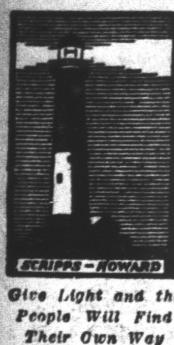


The Indianapolis Times

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THURSDAY, JULY 30, 1936.

THE STATEHOUSE LAWN

AT the height of the tourist season, when more people drive along United States Highway 40 and look at the Indiana capitol building than at any other time of the year, the Statehouse yard presents an untidy sight.

One correspondent writes that the grounds "resemble a barnyard." Another compares the yard to a pasture. The lawn is unkempt and overgrown in places with weeds. The shrubs are not pruned. Paths of grass are dried up.

The Statehouse grounds should be cleaned up and freshened up. The contrasting green appearance of the Courthouse lawn shows it can be done.

QUIET, PLEASE!

NOISE has been called the most barbaric characteristic of our civilization. It is physically harmful. It reduces human efficiency. It never has accomplished anything. Doctors say loud noises injure hearing, strain the nervous system and interfere with the healing power of sleep.

Many other cities during the past year have studied the question of noise and its effect on people. They have worked to reduce unnecessary noises and to limit those still regarded as necessary.

Anti-noise ordinances regulate the sounds from horns and sirens, compressed air devices, street cars and busses, loudspeakers and amplifiers, building operations, advertising by noisy devices, even milk wagons, garbage and rubbish trucks.

Tampa equipped its trash and rubbish carts with rubber tires. Milk companies in many places use rubber-lined bottle containers, rubber horseshoes, pneumatic tires. In New York it is a violation to keep "any animal or bird" that make "frequent and long continued noise," and Portland forbids "attaching any bell to any animal." Milwaukee's noise ordinance even outlaws marathon dances or "any human endurance contest." Penalties include both fines and imprisonment, ranging from \$1 to \$10 in New York to \$5 to \$200 in Milwaukee.

Noise is a local problem and its regulation is a local problem. A citizens' organization, civic club or public official would find widespread support for a campaign of noise abatement in Indianapolis.

BONUSES AND BONUSES

WITH corporations back on an earning basis and the question of bonuses again assuming more than academic interest, two news items become interesting.

One is an announcement by President K. T. Keller of Chrysler Corp. of an additional cash bonus of \$2,000,000 to be distributed Aug. 10 to its employees in the United States, Canada, England and Belgium. All employees will participate, the lowest amount being \$25, with \$1 extra for each additional year of service up to 10 years. This is Chrysler's second bonus this year, the first having been a \$2,000,000 bonus cut for 50,000 workers in February.

The other is a report made public last week by the Securities and Exchange Commission, over protest of F. W. Woolworth & Co. This showed a 1935 profit of \$31,247,000 from the "5 and 10" firm's American and Canadian stores. Included in its "selling, general and administrative expense" of \$475,244,000 were a number of bonuses. They didn't go to the thousands of sales girls, but to the directors. They totaled \$1,143,321. One director got \$309,880, another \$113,726, another \$88,743. Profits on total sales in this country exceeded 40 per cent, in England 60 per cent.

The reader can judge which of these two types of bonus is better for American recovery and for American capitalism.

"BY THEIR DEEDS, YE . . ."

WE were pleased to hail as bold and progressive the statesmanship the wire which Gov. Landon sent to the Republican convention saying that he proposed to extend the merit system in the Federal government to include "every position in the administrative service below the rank of assistant secretaries of major departments and agencies and . . . the entire Postoffice Department."

Here, we thought, is at last a candidate for President who believes as we do that public servants should be chosen for their fitness, and not on a basis of spoils.

So it is quite a let-down for us to read in the Baltimore Sun a dispatch written from Topeka by Paul W. Ward. Here are a few excerpts from Mr. Ward's article:

"Research showed that his (Landon's) own state has no civil service system at all, although, according to state officials, a law providing for one has been on the Kansas statute books since before the war."

"No Governor . . . ever has seen fit to appropriate sufficient funds to put the law in operation. Once . . . \$800 was appropriated to pay the salary of a clerk for that purpose."

"Under Gov. Landon . . . there has been no appropriation at all and the civil service law remains inoperative."

"There are no competitive examinations for state jobs and department heads fix the salaries of their subordinates."

"Judged by appearances, there is as much or more superfluous help—relatively—in the Statehouse here as in any of the New Deal agencies at Washington. In nearly two weeks of travel from one office to another in the Kansas Capitol, no persons were encountered who seemed to be working, outside of the Governor's suite of offices."

"All posts appear to be filled on a patronage basis. Leaders in both the Republican and Democratic camps said there is a general 'housecleaning' whenever there is a change of administrations."

"When a Democrat, Ed Powers, who was elected State Auditor, died last September, Landon appointed a Republican, George Robb, to the post, and Powers' appointees were at once replaced by Republican Johnholders."

The Governor might do well to remember that reform, like charity, begins at home.

