

The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

ROY W. HOWARD President
LUDWELL DENNY Editor
EARL D. BAKER Business Manager



Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, Newspaper Enterprise Association, Newspaper Information Service and Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214-220 W. Maryland-st., Indianapolis, Ind. Price in Marion County, 3 cents a copy; delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week. Mail subscription rates in Indiana, 65 cents a month; outside of Indiana, 65 cents a month.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1936.

JUST COMMON SENSE

BY all rules of political logic the Kerr-Coolidge bill ought to have become law long ago instead of knocking around Congress for two and a half years.

It contains a drastic policy toward criminal aliens, a lenient policy toward aliens of good character, and is designed to save the taxpayers' money.

Yet the bill meets one delay after another and thousands of criminal aliens at present beyond the reach of deportation laws continue to infest American cities and fill American jails; while at the same time some 2800 law-abiding aliens live in terror of a deportation which Federal officials have pronounced unjust but beyond their power to prevent.

If Congress passes the bill in the next few weeks, before deportation proceedings for this last group are actually carried out, it will save the cost of shipping these men and women across the seas and the cost of supporting some 4000 dependents when the family breadwinners are taken away.

At the same time it will make possible the deportation of some 20,000 criminal aliens and reduce the nation's annual crime bill by a considerable amount.

It will open the way for leniency toward only those aliens who pass the strictest tests of good character and have families in this country. The number will necessarily be small, not more than a thousand a year judging by experience of the past three years. Those permitted to remain will be aliens who would have a legal right to re-enter the country, anyhow. The bill simply proposes to save the cost of transporting them to Europe and to save them the cost of return tickets. It would seem to be the plainest kind of common sense to take such action.

FASCISM CROSSES THE ATLANTIC

FASCISM has made its bow in the Americas, specifically in Paraguay, which boasts an unhappy population of 850,000. The overthrow of President Ayala by the army in a "liberating revolution" has resulted in the first effort to set up a totalitarian state in the western hemisphere.

It is not surprising, as much as it is to be deplored, Paraguay has barely come through the long, bloody and expensive Chaco War with Bolivia.

All the grief, economic and psychological, that war brings fell upon this tiny population. None escaped. Economic conditions were in such a state that the government was unable to cope with the rising storm of protest, and the demands for action brought the inevitable conclusion—dictatorship.

It was the same in many respects in Germany and before that in Italy. The refusal of a democracy to face facts and eradicate evils is the food upon which Fascism breeds.

Manifestations of Fascism can be found in the major South American countries. Peru has Black Shirts. Chile is said to have 50,000 uniformed Fascists. Brazilian Green Shirts claim a membership of 200,000. Argentina has a half dozen Fascist groups and a brand of German Nazism has also raised its head in several of our sister republics.

Democratic government, above all others, has the capacity for pacific self-reform. It demands, however, conscientious and intelligent expression. Indifference results in an ever-increasing crop of evils which, recognized too late, are summarily met with the mailed fist.

Other American republics with pretensions to democracy may see in Paraguay a lesson and a warning.

"HORRIBLE EXAMPLE"

LIKE its \$100,000,000 shelterbelt plan, the Administration's reforestation program is being permitted to go by default.

Under the original plan, denuded acres have been bought in various states and placed under the Forest Service.

But after congressmen from these states obtained an amendment to the agriculture appropriation bill calling for \$25,000,000 to continue this policy, the Democratic leadership knocked it out.

All of which is part of the election-year economy move.

The \$25,000,000 was added in Committee of the Whole. But in the House proper, Speaker Byrns and the majority leadership rallied enough support to remove the amendment, 47 to 113.

Congressmen whose states will suffer most from the halting of such land purchases announced they would seek reinsertion of the amendment in the Senate, but the task appears hopeless.

Rep. Crow (D., Ind.) has appealed to President Roosevelt, Secretary Wallace and Budget Director Bell to get the \$25,000,000 somewhere and carry on.

In letters to the three, he pointed out that \$12,000,000 was appropriated last session to launch the program, and said that "to curtail the work at this time would make the Administration look ridiculous in these communities."

He cited Indiana as a sort of "horrible example." Here a program calling for purchase of 800,000 eroded acres for Federal forests was announced. These forests were to be in four separate areas in the state, and 35,000 acres have been purchased, a few thousand acres in each area.

