

The Indianapolis Times

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MONDAY, MAY 11, 1936.

THE OHIO GANG AT WORK

IN Ohio on Tuesday rank-and-file Republicans will go to the polls to participate in what is called a presidential primary.

But they will have no opportunity to vote for Landon of Kansas, or Hoover of California, or Knox of Illinois, or Dickinson of Iowa, or Vandenberg of Michigan, or Steiner of Oregon—all of whom are recognized throughout the country as being more or less active G. O. P. presidential candidates.

The ballot will limit Ohio Republicans to a choice of between:

1. A partial slate of delegates pledged to Senator Borah of Idaho, the only bona fide candidate entered in Ohio's Republican primary, or

2. A slate of delegates pledged nominally to Robert A. Taft, a "favorite son" stalking horse for a gang of Ohio politicians.

The Taft delegates are the hand-picked trustees of Republican State Chairman Ed Schorr, who grew up in the old Hardin-Daugherty school of boss politics, and Republican National Committeeman Walter Brown, the Hoover Postmaster General of high-hat fame.

If the Borah delegates go to the Cleveland convention, they will vote for Borah, and will strengthen the influence of Borah in drafting a liberal platform.

If the Taft delegates go to the convention, they may vote for Landon, or Hoover, or Dickinson, or Knox, or anybody upon whom Messrs. Brown and Schorr decide. They may even waste their votes on Robert A. Taft. And they will strengthen the hands of their friend Hoover, their friend Boss Hilles of New York and their friend Boss Roraback of Connecticut—in drafting a reactionary platform.

If some candidate—as Landon seems about to do—gets too far ahead to be stopped, Messrs. Brown and Schorr will use the delegates to climb on to the winner's bandwagon. If the nomination is a contest, Messrs. Brown and Schorr, true to the traditions of Ohio gangs, will start smoking up another hotel room.

So the choice of Ohio Republicans is narrowed down to voting for Borah and liberalism, or voting for the Ohio gang and Old Guard bossism. For those Ohio Republicans who have some regard for the sanctity of their ballots, there is no choice. They have to vote for Borah, or admit that they are pawns.

TRIBUTE TO MOTHER

MOTHER'S DAY was observed yesterday with flowers, greetings, homecomings, special dinners and other tokens of remembrance.

Churches stressed the religious significance of the day with appropriate sermons and services.

Mother, for one day in the year, was the nation's guest of honor.

ALL the affectionate acts and words toward a mother are fine, but they do not seem to cover up these stark facts:

Childbirth in America results in 15,000 maternal deaths yearly.

Most of the country's 500,000 delinquent children are motherless.

An estimated 75 per cent of the maternal deaths are preventable.

THUS it is encouraging to see Mother's Day this year marked by the launching of an educational campaign to reduce the maternal death rate.

The Indianapolis Medical Society maternal welfare committee, the Indianapolis Council of Women public health committee, city and county Parent-Teacher Associations, the American Legion Auxiliary welfare division and city and county health departments are co-operating in the campaign.

Medical authorities will speak to P.T.A. groups, mothers' clubs, groups of practicing physicians and perhaps to high school seniors. An effort will be made to reach every mother and prospective mother in the city.

The city's six maternal clinics are a definite aid in this program.

The drive here is to stress the objectives of the Maternity Center Association of New York: Medical examination early in pregnancy, frequent prenatal medical supervision, an aseptic delivery under supervision of an obstetrician, prolonged and adequate care after birth for both mother and baby.

This effort to make motherhood safe for mothers is a real Mother's Day tribute.

GARDEN TOUR

EXHIBITING 11 of the city's most beautiful estates, the Park School Mothers' Association yesterday completed its two-day annual garden tour. Coming in mid-May, when spring blossoms, new green foliage and leafy branches show Indianapolis in the full burst of spring, the garden tour was a marked success.

Visitors had an unusual opportunity to see beautiful rock gardens, beds of early spring flowers and the best in modern landscaping at the private estates. The flower exhibition at Park School added to the value of the tour.

Park School Mothers' Association deserves much credit for this enterprise. The garden tour not only helps the school, but it should inspire new interest in home and garden beautification.

IT HAS BEEN WORSE

CURRENT news from their capital might incline Americans to conclude that congressional probity and dignity have hit bottom. There is the story of Washington state's playful Rep. Zioncheck, who pleaded guilty to speeding through the streets at 70 miles an hour, smacked a policeman and did a brief stretch in jail. And that one about California's statesman, Rep. Hoepel, convicted of trying to hawk an appointment to West Point. And the incessant blabbing of Texas' Blanton, the rash of silly bills, and other discouraging manifestations of the all-too-human among the gentlemen of the House.

