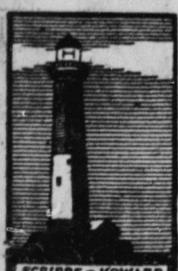


## The Indianapolis Times

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FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1936.

## LABOR, 1936

BECAUSE it was felt that it could best serve its interests thereby, organized labor in America traditionally has remained nonpartisan, forcing the two major political parties to bid against each other for the working men's votes.

By and large, through the years, the Republicans have done the better job of political bidding for such votes, even before the days when the ingenious Mark Hanna linked the "full dinner pail" slogan to the protective tariff. But Republican leadership has lost its cunning. The passage of the Smoot-Hawley tariff, with the subsequent and consequent deepening of the depression and growth of unemployment, disclosed the "full dinner pail" as a "fool's dinner pail," and Republican leaders have not thought up a substitute slogan or promise or program to lure workers back to the G. O. P. ticket.

In 1932, although organized labor, as such, remained neutral, the Republicans got very few workers' votes. And now, with the 1936 election date nearing, the Republicans seem destined to get even less labor support.

WHY is this? Why is it that the majority of the rank and file of American workers already are aboard the Roosevelt re-election bandwagon and organized labor's leaders are fast climbing aboard? It is an unprecedented situation. True, in 1924 organized labor abandoned nonpartisanship to support the presidential candidacy of the Progressive Senator Robert M. La Follette Sr. But in 1924 organized labor did not turn partisan until after it had despaired of gaining any worthwhile reforms from either the Republicans or the Democrats, waiting until both parties had drafted conservative platforms and the former had nominated the reactionary Coolidge and the latter the equally big-business-minded John W. Davis.

But today labor is not waiting for the Republicans to nominate and draft a platform. Labor already is on its way to the polls. The march started last January when the United Mine Workers, under the leadership of former Republican John L. Lewis, whooped through convention a unanimous resolution for Roosevelt's re-election.

The march was a mass movement by the time A. F. of L. President William Green a few days ago voiced his feeble protest in favor of the traditional nonpartisan policy. It became a stampede within the last week, with Roosevelt endorsements popping up out of industrial, high-tariff Pennsylvania's State Federation of Hoisting Workers, the United Automobile Workers, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' general executive board.

And yesterday William Green himself fell into step. After all a leader can't lead unless he goes in the same direction as his followers.

HAS this amazing rank and file movement come about because the workers of the country are completely sold on Roosevelt and the New Deal, and are confident they will get what they want in the 1936 Democratic platform? We don't think so. There are many things about the New Deal which workers do not like—higher cost of living, failure to solve the unemployment problem, subsistence work-relief wages, to mention a few.

No, the answer can be found in the sort of Republican leadership which has permitted such ax-grinding organizations as the American Liberty League and the National Association of Manufacturers to set the tenor of the G. O. P.'s New Deal opposition. Anything the man in the White House favored was wrong. The cry was back to the old order, bag and baggage. Bitterness blinded Republican leaders to what workers believe to be the merits of NRA's efforts to raise wages and reduce hours of employment, unemployment and old-age security legislation, collective bargaining legislation, and the minimum requirements of relief.

True at least to one American political tradition, American workers are getting ready not to vote for somebody or something, but to vote against. They are going to vote against that kind of leadership.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

IN about a month the men and women of the seventy-fourth Congress will fold their tents and deploy to the home town hustings, there to engage in the important business of getting re-elected. In their haste to be gone they will do well not to neglect the things yet to be done, lest the ghost of unfinished business haunt them through their campaigns.

First, is the tax bill. Whether this turns out to be an intelligent and intelligible revenue-raiser or a hash of confusion depends on the statesmanship of the Senate. The House has begotten a fiscal nightmare.

Then they have to replenish the government's empty chest for its continued war on hunger. It may be too late to implement the big work-relief program with all the needed safeguards against unwise spending. It is not too late to provide for a future scientific, long-range relief program. Let this be the last of our all-too-costly relief improvisations.