But the acquired tracts have no continuity, and if the program is abandoned it will mean a patchwork of almost meaningless Federal holdings.

"WHEN HITLER SPEAKS PEACE—"

"SEEMINGLY the entire world today is predicting another great war," Roy W. Howard said last week, interviewing Russia's dictator at the Kremlin in Moscow. "If it proves inevitable, when Mr. Stalin, do you think it will come?"

"It is impossible to say," replied Mr. Stalin. "It may come very unexpectedly. Nowadays wars are not declared. They simply start."

"Should war come, Mr. Stalin, where is it most likely to break out? Where are the war clouds more menacing, in the East or in the West?"

"In my opinion there are two focal points of danger—one in the Far East in the zone of Japan and the other in Europe in the zone of Germany."

"It is difficult to say which is the more menacing war danger. They both exist and both are smoldering. Compared to either of these the Italian-Ethiopian conflict is an episode."

"For the moment, perhaps, the situation in the

Far East is more menacing, but the center of danger may shift to Europe. Evidence of this was Herr Hitler's recent interview in a Paris paper in which his statement, though pacific in terminology, carried with it threats against both France and the Soviet Union. It is symptomatic that even when Hitler speaks peace he can not dispense with threats."

Three days later, the "center of danger" shifted. Herr Hitler, speaking before the Reichstag, offered to Europe a new peace plan at the very moment German troops goose-stepped into the Rhineland in violation of two existing peace treaties.

HOOVER HAS A GOOD IDEA

FORMER President Hoover suggests a good amendment to the VanNuys bill. This measure, passed by the Senate and now before the House, would forbid an employer or his agent to use fear or intimidation to influence an employee's vote in a Federal election.

Why not enlarge the bill, asks Mr. Hoover, by applying the same ban to any Federal official or any one on the staff of PWA or WPA who might try to influence the ballot of a subordinate or of a person or relief?

We rise to second the Hoover amendment. If the VanNuys bill is to become a law, it should be applicable to all forms of political coercion, whatever the source.

But whether the bill, even so amended, should become a law at all is another question. With the purpose of the bill we are in complete sympathy. It is designed to curb a reprehensible practice which became widespread in the days of Mark Hanna, and has been all too common in every election since—the practice of employers threatening to close their shops and discharge employees if so-and-so is elected or if such-and-such a party comes into power.

This strategy was employed widely in the election of 1932, but not very effectively. If the threats of leaders in the National Association of Manufacturers are to be taken at face value, it will be used again this year. But probably with even less effect. For the employees who heard the same threats in 1932 know that the Democratic victory, on the whole, was followed by more jobs instead of fewer, higher pay instead of less and better working conditions instead of worse.

Yet there is no gainsaying that one intended effect of the bill is to protect one group of voters, believed to be sympathetic toward the Administration, from the coercion of another group, the majority of whom are believed to oppose the New Deal. And if it is wrong for a private employer, in an effort to get Republican votes, to threaten an employee with loss of his job, it is just as wrong for a public official, in an effort to get Democratic votes, similarly to threaten a subordinate or a person on relief.

The difficulty with any such law is in drawing a line where freedom of speech ends and intimidation begins. If, for example, a manufacturer of corsets should make a speech saying that the election of Joe Doakes would mean destruction of the corset business since Joe Doakes is opposed to regimentation of the female figure, would the manufacturer merely be exercising his right of free speech or would he be guilty of intimidating his employees?

The bill as drawn would leave it to a judge to draw the distinction. And the judge's interpretation would in many cases depend upon whether that judge was for or against Joe Doakes.

We believe this bill, while good in purpose, contains as it stands great dangers to a fundamental civil liberty. Those dangers should be studied and eliminated if possible. Otherwise, the bill should be killed.

FRIENDLY SUGGESTION

PENDING in Congress is a bill by Senator Norris to authorize an examination of "the Republican River and its tributaries, with a view to the control of its floods." Loyal Republicans may want to broaden the bill to embrace an examination of "the Republican Party and its tribulations."

BON VOYAGE!

FOUR newlyweds left San Francisco for Tahiti to "get away from alarm clocks and mediocrity." No doubt they were able to leave the alarm clocks behind anyhow.

