

The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

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Member of United Press
Scripps-Howard Newspaper
Enterprise Association, Newspaper
Information Service and Au-
diency Bureau of America
Owned and published daily
(except Sunday) by The In-
dianapolis Times Publishing
Company, 2125 West Market
Street, Indianapolis, Ind.
Price in Marion county, 2
cents a copy; elsewhere, 3
cents—delivered by carrier, 12
cents a month; postage paid
in Indiana, 33 cents a
year; outside of Indiana, 65
cents a month.Give Light and the
People Will Find
Their Own Way

FRIDAY, AUG. 3, 1934.

HITLER TAKES ANOTHER TITLE

TOO much is being made of the fact that Hitler has merged the presidency with the chancellorship with himself holding the office thus created. There is probably little change in Hitler's actual power of dictatorship on that score.

It is said that the aged president was at least a moderating influence operating during Hitler's June "purging," which involved the killing not only of Nazis in disfavor but also of some of the old marshal's closest friends. Nor was any restraining influence evident in Germany's part in the Austrian barbarity.

Hindenburg's share in the actual government of Germany disappeared when his enemy Hitler seized power.

Control of Hitler comes from different quarters: First, from giant Ruhr industrialists who helped to raise Nazism to power in order to destroy Socialism and the republic. Second, from extremists in the Nazi ranks who sometimes lead Hitler the leader. These two groups, financial masters and Nazi extremists, now are pulling in opposite directions.

But even more potent than these influences is the force of events. Hitler is retreating before facts.

He had to modify the Nazi terror against the Jews because of a growing international boycott and outraged world opinion. Now he has to cover up the tracks of his Austrian agents because virtually all Europe has united against him. He has forced the enmity of Russia, brought the suspicious France and Italy together, and provoked the London government to declare that England's defensive frontier henceforth is the Rhine.

He can not find friends among the nations and he can not feed the people at home. The Hitler dictatorship is likely to be the most colossal fiasco in modern history.

Whether Hitler can retreat fast enough and far enough to save his hide is the question.

ANY OLD IRON FOR SALE?

WHILE drawing comfort from the belated and not too tight embargo on the shipment of munitions to the Chaco jungle, we may well cast a skeptical eye upon the reversal of scrap iron exports.

Bolivians and Paraguayans need finished arms to use in slaughtering each other, but to industrialized nations, raw products are the sinews of war.

Persons who think that scrap iron is merely something the junkman collects in alleys, will be surprised to learn that industrial nations at war or preparing for war are excellent customers of our scrap iron merchants.

It is something more than a coincidence that scrap iron exports from the United States in the first half of this year set an all-time record, while the same six months saw an increase in the tons of Chilean nitrates at war or preparing for war are excellent customers of our scrap iron merchants.

Japan, quarreling with Russia and China, bought more than half of our scrap iron exports. Italy, whose troops are on the Austrian border, bought almost twice as much as in the first six months of last year. England and Poland also bought more.

When the senate committee investigating the munitions traffic get around to it, they may find dragon's teeth in the scrap iron pile.

A MARKET AND A PLAN

MANY believe the appearance of new inventions with a wide demand, such as the automobile and radio, brings an end to depressions.

Whatever the merits of that belief, America has an opportunity to expand the use of some old inventions, to increase business, employment and ease of living.

The department of commerce report on housing in sixty-three cities shows that only 389,974 out of 2,213,955 residential units enumerated have mechanical refrigeration. In sixty-three cities, there should be a market for two million mechanical refrigerators.

At the same time, the Tennessee Valley Authority announces that its low-priced refrigerators are ready for the national market. A four cubic foot box retails for \$72.50 to \$75. They are produced on EHAFA—Electric Home and Farm Authority—specifications by nationally known appliance manufacturers. They may be sold under the TVA emblem in cities where the operating utility offers a rate schedule approved by the TVA.

The government has pointed out the market and the plan.

Refrigerators are only a starter. In the Tennessee valley water heaters and electric ranges already are on sale and other appliances are being designed by EHFA engineers.

If capital and the utilities co-operate, the nation can get increased business, employment and mechanical service.

ROOSEVELT'S RETURN

BACK from his deep-sea vacation, President Roosevelt welcomed home as enthusiastically as he was received abroad. Wherever the Roosevelt smile flashed, it spread good will. And he returns, having made neighboring republics more friendly and territories more loyal by his assurances that American imperialism is dead.

The President's cordial welcome home is due in part to the unprecedented popularity of the man, who is respected even by his critics for his courage in facing problems perhaps as difficult as any that ever challenged human solution.

