

# The Indianapolis Times

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FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 1936.

## RAINY DAY RESERVES

THE need which corporations have for adequate "rainy day" reserves has been expressed often and eloquently since Congress began work on the new plan to tax corporate surpluses. Even friends of the proposal have warned that it would be a mistake to force a too extravagant distribution of dividends.

If any proof were needed of the validity of this warning, the floods have provided it, and in a spectacular fashion. For both figuratively and literally, that rainy day arrived with startling suddenness throughout large sections of the industrial East. In the wake of the floods are the ruins of hundreds of industrial plants, through which the waters swept, driving thousands of men from their jobs.

Corporations will have to dip into their reserves for millions of dollars to repair and rebuild these plants before the men can go back to work. It is not hard to visualize what would happen if all of these corporations were bereft of adequate reserves and had to go out into the open market and float new stock and bond issues to raise money for this necessary reconstruction.

Probably it will be found that some of these corporations are in that unfortunate position, which means that the jobs of their employees will have to wait while terms are made with investment bankers. But those corporations which have husbanded a safe portion of their earnings through fat years and lean can proceed without delay to rebuilding, repairing and re-employing.

Congressmen working on the tax bill might well study these specific examples. The experience of the corporations whose properties were damaged by the floods should provide valuable testimony on the uses, needs and sufficiency of corporate cushions.

## NOT FRAGRANT

J. A. ARNOLD, from the witness stand, called the Senate Lobby Committee a "polecat committee." What, we are puzzled to know, would be the function of a "polecat committee?" Would it be similar to that of another Senate lobby committee, which seven years ago had this same J. A. Arnold on the witness stand? After taking 400 pages of testimony concerning Mr. Arnold's activities that committee reported:

That the American Taxpayers' League and the Southern Tariff Association were "allies under which one J. A. Arnold operates ostensibly to influence congressional legislation, but in fact for the purpose of making a living for himself and a small group associated with him."

That Mr. Arnold and his associates had collected \$860,574 from contributors "excited by hopes of tariff favors or reduced income or other taxes."

That "he (Mr. Arnold) has had no experience . . . that would fit him to be of service in any capacity in connection with revenue legislation. He is on terms of intimacy with no member of Congress. . . . He has contributed nothing toward the preparation of briefs to be presented to committees of either house, nor has he been a witness before any such, yet he gets the money."

## STATE'S RIGHTS IN THE COURTS

WE have been hearing a good deal about states' rights since the U. S. Supreme Court knocked out AAA as an invasion of reserved police powers.

Now we are going to hear more, because New York State has appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court from the 4-3 decision of the State Court of Appeals, holding invalid its minimum wage law for women.

The New York Court of Appeals also is hearing argument on the validity of the Legislature's 1935 unemployment insurance law, and that case probably will reach the high court in Washington for a final decision by snowfall.

Legislatures have been upheld by the Supreme Court in the exercise of many police powers over property, including the fixing of milk prices, grain elevator rates, insurance charges, rate of pay for overtime work, maximum rentals, maximum hours of labor for men in certain industries, maximum hours for women, and maximum interest rates on loans. All these regulations and others, properly safeguarded to protect the individual, have been held to conform to "due process."

But the Supreme Court in 1923 by a 5-3 vote (Brandeis abstaining) held the District of Columbia women's minimum wage law invalid under due process. The majority's thesis, by Sutherland, was that an employer's property rights are violated by forbidding him to cut the wages of adult women. This is the precedent upon which the New York Court of Appeals killed the New York law. Four of the five majority justices of 1923 still are on the U. S. Supreme bench.

Last spring the U. S. Supreme Court, 5-4, held invalid the Railroad Retirement Act. It was on this precedent that lower New York courts held the state unemployment insurance law invalid as a compulsory transfer of property from one class to another.

This is the decision which Dean McBain of Columbia University law school called "the worst in many years." The five majority justices still are on the high bench in Washington.

If this state law, passed to conform to the Federal Social Security Act of 1935, is knocked out, the old-age and unemployment insurance plans of the Administration, almost universally approved as desirable and needed, may be nullified.

## SILICOSIS DEATHS

REP. GRISWOLD (D., Ind.), chairman of a House subcommittee that recently investigated silicosis deaths at Gauley Bridge, W. Va., cites official action in Pennsylvania in support of his plea for continuance of the inquiry.