A WOMAN'S VIEWPOINT

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

A VERY sophisticated young man is thinking seriously about marriage. But he already is at loggerheads with his future wife about the method of doing so. She wants a few months' engagement, publicly announced, time enough to plan and furnish a home. He considers that sort of thing poppycock and would like a ceremony with no trimmings. Marriage, he contends, is merely a civil arrangement between two citizens, so the less fuss made about it the better.

In my opinion he's wrong there. Men usually wish to avoid elaborate weddings, and a good many women can see how foolish some of them are. But a certain amount of preparation is anything but foolish. You do not enter into any other kind of alliance without taking time to plan your future with your partner.

However a man may feel about the enterprise, the girl ought to have her say-so, too. She's the party of the second part, you know. The event changes her life as well as his, and the process of becoming Mrs. Jim Jones is eventful enough to give her the right to dictate a few terms.

Nearly all girls like the fuss that follows a betrothal announcement. For once, they are the most important figures in momentous events. It is the sweetest, most romantic period of their lives and no man who loves a girl deliberately will deprive her of its full satisfaction and thrills.

This does not mean that we should spend more than we can afford on an elaborate wedding. It only means we can bring to the rite of marriage the dignity with which we endow any solemn ceremony.

What is marriage? It is the contract made between a man and a woman in which both promise to live together in love until death. Only the determination behind that promise builds homes. These fly-by-night unions so prevalent nowadays weaken the structure of our society because they discourage permanence.

FROM THE RECORD

SENATOR BLACK (D., Ala.): It is said that about a year ago—a little more than that—when the question came up of a name to be given to a certain widespread organization, some one suggested it should be "The League to Protect Property"; and straightway came back the reply, "That will never do. We must get a title that will deceive the people and lead them into believing that what we are really after is to protect liberty." So they decided to name it the Liberty League.

Senator King (D., Utah): Mr. President, I have noticed that during the consideration of this important measure (the rural electrification bill) there have not been to exceed six or seven Senators in the chamber most of the time.

Squaring the Circle

With

THE HOOSIER EDITOR

THIS is Friday the thirteenth, but it could be a lot worse. For instance, it has long been a superstition that it is unlucky to fish on Friday—any Friday, no matter what number.

It's bad luck to kiss your girl on Friday. Never wash your face on Friday. It causes bad luck to sweep the dirt out of a house on Friday, because the house will burn later. Never carry ashes out of a house on Friday after 4 in the afternoon. Wait till Monday morning, else you will lose a dollar.

It is bad luck to move on Friday or Saturday. All these things are contained in a superstition book belonging to the State Library.

Friday is some good, though. It's good luck to begin anything on Friday, although it's bad luck to end anything, such as to pay a debt. Eggs laid on Friday never decay. And if you cut your toe nails on Friday you will never have a toothache.

IF you go up to an alert usher in any theater in any downtown theater and say:

"How many seats are there in your aisles?" he will tell you to the seat. He's trained to do that. When he walks down an aisle his head is turned right and he is counting. When he returns his head also is turned right and he still is counting.

Then he reports to the usher in the front of the theater who keeps telling him that the best seats now are available in aisle three.

The first ushers on duty have the additional chore of checking the lights, the screen, the seats and the sound machines. A hair across the lens of a projection machine looks like a snake on the screen.

THEY only work about 40 hours a week at the Indiana theater, but they are alert every minute of the time. If they are not they will lose their jobs. If they are they get better ones.

They know how to handle people who don't know how to handle themselves.

More than a year ago there was a stage fire in another Indianapolis theater. The ushers picked up for the run the legitimate play were not trained in how to keep the crowd orderly.

Three ushers from the Indiana, off duty for the night, were members of the audience. They arose and quickly quieted the panic. Mr. Henry Sommers, Indiana manager, was pretty proud of them.

People lose the silliest things in theaters, such as \$5000 diamond rings. One lady lost one one night—one she knew was too large for her and upon which she had no insurance.

HER escort called at 11 at night and told Mr. Sommers of the loss. The man wanted to search the house immediately. Mr. Sommers said no. If the audience knew something was lost, each person might start hunting, and some dishonest person might find and keep the ring.