But it has been worse. Ernest Sutherland Bates records that in the early days of spittos, billingsgate and rowdiness were routine, while sometimes members so forgot themselves as to black one another's eyes. The present Congress can offer no such diversion as that of the bewigged Mathew Lyon and Roger Griswold rolling on the House floor in

1798, while the other members gathered about to cheer. Or the din, so loud that the House had to adjourn, during a recount in Monroe's Administration. Or the bludgeoning of Charles Sumner by Preston Brooks in the Senate.

It morals as in manners, the good old days were not so good either. One of the first acts of the First Congress was to pass the Hamiltonian funding bill, by which members lined their pockets through the buying up of ex-Revolutionary soldiers' pay certificates and cashing in on them at par. The revered Daniel Webster fought for the second Bank of the United States with greater eloquence because he was its attorney. Who doesn't know of the cynical pork barrel era of Andrew Jackson, the Credit Mobilier railroad stock gifts of Grant's day, the western land grabs of the sixties and seventies, the open distribution of railroad passes, the despotic tyrannies of Speakers Tom Reed and Joe Cannon, or the franking, junketing, nepotism and other scandals of the near-past?

Now, Congress is far from perfect. It could well dispense with several members whose actions are heaping upon it ridicule and contempt. It could be more statesmanlike, more businesslike and more high-minded. But, in justice to the Seventy-fourth, we must admit that, with all its faults, it is an improvement on a lot of its predecessors.

DISTRIBUTING THE BLAME

HERETOFORE those wicked New York bankers have had to take all of the blame for the non-redeemable, non-clippable Latin American bonds which lie uncoveted in the safe-deposit boxes of our part of big city banks which forced small country banks to take the bonds.

According to the latest statistics, there are outstanding \$1,275,000,000 of those bonds, wholly or partially in default.

But new light on the question of culpability is shed in the latest report of the Senate Munitions Committee. After describing how armament salesmen—encouraged by officials of our own War and Navy Departments—peddled fear and suspicion and guns and warships to the republics of South America, we must know what to do with them.

A Virginian by birth, he moved to Missouri at an early age, stuck around Oberlin College two years and at the age of 27 started business as a Mississippi planter. Two years later, in 1868, he was sergeant-at-arms of the Mississippi State Senate.

After that, he had a new office every couple of years and the new office was always an improvement over the last one. In 1872 he had more money than he knew what to do with, which fitted him for the United States Senate. He served from 1875 to 1881.

At the expiration of his term, President Garfield appointed Mr. Bruce Register of the Treasury, a position he held for four years. After that, probably in 1887, he came to Indianapolis.

On Nov. 6, 1888, Benjamin Harrison was elected twenty-third President of the United States. And sure enough, when he went to Washington the following spring he took Mr. Bruce with him to be Recorder of Deeds in the District of Columbia.

Which is why Indianapolis didn't see more of Mr. Bruce.

A WOMAN'S VIEWPOINT

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

THE Captains and the Kings depart." The statement is true in quite another sense than Kipling gave the tale. Haile Selassie, Lion of the Tribe of Judah, ran from his city during its hour of peril in a manner unbecoming a lion or a king.

According to all laws of self-preservation and common sense he was justified in his flight. But how glorious for mankind had he chosen to remain! How magnificient for the kingly ideal! How inspiring for the common soldier who is called upon to die for kings!

Kings who run away—in the truest sense these constitute the greatest menace in our world. Little Haile Selassie flying from strongholds they have vowed to defend, and important statesmen of great nations deserting principles and bartering ideals for power or gold or personal prestige, are equal cravens at heart.

Today our country, for which many brave men have died and to which other brave men have given lives of service, is facing a different sort of sacking than that which has taken place in far away Addis Ababa; but a sacking it is, nevertheless.

We are in desperate need of patriots who will not run away.

Barbarian hordes invade the United States, hordes of self-seeking men who run to Washington from every community demanding special favors for their states or cities, regardless of how much havoc the obtaining of such favors will visit upon the country as a whole. The veteran who individually offered his life for his country, collectively destroys it by periodical raids upon its treasury.

To many statesmen and leaders while they speak feelingly of patriotism, are disclosed as self-seeking, greedy and unpatriotic individuals. In ancient days captains went down with their ships and kings died with their men. Is Haile Selassie a symbol of something decadent in our world?

HEARD IN CONGRESS

REP. BANKHEAD (D., Ala.): I think the names of those distinguished (Republican) brain trusters ought to be embalmed in the record for the benefit of posterity. (Applause and laughter.)

REP. MAVERICK (D., Tex.): Embalmed is right. They are dead intellectually and need it. I understand they tried to get jobs with the Democrats, but they were so inefficient and ignorant that we would not hire them. (Laughter.)

REP. BANKHEAD: That is the common report. I do not know whether that is true or not. (Laughter.)

