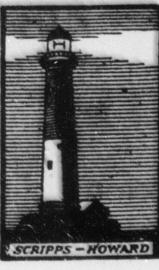


# The Indianapolis Times

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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

TUESDAY, JULY 20, 1937

## LEHMAN ON THE COURT

GOVERNOR LEHMAN precisely expresses our feeling, and we believe that of millions of other Roosevelt admirers, when he says:

"His program taken as a whole has, in my opinion, represented the greatest step forward in social reform that any nation has undertaken for many years. I look forward to the opportunity of continuing to support his courageous leadership in matters that are in the interest of the social well-being of our people. This (court) bill, however, I believe to be contrary to their interest. Its enactment would create a greatly dangerous precedent which could be availed of by future less well-intentioned Administrations for the support of oppression or for the curtailment of the constitutional rights of our citizens."

We have just halted to reread that. And we hope you will pardon us if we get a bit personal for a moment and indulge in a little reminiscence. For what Governor Lehman says takes us back to that day last February when the President so suddenly hurled his plan upon the scene.

We were for him personally, and what he stood for. Of all the men in the public life of our time he had inspired our greatest enthusiasm. Here was one whose program fitted into what Scripps-Howard newspapers for nearly 60 years had regarded as the concept which could best serve the country.

Not merely on humanitarian grounds, but also for cold economic reasons, the betterment of the lot of the rank and file had long pointed the way to national well-being. Our country could thrive only as the masses thrived. A land of such vast natural resources and a productive capacity growing at such a dizzy rate through technological improvement could continue to prosper only as the purchasing power of those masses was increased.

On the age of steam had been superimposed the age of electricity, and out of that had come such abundance, creating inventions as almost to stun the imagination. To cash in on that productivity, to distribute that abundance, to attain the age-old ideal of a better life for mankind, there seemed but one answer—greater consumption. And that could be attained not from those who already had much, for their capacity to consume was quickly surfeited, but from those who had little.

With Roosevelt came the enacting clause in that philosophy. We assumed he realized that such a goal could be attained only under a government in which freedom of thought and of science could have full sway—the democratic system; that tyrannies kill their Galileos.

An obstruction to his program appeared in the courts. A distinct unbalance in behalf of the judiciary had developed. Something should be done about it. For our democracy requires balance as between its three branches. We needed a restoration of balance.

Then came Feb. 5 and, instead of a restoration, what was proposed?

A plan which, carried to its ultimate, would have made it possible for Franklin Roosevelt, or any successor who desired to seize upon the precedent, to set up one-man rule in this nation.

So that, the court-packing plan boils down. With such a program we could not ride. Fully appreciating the provocation and the irritation that caused the President to launch what has proved to be his ill-starred idea, we believe today that defeat of it is necessary if democracy is to live in this land and the advance of the rank and file toward a more abundant life is to continue.

Governor Lehman's expression at this time of crisis may be the action which decides the issue. This man, called by the President himself his "good right arm," is, of all the liberals who split away on this court plan, closest to Roosevelt. In spectacular degree, timed as his declaration is, he demonstrates that this question is not merely one of the old alignment of the 1936 campaign, of economic royalists on one side and liberals on the other, but that the cleavage runs miles deeper than that.

And, addressed as his letter is, to Senator Wagner of New York, a question has been presented which we hope may bring from that other great liberal and friend of Roosevelt's, who has not yet spoken officially on the issue, a reply which will express, as did Governor Lehman's letter, grave concern over the President's course.

## BUMPER INDIANA WHEAT CROP

FROM the wheat fields and grain elevators comes cheering news—reports of a bumper wheat crop in Indiana, forecasts of the largest wheat crop the nation has harvested in six years.

The Hoosier yield is estimated at 36,754,000 bushels, while the normal crop is 30,000,000 bushels. And best of all for the farmer, wheat is bringing around \$1.20 a bushel.

Corn production for the state is estimated at 172,494,000 bushels, compared to 115,413,000 last year. Oats, barley, rye, potatoes and other crops are above the average for the last 10 years.

After a period of lean years, with drought cutting crops and low prices reducing income, this prospect is especially welcome to the farmers. In turn it means increased prosperity for others.

## HIS ERROR

PILOT MIKHAIL GROMOFF'S remark after landing, that "we ran into our worst weather over San Diego," probably will be forgiven as coming from a stranger in a strange land. The implied unfavorable comparison with the climate of the polar regions which the Russian airmen and his companions had so recently traversed must, however, have put a strain on even the celebrated hospitality of southern California.

And if the Soviets are going to keep on sending their fliers that way, they had better instruct them that the weather in California is never worst, or worse, or even bad. It is, at most, unusual.

## "It All Seems Like a Wonderful Dream"—By Herblock



## Washington

By Raymond Clapper

Roosevelt Is Seen Going Down the Same Path of Stubbornness That Led Wilson to Political Disaster.

WASHINGTON, July 20.—Some of President Roosevelt's most loyal friends are gravely disturbed. They see him going down the same path that brought political disaster to Woodrow Wilson. They see him pursuing the same ruthless, uncompromising tactics in his Supreme Court fight that President Wilson used, to his ruin, in the League of Nations struggle.

One day the Senate reached the point where enough votes were in sight to ratify the Versailles Treaty and put us into the League of Nations provided the Lodge reservations were attached to the resolution of ratification. Those reservations embodied concessions to those who feared unqualified adherence to the League covenant.