After the crowd left, they found the ring, all right, but it was a lost shot.

Ushers are taught politeness. When they don't already know it. Most of them at the Indiana have been there for the last five years. Before that the turnover was pretty big.

People even lose false teeth in the theater—but they always come back right away for them.

AN employee of the postoffice here wrote to Washington to ask if it was all right if the saplings on the central office lawn were removed and transplanted before the sap begins to rise this spring.

The idea was to get them out of the way of the new addition that is to be built some time this summer. By removing them before the sap rose, the lives of the saplings would be protected.

Washington wrote back this peremptory order: "Don't do anything until you send us the scientific names and ages of the trees."

That's just where affairs stand today.

IN 1863 the Indianapolis common council voted \$300 to the chief of police for the next year. It was for the hire of a horse and rig to help him about his business.

TODAY'S SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

A WORLD-WIDE search is now under way to find a substitute for carnauba wax or a method of manufacturing it synthetically. Arthur D. Little, Inc. of Cambridge, Mass., report.

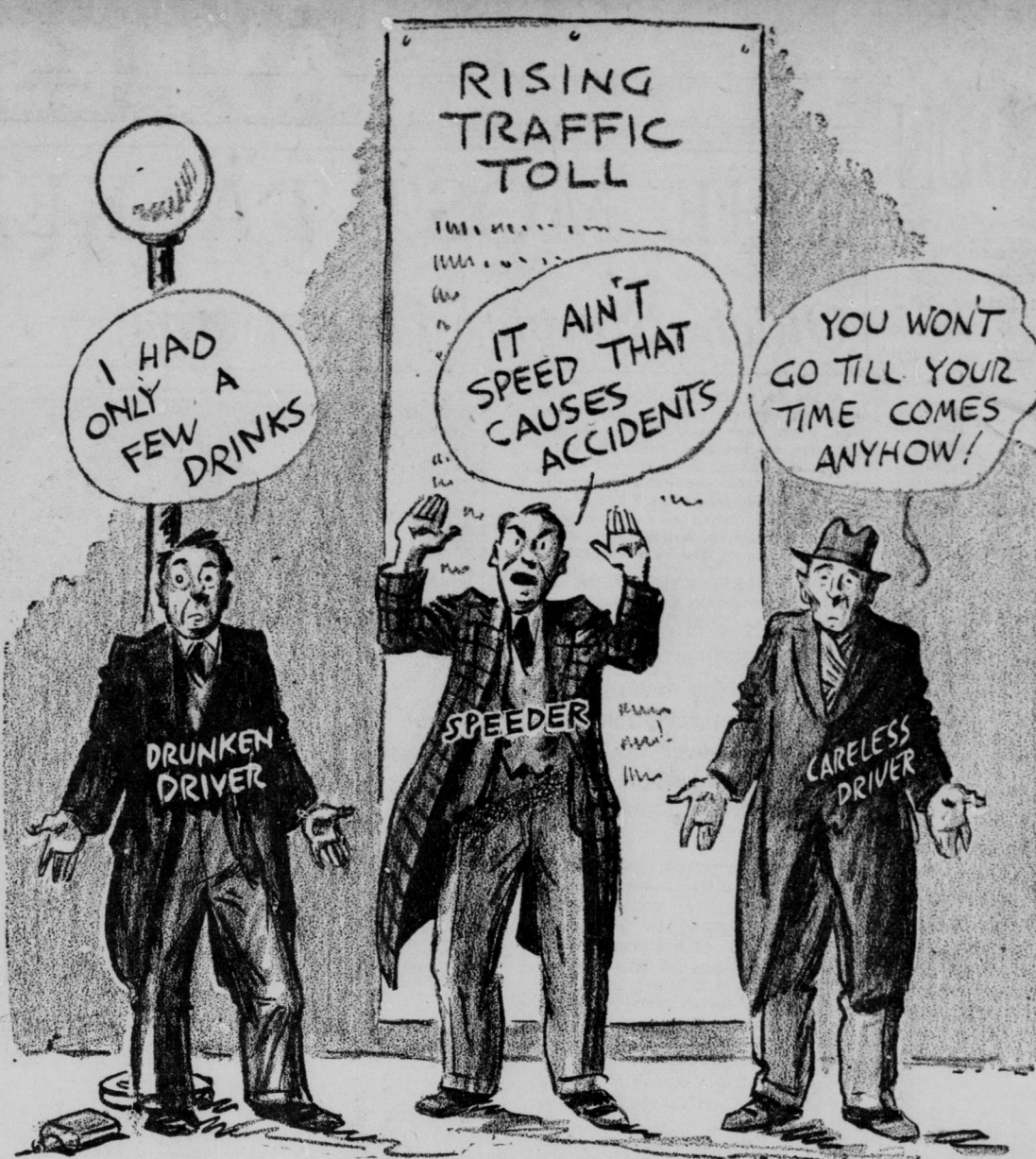
From the standpoint of industrial utility, carnauba wax is the most important of all the waxes. The finest polishes for wood and leather are mixtures containing large proportions of this substance.