Ralph M. Bashore, Pennsylvania's secretary of labor and industry, has just announced action on two fronts against silicosis:

1—A checkup of the physical condition of employees of three large quarrying companies; 2—Formation of a committee of industrialists, attorneys, physicians and labor leaders to plan an occupational disease law for Pennsylvania.

"This is a tangible result from the recent publicity on the silicosis menace," said Rep. Griswold. "The Pennsylvania action probably could be followed to advantage in numerous other states, for in only 11 has this disease been recognized as compensable."

"But the states lack the facilities to go . . . to this

problem thoroughly from the national standpoint. For constitutional reasons Federal preventive legislation may be impracticable. But certainly the disclosure of the full facts is a necessary Federal job."

The House inquiry is at a standstill because the House Rules Committee, headed by Rep. O'Connor (D., N. Y.), has not acted on the Labor Committee's request for subpoena power to compel testimony from unwilling witnesses.

Meanwhile, however, two other Federal actions are taking shape against silicosis. Labor Secretary Frances Perkins is expected to announce within a few days her plans for a national conference on ways of preventing silicosis and related diseases in industry. Senator Murray (D., Mont.) is expecting favorable action by the Senate Education and Labor Committee on his resolution for a joint silicosis inquiry by the House and Senate.

"It would be a shame for Congress to adjourn with this inquiry unfinished," says Mr. Griswold. "Our disclosures have attracted nationwide attention, and we have worked up the momentum to settle this problem permanently, but the longer we delay the more power we lose."

Secretary Bashore said in Harrisburg that investigations already have shown silicosis and kindred diseases occurring with serious frequency among quarry and brickyard workers, employees of asbestos plants, and hard-coal miners.

## JERRY-BUILDERS

A WARNING against employment of "jerry-builders" in the construction or repair of homes is being broadcast by the Federal Housing Administration.

"Jerry-builders," FHA says, are contractors who, because of inferior materials and workmanship, are able to under-bid legitimate operators.

The average person, FHA believes, is unfamiliar with construction problems and may be an easy victim when offered a bid much lower than others submitted. If he permits the dishonest or incompetent builder to go ahead, his home may suffer a material loss within a few years.

Some of the main defects of "jerry-building" listed by FHA are:

Poorly constructed foundations, disregard for natural drainage with resulting damp basements, setting of chimney foundations on wood framing, use of green lumber which brings shrinkage, poorly applied paint, and trick angles and chopped-up roofs which produce "pockets" for water and snow.

The unscrupulous building contractors are springing up, FHA says, because of the increased interest in home building.

The remedy is to pick a reputable and responsible contractor. There are plenty such.

## NEVADA NOT A COTTON STATE

WHILE we do not subscribe to the commercial maxim that the customer is always right, we do think his feelings are worth taking into consideration.

And this bit of homespun might well be applied to the extension of our good neighbor policy in international affairs.

So the next time Senator Pittman of Nevada, a state which produces silver instead of cotton, rises to assail the Japanese as our potential enemies, some Southern Senator might well take the floor in their defense.

For Japan is America's best cotton customer.

Imports of raw cotton by Japan in January were the second largest in the history of her spinning industry, the Agriculture Department reports. Of the 461,000 bales, weighing 500 pounds each, 306,000 bales come from the United States.

They were purchased at an average price of 13.12 cents a pound as against 10.17 paid for India's cotton. Our cotton is better, of course.

With her monthly business running into millions, Japan should be a friendly neighbor indeed so far as the Southern planters are concerned.

## A WOMAN'S VIEWPOINT

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

IT'S no stunning surprise to read that Clara Bow, the "It Girl," has settled down to domesticity. When the flaming ones escape the sanitarium they usually end like that. Clara got the jazz out of her system early, which is a pretty good thing to do. It leaves so much more time for satisfactory living.

Nobody settles down so firmly as the high flyer, when he settles at all. That's why the girls who seem wildest in their teens so often turn out to be good wives, fine mothers and all-round citizens. They fizz at the fizzing age and get it over with.

It's the repressed boys and girls, those who have no fun when young, who become kittenish old ladies and foxy grandpas, and a pathetic sight they are, if only they could see themselves.

Somewhere in the heart of any person cheated out of a happy childhood and carefree adolescence is a rebellion which never dies. The subconscious resents being deprived of youth. And this resentment may break out in unexpected places at the oddest moments.

A loose leash should be held upon the young. They can not be entirely curbed, and we may only look upon their antics with the sure knowledge that this period will soon pass.

