

**The Indianapolis Times**  
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Give Light and the  
People Will Find  
Their Own Way  
MONDAY, JULY 9, 1934.

**JUST SUPPOSE—**  
To get a real idea of what life under German Fascism is like, use your imagination and transplant the whole business to American soil.  
Pretend, that is, that we are laboring under Nazism and that the things that have happened in Germany of late have really happened over here. It may put a strain on your imagination, of course—but try it, and see what you get.  
You start by imagining that all political parties but the Democratic party have been forcibly suppressed. Herbert Hoover has been driven into exile; Henry Fletcher runs what is left of the Republican party from a safe haven in Mexico City. Ogden Mills is languishing in Leavenworth; Senator Borah has been shot.  
Congress is composed solely of party henchmen picked by Jim Farley; but that makes little difference, for it meets only when Mr. Roosevelt says it may, and it does exactly what he tells it to do.  
There won't be any fall elections; if there were, all the voter could do would be to make a blanket indorsement of all Democratic candidates, with a flock of Tammany thugs around to beat him up if he refused.  
The editor of your favorite newspaper prints an editorial suggesting that the NRA is somewhat less than perfect, and is immediately thrown in jail. You happen to remark that you think General Johnson is a flat tire, and the department of justice lugs you off to a concentration camp in Georgia.  
No public speaker, no editor, no magazine writer dares to suggest that Mr. Roosevelt is anything but the wisest President we ever have had.  
Then, to cap things properly, imagine that the Democrats have had an internal row, and that the President settles it by having Carter Glass, Huey Long, Bernard M. Baruch and Al Smith executed with only a semblance of a trial.  
All this makes a dizzy, nightmarish picture. Yet it is only a pale approximation of the reality in Germany today.  
Looking at it like that is a good mental exercise, for two reasons.  
First, it demonstrates how far we are—despite the wails of calamity-howlers—from anything resembling a Fascist dictatorship.  
Second, it shows how utterly precious the liberties of a democracy really are. Without them, life becomes grotesque and horrible. Their preservation is the greatest responsibility we can possibly have.

**HOW ABOUT IT?**  
TWO weeks ago, The Times asked the board of park commissioners to lay plans for a playground for the north side so that BY NEXT YEAR those children who live between Thirty-eighth street and the canal may have some place to play besides the streets.  
Jackie Joseph, president of the board, misinterpreted The Times' request. He said the board had no more money for new playgrounds and that, besides, north side children have big yards in which to play.  
Perhaps Mr. Joseph was taking his own case as an example. For his information there are persons residing on the north side who are in moderate circumstances, who have no big yards, and who do not send their children to summer camps.  
How about a playground for the north side by 1935, Mr. Joseph?

**A COMMENDABLE MOVE**  
GOVERNOR M'NUITT is proving his sincerity in regards to his prison problems. No weak-sistered, political commission did he choose to make a survey of Indiana's penal institutions, but a group of men who undoubtedly know more about American penology than any other experts in America.  
Warden Lewis E. Lawes and Sanford Bates are to attend the next meeting of the commission.  
This survey is the most forward step taken for improvement of Indiana's penal institutions in many a decade.  
To the Governor belong commendations.

**MR. DU PONT GOES BOOM!**  
MR. IRENEE DU PONT doubtless knows whether the Du Pont De Nemours Company is tied up with the so-called international armaments rings. He says it is not.  
But Mr. Du Pont ventures beyond the realm of what he knows in offering his opinion as to why people are concerned with the profits and practices of munitions makers. Of course, you can't object, because Mr. Du Pont as an American citizen has an inalienable right to talk through his hat.  
The Third-Internationale, says Mr. Du Pont, has inspired the attack on munitions manufacturers in order to weaken the defenses of capitalistic countries. Does Mr. Du Pont believe the Russian reds influenced that Hamiltonian disciple and preparedness advocate, Senator Vandenberg of Michigan, who was largely responsible for the senate munitions inquiry?  
Another group contributing to the crusade against munitions makers, says Mr. Du Pont, are "idealists" who have "a mistaken notion that preparedness is the cause of war." These "idealists," on the other hand, probably would not charge Mr. Du Pont with believing that armament competition promotes peace.  
The third group responsible for the attack, says Mr. Du Pont, are newspapers and magazines, trying "to sell copies by handing out to the public lurid reading."  
What an unholy conspiracy is disclosed: Communist revolutionaries, pacifist idealists and greedy capitalist publishers—all in league against the patriotic munitions makers!