More particularly the President's friends are glad to see him back because things have not gone so well in his absence. When he embarked five weeks ago there was much talk of

how business would take advantage of the "breathing spell" and pull itself out of the mire. Instead, business has stalled.

A year ago the recovery program outwardly manifested itself in ballyhoo and frenzied emergency action. But the program now has reached a stage where something more than a steam calliope is needed to pull it to the top of the hill.

The President returns to the task of salvaging the NRA, perhaps by combining it with the federal trade commission, establishing a new and permanent federal agency to keep the cannibals from devouring honest competitors and to help the workers get steady jobs and a fairer share of industry's earnings.

There is the yet-to-be-achieved promise of effective co-ordination of the multiple New Deal agencies, and the removal of artificial barriers to recovery raised by short-sighted political and business interests.

NEW LAW, SAME PROBLEM

THE federal government is getting set to make a new drive against bootleggers and rum-runners.

That statement seems to put the clock back several years. It smacks of the old days when we took it for granted that the eighteenth amendment was here to stay. But it comes from Washington in the summer of 1934, more than a half year after the amendment was buried.

Details of this new drive have a strangely familiar sound. The alcohol tax unit of the internal revenue bureau is to be expanded. Coast guard forces all along the Atlantic coast are to be strengthened to strike at a new "rum row."

The new liquor bottle and label regulations will be enforced with all possible strictness. Lowering of the liquor tariff and tax rates is discussed, so that the price of legal whisky may be cut to meet illegal competition.

The American people had two chances to make mistakes in connection with the liquor traffic—and they took both of them.

First of all, we more or less took it for granted that by making the traffic illegal we would solve the whole, age-old liquor problem.

We tried that and it didn't work. After less than a decade and a half of prohibition we found that we had simply hopped out of the frying pan into the fire. Prohibition brought certain benefits, but it brought such flagrant abuses that the amendment was finally ousted from the Constitution by an overwhelming vote.

And then came our second mistake.

Just as we had assumed originally that outlawing the traffic automatically would solve the problem, so now our child-like faith led us to believe that legalizing the traffic would do it. In the first instance we thought that all we had to do was pass a law; in the second, we thought that all we had to do was repeal it.

But the liquor problem, like death and taxes, seems to be inescapable. It was a knotty one under prohibition, and it is almost equally knotty under repeal. And it is just about as far from solution now as it ever was.

We have had altogether too much emotionalism on both sides of the fence. As a result, we have had nothing remotely resembling a cool, scientific study of the problem which might show us the best line of attack.

Unless we get something of that kind, we are apt to find that we return to the drawbacks of an open liquor traffic without abolishing those of prohibition.

COSTLY EXPERIMENT

THE problems of the naval architect are many and varied. A new revelation of their toughness comes in recent news from Japan.

Japanese naval designers several years ago adopted a policy of making ships of limited tonnage more powerful than any other ships of the same size by giving them extra allowances of armament and engines. Thus a small destroyer of 820 tons, the Sawarabi, was given three 4.7-inch guns—heavier weapons than any other fleet ever put on so small a vessel—and an even smaller destroyer, the Tomozuru, carried three 5-inch guns.

But these experiments failed to work. The ships were made top-heavy. Both the Sawarabi and the Tomozuru capsized and sank.

And now the Japanese navy is rebuilding many of its newest ships, cutting down on gun-power to increase stability.

The designers would have revolutionized naval warfare if their scheme had been sound—but it wasn't, and it cost Japan millions of dollars and the lives of several hundred sailors to find it out.

FIGURES STILL HIGH

THE unemployment index is probably as good a barometer of the state of the nation's health as there is. Various figures on unemployment are available, and most of them are different; but they generally agree that while we have taken a substantial bite out of our list of jobless men, we still have a long way to go.

Recent figures from the national industrial conference board, for example, show that the total number of unemployed workers in June this year was 7,834,000. This is a decline of 5,269,000, or just less than 40 per cent, from the peak of March, 1933—but it is also an increase of 89,000, or a little more than 1 per cent, from the figures for May, 1934.

We are certainly a great deal better off than we were when the depression was at its worst. On the other hand, the summer slump seems to be on, and at the moment unemployment is increasing instead of decreasing. The figures contain both encouragement and discouragement.

PROMISING FIGURES

ALTHOUGH the customary "summer slump" in employment seems to be visiting us this year, the employment picture as a whole is slowly but surely improving.

Witness the fact that in May and June more men left the civilian conservation corps to accept private employment than during any previous two months since the corps was created.

In case you're interested in exact figures, 10,028 CCC men found jobs in private industry during May, and 10,286 followed suit in June.