Parents who hope to raise steady-going families should give them their 16-year-old fun at 16. If not, a good many plans for them are liable to miscarry. By the same reasoning, the social order that depends for its progress upon the sanity and balance of a majority of its members can not afford to allow millions of its children to assume adult responsibilities and burdens too soon. When they do, disastrous consequences of all are sure to result.

Only one thing is more tragic than the old person trying to be young. That is the young person forced to be old.

## FROM THE RECORD

SENATOR CLARK (D., Mo.): Mr. President, of course I can not hope to equal the distinguished Senator from Texas (Mr. Connally) in speaking ex cathedra or with dogmatic authority as to what is sound argument and what is not, but I shall undertake to make my contention plain enough so that even the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. Logan) will be able to understand it . . .

Senator Logan (D., Ky.): Since the Senator from Missouri is going to make it so clear that even the Senator from Kentucky will understand it, may I ask that he use simple and childlike language? (Laughter.)

Senator Clark: I shall try to do so in order that the Senator may be able to comprehend it.

Senator King (D., Utah), during discussion of the Florida ship canal by Senator Vandenberg: The Senator is furnishing us facts. I suggest the absence of a quorum, in order that the Senate may get some information on this subject.

Senator Vandenberg (R., Mich.): Mr. President, I thank the Senator; but I am sure if the Senators should return it would only be momentarily, because, after all, what is \$200,000,000 in these days?

Senator King: I confess that that does not awaken very much interest or concern upon the part of Senators.

## Squaring the Circle

With

THE HOOSIER EDITOR

A NOTHER way to tell it's spring is that the very young men are picking fights with each other as an after-school project. That's how I happened to listen in on a conversation about a battle that had only a few moments before raged in a school yard with all the fury a 6-year-old could put into it.

His mother had him to task. He was an unwilling and hostile witness and probably was in contempt of court, although the issue was not pressed.

"What were you fighting about?" she asked.

No answer.

"The other boy's mother was here," she said.

He looked interested.

"What did she say?" he asked.

"She was awful mad," he exclaimed, and looked frightened.

"What were you fighting about?" his mother repeated.

But it was no use, because he had turned and fled.

The mother explained that it probably was an 8-year-old boy because her son had told her several days ago he had been trying to catch an 8-year-old who was always running away.

But the reason for the fight! This mother, who has reared two other boys, says she never has solved that part.

CONTRIBUTION:

A few years ago an equestrian was struck by a car a few miles north of Indianapolis. The horse fell on him and mashed his leg badly. Others in the party rushed to telephone for an ambulance and the police. On the way out, the police car, which was traveling pretty rapidly, came to a sharp right turn. Straight ahead lay a railroad bridge.

Unable to make the turn, the driver wheeled his vehicle on to the railroad bridge for a short distance. Then he backed off and went on, but not without giving his companions the scare of their young lives.

Arrived at the scene of the accident two officers, still white-faced and trembling from their near-panic, approached the victim, who lay on the ground. I might add at this point that the victim was Irish. Well, anyhow—

"What's your name?" inquired one of the officers in his official routine manner.

"Jones," said the injured man affably. "What's yours?"

"Korrie," said one surprised cop. "Robinson," answered the other at the same moment.

Just a little human touch in the daily round, that's all.

SPEAKING of the recent prolonged cold spell, and water pipes freezing, it was only today that I learned that a hurry call was sent through the entire middle west for electrical thawing machines and that eventually 10 were imported for the emergency.

Moreover, every local plumber who had one was immediately pressed into service and their employees worked 24 hours a day for as long as they could take it.

The water company reports that between 2000 and 3000 homes were at some time during the wave without water because of frozen pipes. Even so, the volume of water used increased because many people preferred to let their water run rather than have it freeze and possibly burst the pipes.

The water company reported frost as low as 52 inches, lowest ever recorded in Indianapolis, on unpaved streets and on an average of 36 inches on paved streets.

So far as it has been able to determine, the type of paving has nothing to do with the depth of the frost, which was an average of 16 inches lower than ever before recorded. Water pipes should be at least 54 inches deep.

It was quite a time, and all hands at the Water Company were pretty much on edge. But everything is normal again now.

## TODAY'S SCIENCE

BY DAVID DIETZ

A FEW years ago, the University of Chicago embarked upon an educational experiment, the institution of a new type of generalized course in the various sciences. Immediately they felt the need of a new text book which would reflect the spirit of this new course.