Carnauba wax is the yellow dust that forms on the leaves of a certain type of palm tree which grows only in Brazil. Moreover, this dust forms only when the tree grows under desert conditions. In moist climates, the tree develops more beautiful leaves but the dust does not form. Its function, apparently, is to prevent the tree from drying out in arid regions.

The natives scrape the wax from the leaves. At present, Little reports, the demand is growing faster than the supply. The state of Ceara in Brazil is making attempts to prevent seeds of the palm tree from being exported to other countries. Recently the president of Brazil offered a prize of \$4000 for the invention of a machine which would make it possible to get a bigger yield of wax from the trees. One American manufacturer of floor polish has sent out a scientific expedition to search for new areas where the particular palm trees can be raised.

Meanwhile, the price of carnauba wax is rocketing skyward.

ALIBIS



The Hoosier Forum

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

(Times readers are invited to express their views in these columns, religious controversies excluded. Make your letters short, so all can have a chance. Limit them to 250 words or less. Your letter must be signed, but names will be withheld on request.)

NATION NEEDS TO REALIZE FAILURES, HE SAYS

By G. B. W.

To build a more social order we must become keenly sensitive to our present failures. We must make clear and challenging worthwhile ends to live for not simply as individuals, but as members of a nation. We must find our way out of our present confusion. We must learn how to do away with industrial strife, put an end to congested wealth and congested poverty and put an end to unemployment.

We must maintain a healthy balance between production and consumption. It is a large contract. Nothing is finally good for the individual which is not good for the society to which he belongs, nor is anything good for society which is not good for the individuals who make up the society. Our social order must be built in harmony with the will of God.

DOESN'T APPROVE OF WELFARE BILL

By H. L. Seeger

The social security legislation now before the state Legislature provides for a fund from which unemployment and old-age benefits are to be paid. The contributions are to come from the workers and employers. The employers must add

the cost on to the products which the consumers and workers must buy, thus raising the price, but not the wages.

The wages are lowered by this increase in cost and these deductions from the pay envelope to build this fund further reduce the wages. This money must be invested instead of being spent as current purchasing power to buy the goods produced.

So the total reduction eventually will be more than the 6 per cent of the total wage which all comes out of the worker's pocket. Add this 6 per cent up for 10 years in reduced consumption power and we can easily figure how soon more men will be unemployed as the fund accumulates, thus making this legislation the cause of unemployment and forcing the absorption of the savings put into the security fund.

Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad. Only by increasing wages can greater consumption and security be assured. More production and lower prices assure workers' security.

PLEADS FOR PENSION PAYMENT NOW

By R. R. Bulgin

The Democrats continually cry, "We favor an adequate pension for the aged!"

They hold a majority in the Indiana State Legislature. Not a few have declared the present old-age pension law is a complete fiasco in its results.

The oldsters are no longer asleep. Say what you may for or against the Townsendites, they are stirring the waters and awakening the "old

uns." The oldsters have their eyes wide open and are seeing through things.

Now comes another session of the lawmakers, called ostensibly to pass a law that will dovetail into the Federal Security Act. It is commonly reported that the majority of the Governor's joint committee suggests that the age be made 65, and the year 1938 as the period for pensions to begin. Wouldn't it be interesting to learn the large number who pinched their nose when they read this provision?

The Governor suggests the date 1938 for the worthy reason that by then the budget can be balanced. But why do this at the expense of those worthy men and women of 65 years or more who have fought a good fight and have kept the American flag?