All this, to be sure, is only a small drop in a big bucket. But the figures are valuable as straws in the wind. Slowly, but surely, things are opening up for these young men. May the present trend continue!

Liberal Viewpoint

BY DR. HARRY ELMER BARNES

HISTORY is easy, but prophecy is far more difficult and hazardous. One can narrate readily the course of events which brought Dollfuss inevitably to his fate. It is not so simple a matter to predict the fate of Austria and of Europe, insofar as they may hinge on the fall of Dollfuss and a Nazi victory in Austria.

A Nazi Austria probably would mean for that country inevitable economic decline, ultimate collapse and the establishment of some kind of radical government, presumably Communist. Its fate probably will closely parallel that of Germany.

With Germany in a desperate economic and financial situation, the annexation of the even less fortunate Austria will not be likely to help matters or postpone the evil day of reckoning. What it will mean to the world if Germany and Austria go Communist is too remote and too complicated to warrant intelligent comment.

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HOW the Dollfuss debacle and the triumph of

Nazism in Austria would affect European politics and peace depends very largely upon the attitude of Italy. Mussolini is the moving spirit in European dictatorial rule. Hungary is only too eager to get a hint from Italy that a frank dictatorship would be agreeable to Mussolini, and Bulgaria would join in with gusto.

This would permit Mussolini to throw across Europe a most impressive Fascist cordon—Italy, Germany, Austria, Hungary and Bulgaria. If England remains on the sidelines, as she will be likely to do for a while, this Fascist bloc would offer effective resistance to France, the Little Entente (Romania, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia) and Poland.

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As to Dollfuss, even a charitably inclined commentator will be likely to agree that the observations of the editor of the New Republic are fair and conclusive.

Chancellor Dollfuss of Austria will go down in history as one of the arch fiends of the class war. Nothing ever can wipe out the memory of the armed attacks on the workers in Vienna, Linz and other cities, the shattering with six-inch howitzers of apartments full of women and children—apartments that were models of housing and had replaced some of the worst slums in the world."

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IF the European lineup should follow this general pattern, it would be ominous for the peace of the world. It would mean that Europe will be divided into two armed camps as it was before 1914. It would need only a sharp diplomatic clash to set off hostilities as in 1914.

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Capital Capers

BY GEORGE ABELL

CAPABLE Mr. Freitas-Valle, the new Brazilian Charge d'Afaires, has flabbergasted diplomatic colleagues in Washington by actually addressing a conference in New York without a carefully typed speech.

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OUTSIDER DISCUSSES DOLLARS AND DEBTS

BY A. W. M.

Regarding your "Dollars and Debts" editorial of July 30, it is a poor rule that won't work both ways. I am neither a farmer nor a laborer, so I am on the outside looking in.

You visualize the national debt in terms of bushels of wheat as of March, 1933, at 49 cents a bushel, and July, 1934, at 87 cents a bushel.

John Laborer got 40 cents an hour then and now, if and when he had a job. His hour in 1933 would buy more than four-fifths of a bushel of wheat and this month his hour would buy less than half a bushel, so to him the debt is not twenty-seven billions of dollars, but around fifty billions, using your own comparison.

There are quite a few John Laborers and don't forget this—John Farmer always can kill an old rooster and pull a mess of turnips, but John Laborer can't eat city sidewalks.

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DISCUSSES ALTERNATIVES FOR WORKING CLASS

BY Station Attendant

The writer knows he can do one of three things:

He can quit his job, seek another and failing to find it become an object of charity. The writer can do this, but won't. He can join a union, and he has done so. He can demand, through his union, that his fellow employees and he be permitted to bargain with their employer collectively—a promise of the NRA—and further, to determine, by vote, whether the union shall be within the company for which they work or become part of a national organization.

Through the union the writer and his fellow workers can demand a square deal and not granted it, he will strike. If he strikes, he will, in all probability, become supplanted by some sycophantic scab who will be protected on his job by armed militiamen.

If, after all reasoning fails, he attempts his goal by justifiable force, he will be beaten, cowed and eventually driven away. He can, then, go home and look into the faces of his wife and two children with the senseless stare of a flogged peon. And this will be called communism.

The question is, when will the term be regarded in its eternally truthful light?

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RAISES EFFORT FOR CLEANER STREAMS

BY M. W. Dallas

The Crossroads Rod and Gun Club wishes to go on record as heartily endorsing your splendid effort to combat pollution of Indiana's streams, not only for the benefit of better fishing, but more important, for improved sanitary conditions.

Nature has done her best in this great state of ours by making her beauties as impressive as may be found anywhere. It is through the selfishness and carelessness of a minority which, in many cases, has spoiled the natural beauty.

If