The first result was "From Galileo to Cosmic Rays," by Prof. Harvey Brace Lemmon. Illustrated with sketches as daring as those which Van Loon did for his "Story of Mankind," this book told the story of physics in a way which combined scientific exactness with popular interest and a sense of humor.

A companion volume, equally good, makes its bow today. It is "Highlights of Astronomy," by Prof. Walter Bartky. He is the associate professor of astronomy at the University of Chicago and has delivered hundreds of lectures at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago. He brings to the task, therefore, a knowledge of what interests the layman as well as the technical student.

Like Prof. Lemmon's book, this one was written primarily for the use of freshmen at the University of Chicago. But it should appeal to anyone interested in the stars.

Prof. Bartky has hit upon a style and a method between the old-fashioned textbook and the so-called popular book meant only for the layman.

## OTHER OPINION

On the President

[Gov. Landon of Kansas, in a speech in March, 1935.]

I desire to acknowledge in a tangible way the appreciation of the people of my state for the courage which President Roosevelt has attacked the depression. If there is any way in which a member of this species, thought by man to be extinct, a Republican Governor of a Midwest state, can aid in the fight, I now enlist for the duration of the war.

## RIDING THE FLOODS



## The Hoosier Forum

I 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, 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.)

### CONDEMNNS LEGION

By Tillman J. Bough, Clerk's Office, Bloomfield.

"Any former service man who supports the policies of the Administration should be ashamed to pay homage to his fallen comrades on Memorial Day, and should have nothing to do with the Administration in the future," Edward A. Hayes, former national commander, the American Legion, said in a speech recently. I believe that I voice the sentiment of thousands of veterans in protesting and condemning such an utterance from our former national commander.

In the same speech and almost in the same breath, Mr. Hayes charged the New Deal with arousing class prejudice in an effort to destroy the middle class. I wonder what sane thought Mr. Hayes could have had in mind when he made such statements, for he must realize that he does not speak for the rank and file of ex-service men. Thousands of ex-service men have supported the New Deal in the past and will continue to do so in the future. Yet Mr. Hayes' statement easily could bring dissension within the ranks of an organization whose principles and ideals he is obligated to support.

I have attended memorial services somewhere every year since the World War and shall continue to do so. I want to assure Mr. Hayes that I am not ashamed to pay homage to my fallen comrades and I would not cheapen their memory by references in a political meeting.

However, I reserve the right of thinking for myself and I concede that same right to others. Like thousands of other ex-service men, I shall continue to support the New Deal.

Mr. Hayes' speech was one of criticism and ridicule. If he is sincere in his belief that there is something wrong with the New Deal, I challenge him to offer something constructive to replace it.

THINKS HITLER IS MISCAST

By K. W. H.

In the excitement of the Locarno declaration, the world may have missed a significant point in Herr Hitler's brilliant Reichstag speech. That was the allegation that Soviet Russia has "dethroned God" and "is laying waste the world of supernatural imagination beyond."

It is Der Fuehrer coming to the defense of religion! Admittedly a new role for him—and is he not a bit miscast?

There is, of course, no question of Russia's war on religion. But has the chancellor set a much better example? Already Nazi Germany has evidenced pagan trends, and the persecution of Jewry together with Catholic and Protestant "liberals" certainly can not go down on record as any defense of religion.

But perhaps no one should expect consistency of a dictator. Didn't Mussolini shout for world solidarity even while his Fascist legions marched on Ethiopia?

## Watch Your Health

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

AS I have said repeatedly in these articles on diet, milk is the most nearly perfect food. Different types of animals produce different kinds of milk, so that milk must be used with the understanding of what it provides.

Under state laws, production nowadays is controlled as to sanitation of the stables, care of the cows and similar considerations. Certified milk is that which is regularly studied by a properly appointed medical group and declared to be safe. Nowadays, it is customary to pasteurize even certified milk.

Pasteurization involves the heating of milk to a temperature of from 140 to 145 degrees, Fahrenheit, and holding it at this temperature for 20 to 30 minutes. This destroys any bacteria or germs which may be in the milk and which might transmit disease.

Latest figures show that we get about 191 quarts of milk to a person each year, which is about half of the amount we ought to get in a healthful diet. Nevertheless, the amount is increasing, since we had only 154 quarts a year in 1933.

Many people have been worrying whether pasteurized milk provides all the essentials available in

raw milk. Controlled studies made under hospital conditions indicate that the growth-promoting capacity of heated milk is not measurably less than that of raw milk.

Of course, the best food for a very young baby is the milk of its mother, or, when that is not available, the milk of some other mother. In the absence of breast milk, cow's milk, properly modified, may be used.