**CAPITAL'S CHANCE**  
THIS week, under leadership of its new housing administrator, James A. Moffett, the government will launch its newest offensive against the depression.  
This attack differs from the great emergency spending projects of the New Deal. It calls for action less from Washington than from every hamlet, town and city of the nation. The ammunition for this drive is not a rain of public money, but of private money. The combatants are not government employees, but home-owners, contractors, bankers, building and loan companies, material men.  
The objective is to take the sector still in the enemy's hands, the heavy industries. The method is to loose the billions of private credit now frozen and put it to work renovating and rebuilding homes, making present homes more comfortable, decently rehousing our families. Normally we spend \$11,000,000,000 a year in construction. Now we're spending only \$3,000,000,000, and we're five years behind in normal building.  
The government's role under the new housing act is that of a big insurance firm. Renovation loans of \$2,000 or less are to be government-guaranteed up to 20 per cent, and new home mortgages are to be government-insured up to 80 per cent of the property's appraised value. In insuring mortgages and making the mortgage market once more attractive to capital the government is doing another great service—standardizing mortgages, with low interest rates and amortization features. This is a reform that has been needed for years.  
The big task, however, is private capital's. If this new movement is to succeed private initiative and confidence must be shown. Banks and other loaning services must accept on a wholesale scale these insured and standardized mortgage investments.  
Material men must follow the lead of the lumber dealers, reduce the prices of cement, steel and other building materials and seek to make up their profits from increased volume. Railroads must reduce their rates. Wage disputes must be minimized, a step made much easier by recent action of the union carpenters, bricklayers and electricians in making peace with sixteen other building trade crafts.  
And all the beneficiaries must join in "selling" the rehousing adventure to the public. Incidentally, we are glad to learn that Mr. Moffett plans an educational campaign rather than a barnstorming ballyhoo.  
Partisan critics have been charging the government with unduly invading private capital's bailiwicks. Here is private capital's chance to do its bit for its own recovery.

**SAVINGS GO UP**  
ONE of the most encouraging bits of news of the summer is the report by federal banking authorities of an almost unprecedented increase in the public's bank deposits since the end of last February.  
According to these figures, the public now has fully a billion dollars more in bank accounts than it had four months ago. Furthermore, it is stated that this represents a genuine gain in individual savings, since government deposits and deposits of banks in other banks are not counted in the total.  
At the close of 1929, bank deposits in the United States reached an all-time high of more than \$55,000,000,000. Through the depression they shrank steadily, falling as low as \$38,000,000,000 at the time of the 1933 bank holiday.  
Now they have risen to \$40,000,000,000; and while that figure is still far below the 1929 level, it is at least evidence of a change for the better in the general trend.

**WITHOUT CHANGING CLOTHES**  
TURNING from the honest doubts and fears of Senator Borah, Americans may find inspiration to renewed faith in their government from a speech by Donald R. Richberg, delivered in Ft. Worth.  
"Let all our faults and follies be admitted," said this able exponent of the New Deal. "Let all the weaknesses of democratic theory and practice be conceded or even exaggerated one hundred fold. Let the logic and wisdom of more closely knit and rigorously informed schemes of government be generously praised. Let the regimented ranks of black shirts, brown shirts and red shirts march and counter-march up and down the highways of the ancient world—and let us wish them well in their search for the goal they left behind them."  
"But let us at the same time thank God that when the hour struck and the leader came, the American people could be mobilized for public service, without any restraint upon freedom of speech or freedom of the press and without being forced to change their clothes or their ambitions or to swallow new ideas emulsified in castor oil. Nor was it necessary to seize or to maintain political control by the wholesale murder of political opponents."  
"Perhaps the democratic masses that follow their President along the new highways of the new world lack the apparent unity and power of the regimented ranks that march and counter-march in European capitals."  
"But we know they are marching forward in the good old American way, with their hearts in tune though their feet may be sometimes out of step, and that they have not given up the age old fight for liberty; but that they are still seeking, and that some day they will achieve, for themselves and by themselves, greater security and freedom than men have ever known before to realize the dreams and ambitions of their individual lives."

