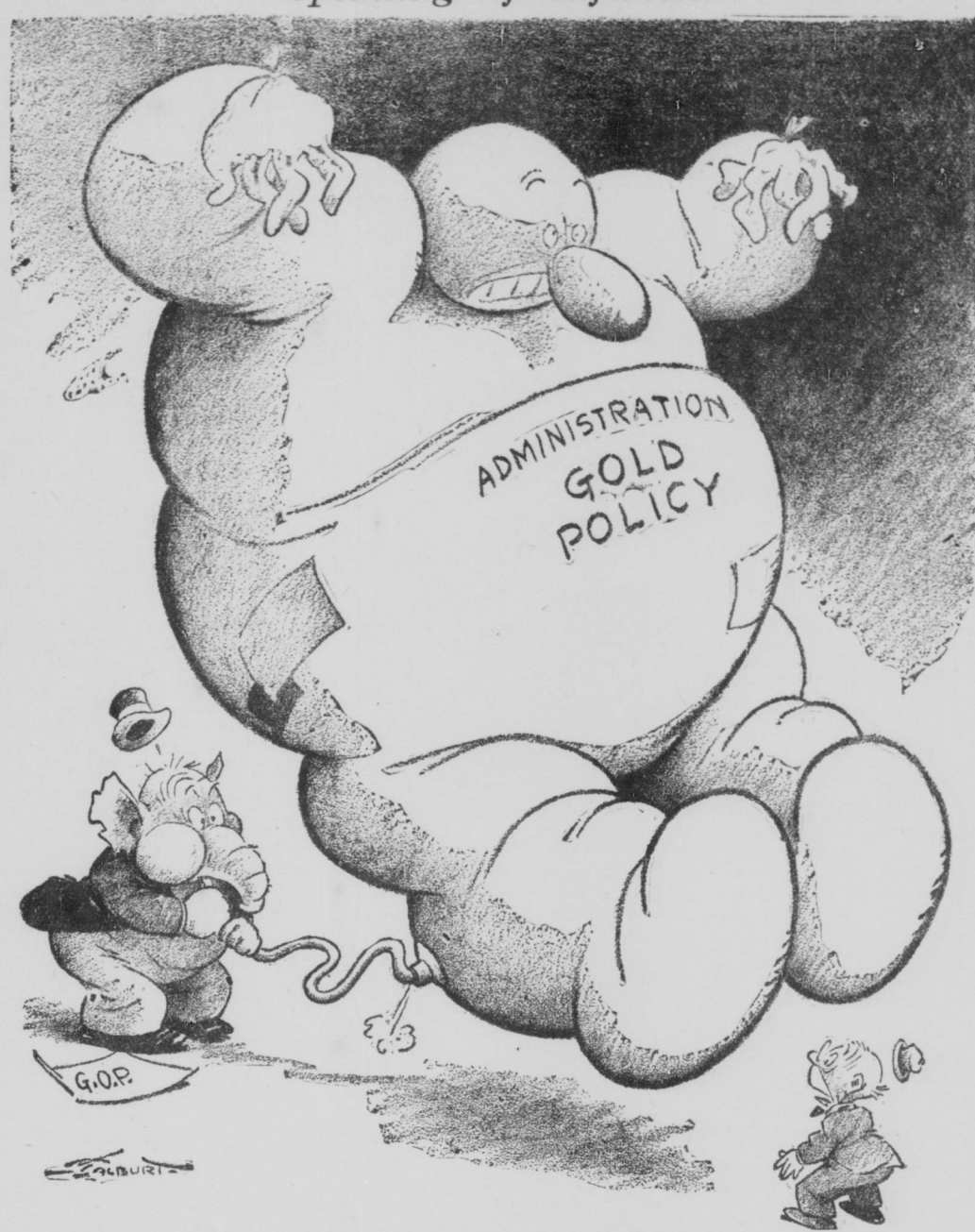
His attitude, as revealed by several specific expressions on the subject, justifies the conclusion that he is getting ready to peg the dollar and that speculation in gold was authorized for the sole purpose of indicating more clearly at what point it should be pegged.

ONE can doubt that this was necessary without setting sore, and one can criticize the adventure without losing faith in a President who has shown great courage and great capacity for leadership.

In this connection criticism is not only legitimate but desirable. Criticism, however, should never be made the basis of an antagonistic attitude toward an administration with whose objective none can quarrel, or of acts which increase the difficulties of an already difficult task.

If the last fourteen years have taught us nothing else, they should have taught us the difference between discussion and dynamite.

Speaking of Inflation



: : The Message Center : :

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

Free Country

By a Times Reader.