Mr. Wilson's Senate leader in that fight, the late Senator Hitchcock, went to the White House. He told Mr. Wilson that he could get the treaty ratified if Mr. Wilson would accept the Lodge reservations. Mr. Wilson, hating Mr. Lodge, feeling as bitterly toward Republican opponents of the League as Mr. Roosevelt does toward Tories now, said no. That was the report which Senator Hitchcock brought back to the Senate with almost a broken heart because he knew it was the sentence of defeat. Willingness on the part of Mr. Wilson to accept a compromise would have saved him. He was too stubborn, too blind, or too poor a judge of the situation to see that by relenting on some points he could achieve his larger ends. Demanding everything, he lost all.



Mr. Clapper

From close observation the method seems to be a redistribution of wealth not only of one nation, but of the entire world, so that all may know the meaning of the word comfort. By such a procedure, some may be deprived of a few unnecessary luxuries. But during the World War human life was conscripted to be sacrificed on the altar of greed. Does it not seem as fair and just to conscript dollars? To be sacrificed to the happiness and comfort of human life?

Mr. Maddox, we regret that you were born 30 years too late, whereby you must witness the awakening of a new world—a real world, a land of the free and home of the brave, a world without greed, crime or poverty...

In closing, I wish to state that the writer of this article is of the Patrick Henry type of Irish American.

DEFENDS PLEA FOR SPANISH LOYALISTS

By N. G. Frankfort

Arguments must contain something besides wisecracks and criticism of the other fellow.

Two writers from Indianapolis have taken dirty digs at Mr. Rey of Bloomington for his defense of Spanish Loyalists. If any reader will compare the letters of Mr. Rey

with those of Mr. Rey of the

THE writers against religion, while they oppose every system, are wisely careful never to set up any of their own.—Burke.

ENJOYS E. F. MADDOX'S LETTERS IN FORUM

By Bert Wilkinson, Ben Davis

It is my opinion that we have

come to a point where the choice of the

leader who is to direct the fight on the floor of the Senate. And this vital decision is to be reached in a moderately large room partially filled with smoke.

THE Tennessee Valley Authority has become so

adept in the matter of building dams and creating artificial lakes that, as if in response to a sum-

mer whim, it has thrown in an extra lake for good

measure.

Nobody hears about Big Ridge Lake. It is not on

the engineers' drawings for power development or

flood control. It is just something that TVA did

for the fun of it, like the miniature pie that cook

makes for sonny with left-over dough.

Some State Department officials feel that the

British have launched a campaign to win over the

United States, now that war threatens in Europe, and

that Secretary Hull and Mr. Roosevelt will have to

## THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

TUESDAY, JULY 20, 1937

He Isn't Blind—He Just Doesn't Care!—By Talbert



## The Hoosier Forum

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

### READER REPLIES TO MR. MADDOX

By H. W. S.

At last patience has been rewarded. I had been waiting for Mr. Maddox's comment on the meeting held by the American Legion at the Castle Tabernacle.

Perhaps, Mr. Maddox, you did attend the meeting at the Castle Tabernacle. And we are wondering if you drove your own ox-cart, not knowing perhaps that you are living in the age of tri-motor planes.

If so, we wonder also if you brought your knitting along, just in case the meeting became too monotonous to be interesting to you. I can readily see why your hair failed to rise at the aforementioned speeches.

You state it will take some real hair-raising speeches to wake up the smug, self-satisfied Americans, people having finally woken up to the fact that they have been deprived of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, which were granted them during another revolution.

Communists are not born; they are made, from just the brand of treatment they have received from such fair-minded Americans as yourself. Communism is but a symptom of the prevailing disease.

From close observation the method seems to be a redistribution of wealth not only of one nation, but of the entire world, so that all may know the meaning of the word comfort. By such a procedure, some may be deprived of a few unnecessary luxuries. But during the World War human life was conscripted to be sacrificed on the altar of greed. Does it not seem as fair and just to conscript dollars? To be sacrificed to the happiness and comfort of human life?

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MOUSE TRAPS

By PATRICIA BANNER

I saw a little mouse one day

I said, "Nice Mouse, go away—

I don't feel like I want to play,"

Oh! I did feel so sappy.

looked at me upon the chair

Said, "How ya doin' way up there?

Think I'll come up and get some air."

Oh! I did feel so happy.

He came up and I came down,

We chased each other 'round and 'round.

And then we took a different route,

He stayed in and I stayed out.

DAILY THOUGHT

These are murmurings, com-

plainers, walking after their own

lusts; and their mouth speaks

great swelling words, having

men's persons in admiration, be-

cause of advantage.—Jude 1:16.

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THE Washington Merry-Go-Round

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Premier Chamberlain Opens New Era of Anglo-American Relations; Told Dominion Ministers That Realignment of Empire Includes U. S.

be super-careful not to get suckered in by British diplomacy.

IGHTY-TWO-YEAR-OLD Andrew W. Mellon, who

was Secretary of the Treasury longer than any other man in history, has been seriously ill for some weeks with a cardiac condition.

He has been confined to his Washington apartment, where he is attended by a day and night nurse.

His illness has remained a carefully guarded secret.

Anning S. Prall, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, probably will not be compelled to return to his work, due to a severe illness which has resulted in partial paralysis.

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adept in the matter of building dams and creating artificial lakes that, as if in response to a sum-

mer whim, it has thrown in an extra lake for good

measure.

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