**THE HONEST FARMER**  
PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, signing the Frazier-Lemke bill to avert farm foreclosures, said:  
"I have sufficient faith in the honesty of the overwhelming majority of farmers to believe that they will not evade the payment of just debts."  
The President's judgment is given substantial support in a statement just issued by W. T. Myers, governor of the Farm Credit Administration. Says Mr. Myers:  
"More than 86 per cent of the instalments on Land Bank Commission loans, which generally have been made to the most heavily indebted farmers, which matured prior to June 1 were paid on or before they were due. Of those which are delinquent, two-thirds are for less than thirty days."  
"This shows that even the most heavily indebted farmers are acting in the highest good faith."

**Liberal Viewpoint**  
BY DR. HARRY ELMER BARNES  
HITLER and Mussolini are the playboys of Europe. Some doubt is expressed about the wisdom and solidity of the Hitler regime but there is a very general impression that Fascism in Italy has done wonders for the country and that the Italian economy is in a relatively stable and prosperous condition.  
This is a very important question, in the light of the fact that if the New Deal fails in this country we might have our own fling at Fascism. We may estimate our own possible prospects under this regime by investigating what it has done for Italy.  
On this subject there is a very striking article in Current History, by Mr. Hugh Quigley, entitled, "Fascism Fails Italy." Mr. Quigley is not a radical who wishes to expose Fascism. He is no John Strachey with a Communist thesis to support. Quite the contrary, he is a hard-boiled business man and statistical expert from Great Britain who knows Italian conditions on the basis of prolonged first-hand studies.  
The picture he presents differs sharply from the rosy accounts which most of us have become accustomed to accepting as facts. As he puts it: "The picture given by Fascist Italy on the economic side bears little resemblance to what has been described so sedulously by protagonists of the Mussolini regime."  
There has been a decisive and persistent decline in the volume of currency in circulation from 21,000,000,000 lira in 1925 to 12,700,000,000 lira at the beginning of March, 1934. Bankruptcies have increased from 1,896 in 1921 to 21,308 in 1933. Wages have declined steadily so that "under Fascism labor is worse paid than in almost any other European country." Unemployment has grown until at the beginning of 1934 the number of unemployed workers was estimated as between 1,800,000 and 2,000,000.  
Much has been made of the fact that Mussolini was able to balance the budget, but since 1930 this has not been true. The deficit for the fiscal year 1933-4 will be more than 8,000,000,000 lira. At the same time, the national debt of Italy, both long term and floating, has increased greatly, while the national income has dropped from over 100,000,000,000 lira in 1929 to less than 60,000,000,000 lira.  
This has been paralleled by crushing taxation. Something more than half the total national income is taken over by the state in the form of taxation. Mr. Quigley summarizes this phase of the economic picture as follows:  
"The net effect of deflation has been, consequently, a reduction in the total productive effort of the country, a reduction in the national income, a reduction in wages, a reduction in export trade, a rapid increase in bankruptcies, a rapid increase in taxation and in the long-term national debt."  
Contrary to the general impression, Mussolini has not increased the total production of Italian industries. Ever since 1926 there has been a steady decline in the output of coal, lead ore, iron and steel, chemicals and silk.  
Mussolini was able to increase markedly the home production of wheat, but the net result of this achievement only was to create a great stock of unsold wheat and to increase the volume of agricultural unemployment.  
Trade and commerce has been hit an equally hard blow. The volume of foreign trade has shrunk from 44,500,000,000 lira in 1925 to 13,500,000,000 lira in 1933, a drop to less than a third of the 1925 total.  
Mussolini has attempted to compensate for this by building up a closed economic unit in Italy and trying to found Italian prosperity upon home consumption.  
This has failed. Though the cost of living has dropped, wages have dropped even more sharply and unemployment has increased. Therefore the total purchasing power of the Italian masses and their standard of living has declined.