The rehousing of the country's city and rural slum dwellers is indicated as the next step in social reconstruction. Labor is urging passage this session of the Wagner-Ellington slum-abatement bill, a sound, sensible and moderate approach to the problem. Since the costs would be distributed over four years and much of it returned to the Federal government by the localities there is no reason for delay.

Similarly, the Bankhead bill for aid to sharecroppers and tenant farmers has been modified by the House Agriculture Committee into a less ambitious program under a proposed Farmers' Home Corp. But this measure has not yet been subjected to the public scrutiny which should be given to any long-range program to help landless farmers. The new rural electrification program is winning its way through Congress on pure merit.

Civil liberties should be protected against espionage and Fascist schemes. A broad, well-financed and country-wide investigation into current violations of free teaching, the collective-bargaining guarantees of labor, and other invasions of personal rights, including those of government agencies, is needed. To do this the La Follette resolution should

be broadened and adopted. Congress should enact the Kerr-Coolidge bill to humanize and rationalize alien deportations. It should halt the outrages of murderous mobs by passing the Wagner-Costigan anti-lynching bill.

An adequate ship-subsidy act is needed. With government financial aid should go also strong provisions to protect passengers' safety at sea and marine labor from exploitation.

Flood control legislation should be passed while the lessons of the March disasters are remembered.

In this Congress should be guided by the larger soil and forest conservation aspects of flood control, and not by selfish attempts to turn the program into a huge Federal pork raid.

Among the reforms that can not for want of time be adequately considered this session are: The textile industry's "Little NRA"; the nationalization of the munitions industry; transient aid; Mississippi Valley Authority; railroad consolidations; commodity exchange regulation; the Robinson-Patman chain store bill.

Among the things which we believe Congress should forget are: The inflationary Frazier-Lemke and Townsend schemes, and the vicious Kramer anti-sedition and McCormack military disaffection bills.

1899-1936

THE gay nineties were blending into the dawn of a new century of greatness. America had conquered Spain and had emerged on the international horizon as a new world power. America was embarked on a campaign of imperialism and glory.

The Stars and Stripes had been planted over remote lands, to rule over alien peoples. America's trade and culture and civilization were to follow the flag. It was an era of happy and adolescent buoyancy. America had a "destiny" to fulfill.

Now, thirty-odd years later, a sadder and wiser America has learned that responsibility and trouble and expense and resentment also follow a flag which is hoisted over peoples who have neither the background nor the desire to be "civilized" according to an imposed pattern.

Hence it is that now we find ourselves trying to liquidate our "victory" over Spain. Already we have started the Philippines on their road to independence, still uncertain whether they will make the grade alone or will cling to us for protection. Already we have abandoned the Platt Amendment which we used as a club over Cuba's internal affairs. Already we have done an about-face on the use of the Marines in other Latin American countries, where once we pursued the policy of making the flag follow trade and investments.

THE particular dog died, but Gertrude has never been without a dog since. She calls her present one "Basket." It's a poodle. (We pick our pronouns cautiously even if Gertrude doesn't.)

Mr. Wheeler always insists that he called on Gertrude hoping that she would introduce him to Matisse. The fact that Matisse owned a house right around the corner in Florence lends luster to Mr. Wheeler's story, but the fact that Matisse spent the whole year of 1907 on the Riviera leaves a lot to be explained.

Mr. Wheeler did meet Matisse in Paris, however. Seems Matisse moved with Gertrude. Mr. Wheeler reports that he had whole day with Matisse exchanging trade secrets. There is no record that Mr. Wheeler ever made use of any of Matisse's secrets. Neither did Matisse, as far as anybody knows, use any of Mr. Wheeler's secrets.