In regard to the person or persons who are so against the people who spend their money and time as they see fit in going to the Walkathon at the state fair-ground, some people would kick if they were playing football.

I have been out there several times and have failed to see any feeble minded or any one who looked like they needed padded walls or floors. Just because we want to go out there and enjoy ourselves at something different is no sign we are ready for the Central State hospital. There is always some one ready to squawk.

Let the ones who can't care to go out there stay away. There is enough out there without them. Let them attend to their own business and let other people do the same. This is a free country, or supposed to be, so if you don't care for the Walkathon, don't go to it. There is one law for the common man, and immunity for the captains of industry.

The federal government might take cognizance of this tax racket. The electrical users can group themselves and sue for a refund, which would amount to tens of thousands of dollars.

The people's only hope against utility rackets is to own them collectively, in fact all industry must be owned by the people eventually—why not now.

Privately owned industry has ruined the United States and enslaved millions of people. There is no control as yet placed on industry and commerce that would benefit the people. If there is, why then are we still in the economical abyss?

By WILD BILL.

The most expert job of sodding ever performed in Indiana is on new road 31 (North Meridian street) north of White river. The state highway commission has plastered a huge ninety-degree bank (belonging to some wealthy real estate owner) with sod.

It can be seen by taxpayers who roll by and crane their necks to look up at it. This grass is growing forty feet high up the bank and looks like a drop curtain in an Irish theater. Artistically, it vies with the Indiana murals at Chicago.

For years it has been thought that a sudden fright might produce grayness of the hair. It has been well recognized that nervous manifestations of one type or another also might be associated with falling of the hair from the head. Usual length of time from the shock to the loss of hair may be anywhere from a few days to a few weeks.

Another physician recently reported a case in which a woman, 49, had a serious fall during an epileptic

fall with safety razors, and the only additional expense will be the high scaffolding to be erected for the unemployed to use while shaving the grass. It would be dangerous to use a lawn mower unless attached to a balloon, as the lawn-mower would get out of control and fall down on the passing trucks and automobiles. Anyhow, we are drifting away from the machine age, and safety razors are not exactly machines.

Cy Foster, of Carmel, says the state is going to mow the grass with cosmic rays. He heard that down at the state conservation department.

By A Hoosier

Last Saturday noon, about forty men drew their \$12 each for twenty-four hours work at the South East street wood yards, and were they happy? Some had no shoes, others had no socks, others hadn't clothes enough on to wad a shotgun.

Monday morning, every one reported. Eighteen pairs of new shoes, new socks, overalls and gloves, were counted, and every one was happy.

Are there any human people left, or is it just politics, greed and graft? Where are Louis Markum and John Kirsh, our friends? How much has Mr. Book done? And in the name of our Lord, why were we put in the hands of the Chamber of Commerce?

Why, Mr. Engineers, are the basket-men not able to be good workmen? Well, I'll tell you why. When you sat down to your banquet table, did you get up with your stomach scraping your backbone? Have you tried to take \$240 for four of you to live on week in and week out? Sit some of the corn-mel in your brains. In place of feeding us chix fodder, give us a he-man's grub and we will do he-man's work. Watch your highways and find when the money goes out of Indianapolis. Well, will we have anything to be thankful for? I think not. But I still think God is in his heaven.

Daily Thought

We have lived in pleasure on the earth, and have been wanton; we have nourished our hearts, as in a day of slaughter.—James 5-5.

PLEASURE makes our youth inglorious, our age shameful.—Steele.

Hair Factors Are Hereditary

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

Editor of The American Medical Association, of Health, the Health Magazine.

of special virtue in restoring the hair, when hereditary factors have caused its disappearance.

Two Pittsburgh physicians recently made a study of a family in which the father had a streak of gray hair at one spot and patches of skin over his body which were without pigmentation.

There were two daughters in the family, one aged 5 and the other 4. At this very early age each of the children had developed a spot of gray in the hair of the head and had developed patches of skin without pigmentation.

For years it has been thought that a sudden fright might produce grayness of the hair. It has been well recognized that nervous manifestations of one type or another also might be associated with falling of the hair from the head. Usual length of time from the shock to the loss of hair may be anywhere from a few days to a few weeks.

Another physician recently reported a case in which a woman, 49, had a serious fall during an epileptic

fit. Four months after this fall the hair suddenly began to come out of her head, beginning at the top and around the temples, and within a few days her head was completely bald.

Fortunately, this type of baldness is not permanent. As the patient recovers his equilibrium, particularly if he is put to bed and permitted to lie quietly and is well fed, and if he is freed from any surrounding circumstances which might increase his nervousness, the hair returns rapidly.