Now is the time they need this pension. By 1938 many of them will have passed on. The Democratic party should keep faith with the old folks.

ELM IN WINTER

BY JOSEPHINE DUKE MOTLEY

Great elm, you bear the emblem of true worth; No winter robs you of your sylvan grace, Nor does your being seem to wait the birth Of spring to glow on you with smiling face.

I think, when I drive down a city street Through neighborhoods where homes are gaunt and bare, There is no consolation quite so sweet As a tall elm to deck the thoroughfare.

Its beauty is not marred by dirt or grimy Enslaved by roots, it grows as best it can, Yet bends its branches with a grace sublime In modest courtesy to God and man.

DAILY THOUGHT

When he is about to fill his belly, God shall cast the fury of his wrath upon him, and shall rain it upon him while he is eating.—Job xx, 23.

THEY whose sole bliss is eating can give but one other British reason why they live.—Juvenal.

SIDE GLANCES

By George Clark



"The people across the court appear to be very nice, but I can't stand some of their guests."

PANAMA CITY, Fla., March 13.—Say, you ought to see what I've found! It's a whole section of country that has a future! And it isn't like any other place in the United States.

It gives you a funny feeling to find something like this. Makes you think you're Columbus or Cortez or one of the original Discovery Boys. First, let's get it located. Coming up from the west coast of Florida, you have to drive inland, behind the swamps. You never see the Gulf. You keep swinging to the northwest until you have rounded the great curve of the Gulf Coast and are up on the "mainland" of North America again.

Then your road swings back south and west, and pretty soon you pop out on to the Gulf of Mexico again. There's where that stretch I'm talking about starts.

It runs west for 25 miles to Apalachicola, on west for 55 miles to Panama City, and on west another 105 miles to Pensacola.

ALL this coast is in Florida, but it isn't like Florida. It's far from the seething winter resorts of the lower coasts. There is practically nothing along this 200 miles of lovely coast. Just two small cities, and half a dozen cross-roads settlements.

The tourists don't come this way. There are a few, of course, but they're just going through.

Sleepy cows and half-wild razor-back hogs run loose on the roadway. You have to stop dead still now and then to keep from wrapping your car around a cow.

The few people, and the few towns, look neither like Florida nor the deep South. They look more like the West. You see lots of goats. I saw a calf hitched up to an old wagon.

PANAMA CITY is the center of this 200-mile stretch. Panama City has a destiny, as sure as the sun will rise tomorrow.

But there is a quick change at the water's edge. The town is on the banks of St. Andrew's Bay, and you never saw a lovelier spot. The water is deep blue, and across the bay you see the shorelines of trees, and if you look in the right direction you can see the opening in the tree line, and beyond the glistening water of the Gulf.

A railroad man from Chicago named George West founded Panama City 28 years ago. He opened a bank, and started a newspaper, and put in water. He is dead now. His widow still owns a good part of the city, and edits the newspaper he started.

HE envisioned this spot as some day being a great port. He called it Panama City because it was on a direct line between Chicago and Panama, and he could see it as the teeming division point where all the Panama traffic changed from train to boat.

Five years ago Panama City had 5000 people. Today they claim around 14,000. And a man who ought to know (he's not a civic booster either) tells me that five years from now it will be 35,000.

Unfortunately, Panama City, like many little boys, is going to get ugly as it grows up. For its future depends, not on the beauty of its setting, but on industry.

The biggest industry here now is the paper mill, which employs 1300 people and makes brown wrapping paper out of the Florida pine trees. The mill, two miles out of town, is a vast, smoky, malodorous place, and when the wind blows right, the sickening sulphurous smell will wake you up at night. More paper mills and railroads and wharves are coming.

THE road along half of this 200-mile stretch of coast is new, just opened. Today, as you drive along it, you don't see a human being once an hour.

There is a lonesome enchantment about it. You'd like to take a whole stretch of it, and plant some palm trees, and build a cottage under them, and put up a sign out of sight around the bend saying: "This is my private beach. Don't anybody come near here. I found it first."

It is my guess that 10 years from now that whole 200 miles will be lined with little palm trees, and tourist cottages, and life guards, and that every so often there'll be a smoking little factory city.