THE reason Matisse keeps horns into our story is because Gertrude discovered him before anybody else wanted to. She said a bell within her rang when this happened. The bell rang again when Picasso, Whitehead and our own Ernest Hemingway turned up. Gertrude insisted on acting as godmother for Hemingway's first child. Which is more than she did for Mr. Wheeler or anybody else, for that matter.

Mr. Wheeler remembers Gertrude as a charming hostess on both occasions. (We are back in Florence and Paris and not at the Hemingway baptism.) On both occasions she produced a tray of tea things and cakes almost immediately, which is coming to the point mighty fast for Gertrude, says Mr. Wheeler.

She made the cakes herself, she confessed, and they were mighty good. They were exactly like those you get around Allegheny, Pa., which, if you don't happen to know, is where Gertrude was born. That's the remarkable thing about Gertrude, says Mr. Wheeler. She doesn't change a traditional recipe by as much as a punctuation point.

In culinary matters, says Mr. Wheeler, she's as sound as a nut.

## A WOMAN'S VIEWPOINT

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

BIG business is perturbed over the new tax bill. Men who have been too busy making money to give much thought to what goes on in state or national legislatures now are deplored government expenditures.

While they've got their eyes open I wish they'd glance at the Army and Navy budgets. They'd soon find out where a mighty big bunch of their money goes, for the same Congress which has power to tax corporations has just approved the biggest naval appropriation ever voted during peace. Super-super-super battleships are to be started immediately. Every time news comes over the cables that England or Germany, Italy or France is about to vote for another dreadnaught our admirals go into a huddle and present demands to Congress for a bigger and better one for us.

Why should the United States have a Navy "second to none"? Especially when its advocates insist we must also live in splendid isolation from the rest of the world.

Listen, Friends: If the countries of Europe, Asia and Africa ever unite to lick us, no navy will be big enough to stop them. But it won't matter, for in that event civilization will be buried under the shrapnel, and the battleships will be at the bottom of the sea. Nobody will be able to remember who had the biggest navy.

It's a wonder business men can't scrape up enough realism to face the facts on this subject. It is the most important before them.

War eats up their profits, ruins investments, closes markets, and in the long run will take the last copper out of their tills. Some little flurry of prosperity may precede it, perhaps a few men will get rich, but inevitably in the end there is disaster for everybody. Unless business sees this before long and sets itself against a policy which promotes destruction, it will pay bigger taxes and like it.

A great campaign for social security by Congress, which so far has not lifted a finger to help the cause of world peace, is a farce anyway. What's the use of saving people only to sacrifice them to a folly more stupid than that of economic mismanagement?

## HEARD IN CONGRESS

REP. STACK (D. Ia.): The public as a whole is sick and tired of gag rule and gang rule and the manipulation of national legislation by a handful of "rubber stamp" leaders who take orders from higher-ups.

## THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

## Our Town

By ANTON SCHERRER

THIS is as good a time as any to tell about Clifton Wheeler's calling on Gertrude Stein. He called twice, once in Florence in 1907 and once in Paris in 1910. Gertrude was 33 years old at the time of the first meeting and Mr. Wheeler had cast his first vote for Theodore Roosevelt. Besides, it was springtime in Florence.

In Florence, Gertrude wore a kimono, long hair and sandals. Sure, bare feet. Mr. Wheeler doesn't remember what she wore in Paris, because by that time, he says, he was more interested in other things. Mr. Wheeler remembers, however, that Gertrude was somewhat heavier in Paris and that she had her hair bobbed. Also, that she had a dog by this time. Mr. Wheeler insists on dragging the dog into the story because the dog was responsible for Gertrude's literary style. The rhythm of the dog's water-drinking, Gertrude told Mr. Wheeler, taught her the difference between sentences and paragraphs, that paragraphs are emotional and that sentences are not.

THAT particular dog died, but Gertrude has never been without a dog since. She calls her present one "Basket." It's a poodle. (We pick our pronouns cautiously even if Gertrude doesn't.)