MIGHT TRY TAHITI

IF President Roosevelt is re-elected, Julian T. Bishop is going to sell out and move to Canada. He says he has an intense dislike for the New Deal.

"I used to be a broker," he says, "and I worked like hell at it. And then the Securities and Exchange Commission came along and there's no point in being a broker any more."

Without trying to turn Mr. Bishop from his rash act of self-expiation we feel he should be warned about Canada. A set of eight laws, launched last year by Conservative Premier Richard Bedford Bennett and supported by Liberal Premier William L. Mackenzie King, are many times more "radical" than anything the Roosevelt Administration has conceived. These laws include: Federal unemployment insurance; federal regulation of wages and hours; a marketing act similar to AAA and NRA; price regulation; compulsory liquidation of farm debts; an act similar to the Robinson-Patman Act to prevent secret rebates and discounts by chain stores. Canada's highest court has upheld three of these acts entirely and two partially. The King government has just taken steps to put the Central Bank of Canada under Federal control. Canada owns and runs the great Canadian National Railroad. Canada recognizes collective bargaining and—note this, Mr. Bishop—Canada regulates stock exchanges.

Both Whistler and Haden were great artists. Both, too, were bad actors. At any rate, both had bad dispositions, the main difference being that Whistler was born with his and Haden's was cultivated. Which is to say, that Haden got better as he grew older, although, goodness knows, he was plenty good enough when he married Jimmy's half-sister, Haden.

Mr. Bishop may not like it here, but by moving to Canada wouldn't he be jumping from the frying pan into the fire?

INDIANA TOWN

ROCHESTER, Indiana, receives national attention this week in Fortune Magazine. The article is a colorful portrait, in words and pictures, of small-town life and characteristics. The story tells of the pride of Rochester citizens in their town, concluding:

"They like to joke about Shelton's dry horse, Billy, and only horse in town, and to say that 'Rochester is a one-horse town.' They are used to being called hicks and Hoosiers and Main Streeters, and they don't care. If anybody wants to laugh at them, let them laugh. They are proud to live in Indiana, proud to live in Fulton County, proud to live in the quiet, shaded streets of Rochester."

The pride of Hoosiers in their town, whether it be Rochester or Indianapolis, and their love of Indiana, are invaluable assets.

WAR DEBTS AND COMMON SENSE

WITH increasing frequency trial balloons are being sent up by European nations to find out how the wind blows for some new loans from this country. Already in default to the tune of more than \$12,000,000 on the war debts, they indicate a cheerful willingness to make the amount bigger.

The very human reaction of the American man in the street is to tell them all to go take a running jump. That, however, is not an answer. Congress has been telling Europe that for a decade. But it hasn't settled anything. It hasn't hurt Europe and it hasn't helped us.

In fact, both debtors and creditor have been incredibly stupid. From the beginning Britain, France and the rest have been reluctant to pay. They have irritated American public opinion constantly and needlessly by calling us Shylocks, by rebuking us for being "late" in coming into the war, and by the unfaltering innuendo that we should have been glad to contribute money instead of men.

At last, instead of saying yes, we owe you the money and will pay back as much of it, and as fast, as we can they defaulted entirely.

Instead of doing what each member would do as an individual business man dealing with a debtor—namely, striking the best possible bargain for all he could get on the dollar—Congress, as a body, has kept on insisting on all or nothing.

IT has been stupid business all around. It was stupid of Britain, France and the other war debtors to default. Even more stupid was their attitude that Americans were some sort of moral lepers for asking payment. But we have been just as bad with our impossible demands, then hurling insults at them because they were not met.

A common-sense settlement—if common sense is not too much to expect in international relations in this day and time—is badly needed. One of these days, France, Britain, Italy and the others—to express it mildly—are going to demand the good will of this country. And we, on our side, need and want the good will of Europe.

Sound loans are as vital to foreign trade as they are to domestic trade. Not to be able to extend them is to discourage business and handicap commerce. Nations, like banks, in time of crisis should be able and willing to go to each other's aid for the good of all concerned.

It is high time, therefore, that Europe and the United States again set about finding a solution to this chronic and irritating problem. It is not going to be solved, however, by making faces at each other like spoiled children in a kindergarten.

A WOMAN'S VIEWPOINT

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

WHATEVER you may think of his politics, Norman Thomas is a great character. His appearance before the Townsend Club in Cleveland was an exhibition of magnificent courage.

"Come, let us reason together," said Mr. Thomas. This plea was met by jeers and boos from the throng that wished to hear only that in which it already believed.

Most of us are like that. We want to be encouraged in our delusions. We prefer people who agree with us.

Our individual behavior toward life's major problems is usually no more intelligent than that of the audience which listened to Mr. Thomas and which resented his dragging in realism to spoil the Utopia he had invented.

Take marriage. Most of its tribulations arise from the same human trait which was so in evidence at Cleveland—a firm refusal to look at the truth.