**Capital Capers**  
BY GEORGE ABELE  
LILY PONS, the opera singer, has received six pairs of shoes through the courtesy of the dashing Argentine diplomat, Don Eduardo (Rubio) Vivor.  
The beautiful Lily was recently in Buenos Aires and visited the bootmaker of Don Eduardo, who prides himself on being the best-shod envoy in Washington. He has, in fact, more than twenty pairs and is expecting a new consignment of footwear this week.  
When the shoemaker learned that the beautiful lady who had visited his shop wanted six pairs of shoes sent to the United States, he remarked:  
"I have a good friend in Washington and I can send the shoes to you, via diplomatic channels."  
So Rubio has received the shoes and forwarded them to Mlle. Pons in New York.  
Note: Rubio, whose collection of shoes is really noteworthy, is the author of the remark: "If the shoe pinches—don't wear it."  
TALL, black-mustached Prince Fumimaro Konoye, president of the house of peers of Japan, who recently was feted in Washington, has hastily curtailed his good-will tour of the United States and reports are current he may become premier.  
The prince attracted much attention in the capital—for three reasons. In the first place, he holds one of the influential positions in Japan. Secondly, he is well over 6 feet—a most unusual height of a Japanese. Thirdly, he speaks perfect English and made a point of learning every one's viewpoint from President Roosevelt to minor American officials.  
It was whispered while his highness was in town that he might be made premier. Yesterday this step appeared more than possible. No comment was forthcoming from the Japanese embassy—but various persons, including state department officials and diplomats, are following the news with interest.  
BLAND, good-humored Bill Culbertson, former ambassador to Chile, was a host at a big week-end party at his newly acquired estate in the vicinity of Charming, Pa.  
He gave a hot dog picnic on the rim of his swimming pool and served cocktails and beer as liquid refreshment. Washington diplomats who enjoyed his hospitality are agreed the party was a huge success. A South American envoy referred to the picnic as a "perro caliente"—which is literal Spanish for "hot dog."  
Coolest of diplomats who attended the affair was Mr. Eugene Kevin Scallan, from the legation of South Africa.  
Secretary Scallan, clad in a fashionably cut bathing suit, contentedly munched "perro caliente" and drank beer.  
A young lady was informed that Eugene hailed from South Africa. She gazed at him wonderingly.  
"Oh, my," she exclaimed. "I'll bet that must be the hottest country in the world!"  
She was informed that Capetown is less warm than Washington and that Gene would like very much to be in cool South Africa right now.  
A beggar with two automobiles was discovered in New York. Those Wall Street brokers would stop to anything to hold on to their fortunes.  
The man who had to be told to mind his own business now would be glad if he had a business to mind.  
While President Roosevelt is on the high seas, isn't he afraid the Nazi or the Republicans will grab control of the United States?  
Russia is going to be recognized by Spain—at least that part of Spain that can be recognized, itself.