REP. MAVERICK: They (the Republicans) have what they call a National Bungler, who is Mr. Fletcher, and he went out and hired this brain trust.

REP. BROOKS FLETCHER (D., O.): Mr. Chairman, will the gentlemen give the full name—Henry P. Fletcher—not Brooks Fletcher?

REP. MAVERICK: I shall be pleased to see that that is done. Our Democrat, Brooks Fletcher, is the opposite of the Republican one in every way.

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

Our Town

By ANTON SCHERRER

TO hear Hugo Ranje tell it, he and Herman Kirkhoff, the plumber, are the only two left of all the men who worked on the Statehouse. To be sure, it's almost 50 years since the Statehouse was finished but, even so, mused Mr. Ranje, you'd think there would be more left to talk over the old times.

"Those were the days," says Mr. Ranje, "long hours, lots of fun and plenty to eat."

Mr. Ranje remembers best Grover Cleveland's visit to the Statehouse on the occasion of Vice President Hendricks' funeral. That was in 1885, or three years before the Statehouse was completed. Mr. Ranje figures everything that way.

Mr. Cleveland was so huge, says Mr. Ranje, that it took the six biggest horses of C. F. Schmidt's brewery to haul him to the Statehouse. Jack Willis toiled the coach that day and it was a grand sight to watch. Mr. Ranje hasn't seen Mr. Willis for a long time either.

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AND Charles Martindale is one of the very few left who remembers the famous Negro, Blanche K. Bruce.

Nobody knows why Mr. Bruce came to Indianapolis, but it is generally supposed that it was because of a hunch that something would happen to Benjamin Harrison pretty soon. Mr. Bruce had a lot of hunches in his time and generally knew what to do with them.

A Virginian by birth, he moved to Missouri at an early age, stuck around Oberlin College two years and at the age of 27 started business as a Mississippi planter. Two years later, in 1868, he was sergeant-at-arms of the Mississippi State Senate.

After that, he had a new office every couple of years and the new office was always an improvement over the last one. In 1872 he had more money than he knew what to do with, which fitted him for the United States Senate. He served from 1875 to 1881.

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WARNS THAT 150,000 MURDERERS ARE AT LIBERTY

By M. M.

Consider your plight as the average American citizen.

There are 300,000 people now living who will be murdered. You may be one of them.

There are 150,000 actual murderers roaming at large. One or more of these may be shadowing your personal safety.

And finally, you are inadequately protected under the law, even if "justice" is dispensed, because the average murderer serves only four years in prison.

These are the startling statistics of J. Edgar Hoover of the Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice. The figures are so threatening, he says, because America's law enforcement agencies are "hampered, hamstrung, and strangled by the blood-caked hand of crime-affiliated politics."

Think it over.

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LAUDS MRS. FERGUSON FOR COMMON SENSE

By R. L. Ross, Bushville

Mrs. Walter Ferguson is the only American newspaper columnist who has attained the Nth degree of common sense. It takes a very intelligent person to write a sensible article on Communism. Mrs. Ferguson proved that she was the only educated American newspaper columnist when she wrote the ending sentence to her discourse on this controversy between the R. O. T. C. Association of the United States and the Communists. Here is what she said: "Just another case of one propagandist accusing another, you see. We'd be wise to fight shy of both."

It is only one-tenth of our population was as well educated as Mrs. Ferguson we would not be reading and hearing over the radio the boasts or organizations saying that they have two, three, four, five or more million on their sucker lists. Of course, they do not call them suckers to their faces.

I hope those who desire to be educated will read Mrs. Ferguson's column, because I have yet to find a tainted and biased article.

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BELIEVES IL DUCE MAY HAVE BLUNDERED

By T. J.

Premier Mussolini considers now that his Ethiopian campaign has been completed.

But is victory really established? That is the question the best military observers still ponder. Guerrilla warfare may go on indefinitely, they point out.

Ethiopia has very little land suitable for extensive cultivation. Italy has owned Eritrea for 40 years and its colonization there has been negligible. It is logical to assume that Italy's 400,000 overflow population can find an outlet in this barren, torrid country.

Il Duce may find the whole affair a ghastly mistake.

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JUST ONE DAY FOR MOTHER

By G. Wade

Ain't it nice that "mother" has a day? One day outer 365 days really set aside for her day! Such generosity, such tender thoughtfulness—sakes alive! I say it's downright magnificent, not to say sweet.

But a course she's spos'd to play ball—go right on cookin', cleanin', lookin' out for each and all. Radio programs all notice her—every advertisement, for any old thing, deigns to remember "mother" once a year! Ain't it grand. Ain't it a swell four-flush to toss all this acclaim once a year to poor little dear little, sweet little "mother"?

The eyes of the tiny baby must

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT HAT?