This relationship of the nervous system to the hair growth, quality, and distribution is one of the reasons for the difficulty of evaluating satisfactorily any form of treatment applied to the hair.

It seems to be well established that the glands of the body are associated definitely in their functions with growth of hair. Nevertheless, these relationships have not been defined exactly.

It becomes necessary, therefore, to discount the possibility of glandular changes and the possibility of nervous influence in testing any remedy as to its effects on the growth of the hair.

Science

BY DAVID DIETZ
Scripture-Howard Science Editor

THE invention of nothing was the greatest invention of our present era. The introduction of this invention into Europe about 630 years ago was the turning point in a development without which the progress of modern science, industry and commerce would have been impossible.

Let us hasten to explain this Chestertonian paradox. By "nothing," we mean the zero or cipher of four arithmetical notation, the concept of a symbol to represent nothing.

The story of this intensely important symbol is only one of a number of fascinating tales told by Dr. Tobias Dantzig in "Number, the Language of Science," a revised edition of which has just been issued by Macmillan at \$2.50.

Civilizations rose and fell during the first 5,000 years of man's history. Each left behind a heritage of philosophy, religion, art and literature.

But in the field of arithmetic, there was, after 5,000 years, only "an inflexible numeration so crude as to make progress wellnigh impossible, and a calculating device so limited in scope that even elementary calculations called for the services of an expert."

THE counting device, still in use in rural districts of Russia and China, is the abacus or counting board. In one form, it consists of wooden beads strung on a row of parallel wires in a wooden frame.

Few people realize, Dr. Dantzig tells us, that the device was in common use throughout Europe only a few centuries ago.

If you want to realize what arithmetical calculations meant to a European citizen of the twelfth century, forget the moment, what you know about the Arabic numeration with its digits from "1" to "9," its "0" and its principle of position. By position we mean the convention by which the place of a digit indicates whether it stands for units, tens, hundreds, thousands, etc.

Now then, try and multiply the Roman numerals MCMXII and CLVII together. As Professor Dantzig says, "Computations which a child now can perform required then the services of a specialist, and what is now a matter of a few minutes meant, in the twelfth century, days of elaborate work."

OUR Arabic numerals really came from India. They were Indian numerals which the Arabs adopted in the tenth century, he tells us. At the beginning of the thirteenth century, these Indo-Arabic numerals were introduced into Italy.

You might think that the Arabic system would have been hailed at once. But instead, a battle began, a battle which lasted until the fifteenth century. The exponents of the abacus were unwilling to give it up and in some places laws were passed to prohibit the use of Arabic numerals.

"And as usual," Professor Dantzig says, "prohibition did not succeed in abolishing, but merely served to spread bootlegging."

Questions and Answers

Q—Did the Pope attend the last Eucharist Congress in Ireland?

A—No.

Q—Name the President of Mexico.

A—General Abelardo Rodriguez.

Q—Give the number of bank failures in the United States in 1930, 1931 and 1932, and the number of banks that had not been reopened in August, 1933, after the March moratorium.

A—Bank failures were as follows: 1930, 1,345; 1931, 2,298; 1932, 1,456. On Aug. 12, 1933, there remained 2,870 closed banks.

Q—Which breeds of hen produce the larger eggs?

A—In general, Brahmas, Cochins, Orpingtons and Black Jersey Giants.

Q—Who invented the printing press?

A—John Gaensfleisch, commonly known as John Gutenberg, generally is credited with the invention.

So They Say

I haven't time to die.—Dr. Charlotte Davenport of Philadelphia on her 109th birthday.

I like to knock over policemen.—Queen Mary of England.

The faith that other nations had in our military equipment in 1914 saved us from becoming involved in the World War.—President Edmund Schulthess of Switzerland.

Fan dances are just a fad, the answer to a world gone sex crazy.—Gilda Gray, former shimmy queen.

Simplicity

BY AUSTIN JAMES

I care not for the fancy clothes That mark the man of means. Nor would I walk the cluttered road Into eternity.

I'm dressed in humble homespun, With a patch upon my jeans, And I'm happy in my own Sincere simplicity.

Nor ne'er to me has come the call Of limousine or gold. No cavalier demi-tasse Is in my bill of fare. Just bread and gravy on my plate So simple to behave, And going places? Just a truck To snort a gettin' there.

They say that I am just a bum To lounge the whole day through, Conventions seem to have no place Nor claim nor hold on me. Bohemian perhaps I am In things I say and do, But that's the joy of livin' In a pure simplicity.

And those that trudge the tangled path Live jig-saw puzzle days, Confusion rules their minds and souls

Deplored to see. If they could live a one-track life And change to simple ways, Like me, I think, they'd be content

And love simplicity.