**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.)

**QUESTIONS ABOUT RELIEF WORKERS**  
By E. F. Maddox.  
I ask the Governor of Indiana whether he has given investigators from the trustee's office the authority to deny relief work to citizens and to remove workers from government jobs for such small grievances as not keeping a budget of how they spend the money received for their labor on government projects?  
I know of one man who has been rejected and removed from his job for no other reason than failing to keep a budget when ordered to do so by one of the investigators.  
After being told to keep a budget or be put back on the basket system, this worker made a special investigation among his fellow workers on the same kind of government relief work, and found that none was keeping a budget.  
Now, Governor, you should see that all workers are treated alike. If one worker is forced to obey a rule, while others are not, it looks like there is discrimination and unfairness somewhere.  
Does the Governor approve and support such regimentation of relief workers? Does he intend to let the investigators threaten and remove workers from government work at their own discretion?  
I hope the Governor will remember that workers still can vote.  
The Times has the reputation of being a friend of the workers. Here are some questions which I would like to see answered.  
Is there a government rule that all relief workers are required to keep a budget of how they spend their government checks?  
Is failure to keep a budget sufficient grounds for removal from government work?  
Are investigators given power to remove workers at their own discretion?  
**PREDICTS FASCISM OR COMMUNISM CHOICE**  
By Charles Brown.  
While listening to the efforts of many Fourth of July celebrants, my mind naturally reverted to that historic date of 1776, when our forefathers decided that taxation without representation is unjust. It is no hardship to visualize Bunker Hill, Ticonderoga and Valley Forge. Every report of cannon crackers recalls the order, "Don't shoot until you can see the whites of their eyes," thereby being sure that you get your man.  
Now, by the stretch of imagination, let us jump to the present. The NRA, Section 7-A, says workers shall have right to collectively bargain and organize in unions of their own choosing. The bosses say that is all right so long as you join a company union, hence "taxation without representation."  
Many workers have lost lives and liberty trying to get what our forefathers won from King George.  
Labor, which composes 90 per cent of the population of America, does not have any representatives in the law making bodies. All represent capital and all they do is try to reform it so capital won't be hurt financially. For instance, your taxes which are paid direct at the court-house are only a drop in the bucket to what is paid in the purchase of meat, tobacco, cigarettes, autos, tires, and parts; again, taxation without representation.  
The bill of rights gives authority to alter or abolish this set-up. A historic martyr said that to appeal to "one's patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel."  
Karl Marx said, "Workers of the world, unite. You have nothing but your chains to lose and a world to gain."

**Money Trust Declared America's Ruler**  
By a Times Reader.  
Capone was a piker when it comes to making money. Dillinger raids look like Sunday school stuff, compared to the racket under which our most honored profession makes and creates money.  
Exchange, whether it be paper tickets or silver coins, must be free from private monopoly to insure a free flow of trade. The creation of the exchange medium must be solely an attribute of the sovereign. Whoever creates currency exercises, or usurps the sovereign power. Our Constitution restricts this power to the congress.  
The people never can be free, even in a democracy, when the power to create currency is removed from the sovereign, by an abdication of this constitutional power by congressional action.  
The delegation of the power to create currency to privately owned banks, whether that currency be created by bank book-keeping or the buying of federal bonds is the biggest sell-out any congress could perpetrate. The private money trust is America's real dictator.  
Chiseling in on the creation of money dwarfs any NRA chiseling to insignificance. Public credit belongs to the public. The public does not need to buy that which is its own, or pay tribute to private setups that may have chiseled themselves into the people out of this sovereign power.  
This brazen usurpation of sovereignty has created a millstone around our necks by loading the American people with a national debt of nearly thirty billions of dollars and a state and local public debt almost equal to the national. Yes, it's orthodox to keep on digging us through the private banking system. But some day that debt will be like the reparations—as dead as a dodo bird. We are in the mess we are in largely because of this hocus pocus of selling to the government the currency of the land. The money changers have not been driven from the temple by the New Deal. We need another Andrew Jackson.  
The capitalist system is decaying. The parting of the ways is at hand. We are going to fascism of the type now in effect in Germany or as the other alternate, dictatorship of the workers similar to the only successful dictatorship now in existence in the Soviet Union. Take your choice, fascism or communism.  
**NRA GIVES ONLY TEMPORARY AID**  
By A Reader.  
Harry Elmer Barnes disclosed the inherent weakness of the New Deal to cope with the economic breakdown. Whistling in the dark optimistically, hoping to see the miracle of prosperity, is like going toward a mirage. The longer you trek, the more dismal the disillusionment.  
Perhaps putting splints on the broken legs of capitalism, is all that the chief surgeon can do at this time.  
However, students of economic science know that these repairs the New Deal is making are only temporary, stop-gap palliatives.  
The impossibility of creating real prosperity by the competitive profit system, has been demonstrated by the four years of ruthless price slaughter and now by code monopoly prices. The system lives on the "gyp" process.  
**DESCRIBES CONDITIONS AT FILLING STATIONS**  
By a Union Attendant.  
Employers who deplore the organizing of labor unions, in most instances have no one to blame but themselves.  
Shortly after the adoption of the NRA, service station attendants formed an organization and became affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. Immediately, the major oil companies began forming company unions to combat the efforts of our organization. However, our organization has grown by leaps and bounds and is today recognized as one of the strongest and most intelligent labor unions in the city.  
Why did we organize? Because it became increasingly apparent that we never would obtain a square deal unless we banded together in a close-knit organization.  
Here are some of the conditions we have to contend with. We are forced to work seven days a week, year after year with no vacation, no Saturday or Sunday off, no sick leave, no leisure time whatever.  
We are forced to pay out of our own pockets for the shrinkage of gasoline which at almost any station in the city will run \$10 to \$50 a month.  
Hot gasoline poured into under-