Different types of milk vary, as I have said, according to the types of cow or other animal from which they come. The milk of Jersey cows, generally, is richest in fat. This is followed by Guernsey, Durham, Ayrshire and Holstein, varying from 5.19 per cent fat for the first to 3.43 for the last.

Milk varies also according to the food which the cow receives, the season of year, and the time and completeness of milking. Usually the milk of well-kept cows is richer in cool weather than in warm weather, and richer on rich, dry food than when the cow is on pasture.

The amount of vitamins contained in milk varies also in relation to the feeding of the cow, the amount of sunshine available, and similar factors.

## IF YOU CAN'T ANSWER, ASK THE TIMES!

Enclose a 3-cent stamp for reply when addressing any question of fact or information to The Indianapolis Times, Washington Service Bureau, 1013 13th-st. N. W., Washington, D. C. Legal and medical advice can not be given, nor can extended research be undertaken.

Q—What are the age requirements for enlistment in the United States Navy?

A—Between 18 and 25 years, inclusive.

Q—When was "The Coming Struggle for Power" by John Strachey published?

A—In 1932, in England.

Q—Name the American Consul-General at Warsaw, Poland.

A—Thomas H. Bevan.

Q—Where is radio station XEAW?

A—Reynosa, Tampico, Mexico.

Q—How much does it cost to send a letter to Mexico?

A—Postage to Mexico is the same as in the United States; 3 cents an ounce or fraction thereof.

Q—Who was Secretary of State in the cabinet of George Washington?

A—He had four, John Jay and Thomas Jefferson, 1789; Edmund Randolph, 1794, and Timothy Pickens, 1795.

Q—Which government in China is recognized by the United States government?

A—The government at Nanking, represented in Washington by Ambassador Sao-Ko Alfred Sze.

Q—Is it possible to distinguish between male and female deer by their hoofprints?

A—There is a slight difference. Those of males are larger and more rounded.

## Vagabond from Indiana

ERNIE FYLE

EDITOR'S NOTE—This roving reporter for The Times goes where he pleases, when he pleases, in search of odd stories about this and that.

NEW ORLEANS, March 20.—"You see I'm big-boned," said Dick Leche. "I suppose just my bones alone would weigh a hundred pounds."

I suppose they would at that, for altogether he tips the beam at 250. He is over 6 feet, and isn't the fat kind of big man.

Dick Leche, in case you don't know, is Louisiana's next Governor. He is the man upon whom falls that fantastic pyramid of politics and power known as Huey Long's "dynasty."

Leche (you pronounce it Lesh) is 37. He takes office May 12, and on the 17th he'll be 38. That doesn't set any record for youthful Governors, though. Huey himself was younger when he was Governor the first time.

I DROVE out to Leche's beautiful house on the edge of New Orleans. The Governor-to-be had a bad cold, and was just lounging around in an old pair of pants and a leather jacket. He has such a big chest he's afraid of pneumonia. He's an easy-to-talk-to fellow. He is neither pompous, nor heavy with political phrases. In fact we didn't even talk about politics, for I told him I never understood politics anyway.

First we talked about his size. He's about 15 pounds overweight now. Last summer he broke his left arm above the elbow, and since then he hasn't had much exercise. He never takes artificial exercise, hasn't for 15 years, but he is a great hunter, and ordinarily walks off a lot of pounds. He has guns of all kinds, and keeps four dogs in his back yard, and in the season he tramps all days around the swamps after quail.

He is a crack shot, even with a pistol. Coming back from Baton Rouge the other day, he saw a crow in a dead tree. He stopped, took aim with his pistol, and dropped Mr. Crow from a hundred yards.

DICK LECHE is a Creole, and that means the top of New Orleans blueblodes. He is a mixture of French, Spanish and German. He gets his name and his big frame from the German side. He married a Creole girl of high family in 1927, and they have a handsome 7-year-old son.

He has been in politics ever since he can remember. When he was a boy, New Orleans politics was just like the Mardi Gras—torrid light parades, picnics, speeches and noise. As he says, just "big dollars," and a boy couldn't help enjoying it.

He was born and schooled in New Orleans. In his second year at Tulane the war came along, and he went to Plattsburg, N. Y., and got a commission. They sent him to the University of Michigan, and then to Harvard, to train young soldiers.

AFTER the war he was a traveling salesman out of Chicago for a year or so, selling auto accessories. Then he came back and started to night law school.