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## TODAY'S SCIENCE

By Science Service

WASHINGTON, May 8.—The subterranean atom-smasher proposed by Dr. M. A. Tuve of the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism of the Carnegie Institute of Washington will do for atomic energy what the Mount Wilson 100-inch telescope did for astronomy.

That is the opinion of Dr. J. A. Fleming, director of the department, who hopes to start work on the atomic disintegrator as soon as the necessary funds can be obtained. Dr. Tuve's design calls for a 15,000,000-volt generator, three times as powerful as any now in existence. This would be mounted in a steel ball 60 feet in diameter, into which air would be pumped under high pressure. The tremendous current produced by the generator would be released through a tube pointed into the ground and the atom-smashing experiments themselves would take place in a laboratory 40 feet under ground.

"When the 100-inch telescope was built by the Carnegie institution at Mount Wilson," Dr. Fleming told me, "astronomy was on the verge of many great discoveries, but found itself baffled by the lack of a sufficiently powerful glass.

The 100-inch telescope, because of its great power, enabled astronomers to settle many problems concerning the constitution of stars, the structure of the galaxy, the nature of the distant nebulae, the expanding universe and so on.

In the study of the atom, the problem is to penetrate deeper and deeper into the interior of the atom. The deeper one goes into the nucleus of the atom, the greater the electrical forces are to grow. Hence, there is need for higher voltages in atom-smashing experiments.

## DAILY THOUGHT

For the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?—Revelation 6:17.

Foolish men imagine that, because judgment for an evil thing is delayed, there is no justice, but only accident here below. Judgments for an evil thing is many times delayed some day or two, some century or two, but it is sure as life, it is sure as death!—Carlyle.

## GETTING AT THE ROOTS



## 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 to 250 words, less. Your letter must be signed, but names will be withheld on request.)

## RADIAN FUND COMMITTEE THANKS SUPPORTERS

By Mrs. John F. Englekirk, chairman; Mrs. William A. Eshbach, Mrs. Albert J. Hueber, Mrs. Tilden F. Greer. Radium Committee, Seventh District, Indiana Federation of Clubs.

The radium committee of the Seventh District, Indiana Federation of Clubs, wishes to thank you for the fine publicity given during the radium campaign.

To all citizens, organizations and clubs who gave so generously of their money and time, and to all of the radio speakers who helped in the educational program, and to the boys of the Indianapolis Salvation Army for the appropriation, we extend our deepest and most sincere appreciation for this splendid cooperation.

The radium is at the City Hospital ready for service and it will be handled by skilled operators.

The Seventh District has established "The Radium Fund, Inc." thus making it possible to receive gifts of money which will be used for radium as the need increases.

For information, inquiries may be made to the superintendent of the hospital, Dr. C. W. Myers.

And be assured of this, that where there is a fallen girl there is also a fallen man. If sin is not here, why the prisons, asylums, detention homes, hospitals, graveyards, booze, the cigarettes, wrecked homes, broken hearts and blighted human wrecks on very side? Can one rest at ease with this immoral malady infesting your bosom? You would shun smallpox, diphtheria, cancer and any dread disease that prey on

the physical body. Well might you covet cancer or leprosy rather than the fleeting pleasures of the sinner.

That is Americanism. It is the spirit of Jeffersonian democracy. It is the soul of our Constitution.

Washington fought for its glory. Webster sang of its future. Lincoln died for its principle. It is for us to join Dean Russell in giving it immortality.

We are justly jealous of our rich inheritance. We keep a watchful eye on all newspapers. They are the guardians of our liberty—purchased by our fathers' blood. The educated people of Indiana know the newspapers that are faithful and those that are faithless.

We believe the faithful. We doubt the sincerity of any newspaper that refuses to allow an enlightened, militarily honest citizen to have a voice in its columns. Where is the man who is so ignorant that he does not know that, when a newspaper denies any honest character to his American rights, the newspaper in question betrays the supreme trust that American citizens place in the press?