have liquor taxes, too, some of them virtually as high as Indiana's.  
Where are these profits going? Into the pockets of the drug stores and the wholesale druggists who control them, I suspect. Why doesn't your paper expose the druggists' liquor racket? Your subscribers would be thankful.  
**Editor's Note—A story on the Indianapolis liquor situation appeared in Saturday's paper.**  
**DOUBT'S EFFICIENCY OF NEW LABOR BOARD**  
By M. E. Alexander Jr.  
The celerity and tranquility that the new labor board, created and empowered by the newest labor bill of the President, has shown in settling the longshoremen's strike is gratifying. The west coast's labor conflict is timely for it is speedily debunking any cherished notions that the new labor bill, which is entirely different from the Wagner labor bill, will tend to clarify the situation in regard to employer and employee relations.  
While the bill does create the power to establish arbitration boards which can investigate issues and hold elections to determine employee representatives, it provides no mechanism for enforcing the results of such an election, and it has been indisputably shown that Section 7A of the NRA is not helpful in such a situation.  
In fact, the status of labor, its organization and representation is more befuddled than ever before. This fact is becoming apparent and the passage of such a labor bill makes the fact still more clear.  
I believe this clouding of the situation by the administration is intentional and that it is evidence of its demagoguery. It is just a carrot for one of the horses that Mr. Roosevelt admits he is riding and hopes to continue to ride until it gets wise. The horse I refer to is the great mass of truly progressive thinkers of the United States who wish once more to see a large and secure middle class which at the present time is diminishing and will continue to decrease under the administration's two-horse program.  
**"CAPITAL CAPERS" DON'T SUIT HIM**  
By G. L.  
It is natural that a good many readers of The Indianapolis Times agree with V. D. V. in his letter in the Message Center of July 5 about the column, "Capital Capers."  
This article daily describes a company of debauching morons, dudes and sheiks. The masses are too serious-minded to read about such idling and drinking loafers in these strenuous times and hope to have something more worth while.  
**EIGHTEEN**  
By M. C. W.  
His eyes are so clear and blue, He stands over six feet two— He is sweet and never bad, A mischievous, lovable lad.  
Surprising the depth of meaning in answer to my gleaning: Some nights he sits beside me And talks till the hours grow wee.  
I treasure those talks of ours— His thoughts and hopes and powers, I pray he may find the way In to all his hopes, day by day.  
So much expected of him Even as a baby—my eyes dim— Little boy, chubby and sweet I loved to bathe, kiss little feet.  
Now he's eighteen, so big and tall— He's gone away to school this fall; Proudly points to mustache growing— Oh, my little boy—where are you going!