A young woman, let us say, who longs above everything to make a happy life, will wreck it instead because she persists in a belief that matrimony is some kind of Utopia planned by celestial architects, instead of the practical arrangement designed by society for two persons to live together.

And although she may know how dangerous certain behavior may be to her happiness, she never will change it. Why? Simply because she has been brought up to think that romance never can fade, and that what wants love to be, it will be. With dogged stubbornness, she pretends that her wish is truth.

So these Townsendites of Marriage are truly tragic figures. They believe implicitly in a magic formula for happiness. Out of the same trick hat from which the old people would draw their huge pension sums, multiplied millions of wives expect deathless romance to come.

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THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

BEFORE GETTING OVERHEATED—

Our
Town
By
ANTON SCHERRER

THE group of prints by James McNeill Whistler, now on view at the Herron, recalls again the famous family feud which existed for so many years between Jimmy and his brother-in-law, Sir Francis Seymour Haden.

In more ways than one, it was probably the most successful—certainly, the most venomous—of the American's many striking achievements in the genteel art of making enemies.

Both Whistler and Haden were great artists. Both, too, were bad actors. At any rate, both had bad dispositions, the main difference being that Whistler was born with his and Haden's was cultivated. Which is to say, that Haden got better as he grew older, although, goodness knows, he was plenty good enough when he married Jimmy's half-sister, Haden.

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There is no reason to doubt Haden's boast that he kicked his brother-in-law downstairs or, for that matter, to doubt Whistler when he declared Haden lied—that he was the one to do the kicking and that it was Haden who went down the stairs.

The facts of the case are that both men went through life with chips on their shoulders during the world—and especially, their brothers-in-law—to knock them off.

There was one great difference between the two men, however, and it's worth noting.

Whistler was extremely selfish. He cared little for art except as it furthered his ends. Haden was different. I wouldn't go so far as to say that he was unselfish, but it does appear that he looked at art from an altruistic standpoint. At any rate, his greatest pleasure came, not from what his success brought him but from the opportunity it gave him to increase the appreciation of fine prints among cultured people.

Without putting too fine a point on it, I believe it may be seriously questioned whether Whistler would have lived to see his etchings praised by critics and sought by collectors had not Seymour Haden prepared the way.

Even if you don't want to go that far it still remains a fact when Haden first interested himself in etching (at the age of 40, by the way), it was looked upon as a reproductive art and, as such, far inferior to steel engraving. After 50 years of continuous effort on the part of Haden, a complete change was brought about. Etching regained the place it once had in Rembrandt's time.

It might be interesting, some time this winter, to have Wilbur Peat put on a show of Haden and Whistler prints. After all these years, maybe, the two brothers-in-law can be put in the same room without quarreling.

The first duty of a parent is to find out the limit of the child's intellectual capacity, and not to endeavor to drive the child beyond that capacity. The child who can't learn well, remember well or learn normally should have the advantage of what science can offer to make the most out of the capacity that it has.

Once it is discovered that a child is mentally slow and that it can't keep up with other children, the parents must decide what they are to do about its education. But first they must determine by suitable examination that the physical condition of the child is also good so it can possibly be made.

Out of 400 delinquent children studied in a mental hygiene clinic, it was found that a considerable percentage suffered from easily corrected physical defects. One-third had bad teeth and large adenoids and tonsils.

Many of the children had parents who were handicapped by physical illness—the father being unable to work and the mother being compelled to earn the family living. Many of them had parents who were themselves distinctly neurotic.

There is, of course, some relationship between diseases and intelligence. There are many conditions which do not lessen intelligence, but seem instead to sharpen the mind. Thus, it has been shown that children, who are especially sensitive to various food substances are likely to be more alert than are other children.

Out of 1,077 children examined in Glasgow, those suffering from chronic rheumatism or kidney disorders were found to be just as intelligent as their brothers and sisters.

On the other hand, those suffering from real disorders of the glands, and with either an excess or deficiency of internal secretions, were found occasionally to depart from normal intelligence levels.

Attempts have been made to correlate health and intelligence. It has been claimed that children of higher intelligence are slightly taller than others. This claim was made in Great Britain where people in general are taller than people of some other races.

Q—Did the United States government ever issue any quarter dollars without date?

A—No.

TODAY'S COMMON ERROR

Never say, "In so far as we know," omit the "in."

HOLD ON, NOW, FRIEND —
REMEMBER HOW STEAMED-UP
WE WERE DURING THE 1928
ELECTION? NOW HOOVER
AND SMITH ARE BOTH IN THE
SAME BOAT — AND DON'T THE
OLD CAMPAIGN ARGUMENTS
SEEM PRETTY SILLY?



The Hoosier Forum

I wholly disagree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it.—Voltaire.

inconvenience I would suggest that the city authorities change the names of those streets, so that only one street should be known once and for all, by a given name—regardless of whether you call it a "place," an "avenue," a "road," a "street," a "parkway" or what not.

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