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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

THURSDAY, OCT. 7, 1937

## JAPAN CONDEMNED

LESS than 36 hours after President Roosevelt rocked the world by demanding concerted action against outlaw nations, he joined with the League of Nations in branding Japan as a treaty breaker and invader and thus proved to a still skeptical Europe that he meant what he said.

Earlier in the day, at Geneva, the League assembly had held Japan guilty of violating her pledges under the Nine Power China Treaty of 1922 and the Briand-Kellogg Pact outlawing war. But hardly had the news reached Washington when the State Department, in language equally strong, gave its full support to the League.

Thus quickly was answered the question raised by London's Daily Telegraph, often used as the mouthpiece of British officials.

"Will America take her share in a concerted effort (for peace) which the members of the League of Nations have been making without the co-operation of the United States for many years?"

Which, parenthetically, was a slight exaggeration. The truth is the United States has initiated or participated in some of the most fruitful peace and disarmament moves since the World War. At least once when members of the League backed away from positive action, the United States went out in front—so far, in fact, that it found itself all alone.

That was in 1931-32, at the time of the first Manchurian crisis. On that historic occasion Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson tried to impress upon Britain and France the epochal nature of Japan's aggression. That was the first major challenge of the postwar peace machinery. If Japan got away with it, he held, others would use force to get what they wanted, too. Then there would follow an epidemic of international outlawry.

BUT Mr. Stimson found himself out on a limb. Sir John Simon, then British Minister for Foreign Affairs, utterly failed to see the long-view significance of what was going on. So he not only let Mr. Stimson down, but he took the lead at Geneva in soft-pedaling action against Japan. And the epidemic of world outlawry which Mr. Stimson feared has not stopped since. On the contrary.

All this, of course, is an old story. But it still has point. For today there are indications that the world at last realizes its peril and wants to do something about it. That being true, success or failure, perhaps even peace or war, depend upon the sort of co-operation there is going to be.

So far as America is concerned, the President has spoken. He has spoken pretty plainly. Not only has he pledged his Administration to co-operation with the rest of the nations that want peace, but he has followed his words by diplomatic action. When the League acted, Washington acted—on the same day. And that carries its own significance.

Yesterday, 50 nations in the League called for a conference of the Nine Power Treaty signatories to deal with Japan's invasion of China. That conference may make history. Will America "take her share" in the proposed concerted effort?

After the events of Tuesday and yesterday, at Chicago, Geneva and Washington, there should be little doubt that she will... if the concerted effort is made. She will hardly risk, however, for the second time being left out on a limb.

## RILEY'S MEMORY

THE Riley memory and tradition gain new luster with each passing year. Nothing has so stirred old recollections as the restoration, during the last 12 months, of the Hoosier poet's Greenfield birthplace and boyhood playground.

The old homestead was dedicated today as a national shrine to James Whitcomb Riley. Friends and neighbors of early days have contributed relics to give the house the atmosphere in which Riley lived. One cannot visit the old place, with its winding stairway, the cubby-hole and press described in "Little Orphant Annie," its many furnishings from bygone days and the paintings by Will Vawter, Hoosier artist who illustrated many of Riley's books, without feeling a sentimental tug.

Yet this fine tribute is not what keeps the Riley legend fresh. Nor are the schools, libraries, hospitals and other splendid memorials.

That memory lives because Riley's own great works—human, unpretentious, kindly, expressing a gentle interest in all mankind—have contributed so much to the happiness of others.

## BETTER TRAFFIC FACILITIES

MUCH can be said for the proposal to use Tomlinson Hall for the Municipal Traffic Courts, and possibly also for the Police Traffic Department, Accident Prevention Bureau and traffic instruction schools.

City officials long have sought some way to make better use of the hall. At the same time, Police Headquarters, which now houses Municipal Courts, is too congested. Part of this is due to the large number of daily traffic arrests. The removal of traffic courts and the related departments would help eliminate an atmosphere of wholesale disposal of cases which we believe is hurting the safety campaign rather than aiding it.

Such separation also should encourage better public co-operation in the safety effort. Some traffic violators are, and should be dealt with as, dangerous criminals. But the great majority are brought in for minor offenses. To treat them as ordinary criminals leaves resentment, defeating a prime purpose of the campaign, which is to get voluntary public co-operation.

The proposal should be given careful consideration.

'Presenting the News of The Civilized World'—By Rodger



—Where It Will Stop—Nobody Knows!—By Talbert



## Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler

Wanderings of Freshman Envoy  
Cause Pegler to Ask If Mr. Davies  
Has an Eye on Smarter London Post.

NEW YORK, Oct. 7.—Joe Davies, our ambassador to Moscow, has returned to his post after a summer of wandering in 14 other European countries and while it is no fuzz off my peach what Mr. Davies does with his time, I wonder how the other diplomats of our service have felt about it. Ambassadors are always polite outwardly, but if you catch them with their feet up and their hair down, they are

human just like policemen, reporters, and, I might add, pickpockets.

A policeman does not like to find another policeman invading his beat, and a Court House reporter is likely to show annoyance if he discovers another newsman rifling through the divorce petitions in the Clerk's office to pick up a hot story.

As I understand the assignments in our diplomatic service, Mr. Norman Davis has a roving commission to visit other men's beats to see if their wine and cigars are up to the American standard, and not to report them to the State Department if there are dents in their plug hats.

But Joe Davies is not Norman Davis. Joe Davies, in fact, is just a freshman ambassador, and yet he is been bouncing all over the place, and other statesmen hardly can be blamed for suspecting he is trying to show them up.

THE best post nowadays is Mr. Bingham's in London, and certainly Mrs. Davies would look more at home in Mayfair than among the Moscow-lites.

Of course, a lady in the diplomatic service must go where her husband's duty calls him, even to 14 countries in one summer and back to Moscow at least long enough to keep the franchise. But somehow Mrs. Davies seems incongruous among the Communists, for she is one of our richest capitalist American ladies who has always loved nice things.

And unhappily, Mrs. Davies and journalists are not on the best of terms, a state of affairs which goes back to the mischievous conduct of a young lady journalist who used to cover society when Mrs. Davies was the social leader of Palm Beach.

MRS. DAVIES' estate was known as El Mirasol or El Hacienda, a something of the kind, but there was a sign at the entrance to the driveway which read, "Slowly, please." And this journalist always pretended to know no better than to refer to the delightful ball at Mrs. Davies' estate as "El Slowly, Please."

Strangely, my thoughts in connection with Ambassador Davies and Mrs. Davies always revert to London, for second choice, Paris. Nobody seems to care much about Moscow, and Mr. Bullitt, who is in Paris now, has on his toes with a lame lead off Moscow before he went down with a hook slide and caught the bag.

I might suggest that the other diplomats stick close to their places, for we seem to have one extra ambassador and lady in Europe these days.

Increasing Cost of Living Worries Administration's Economic Planners; Responsibility for Price Trends Can Be Traced Directly to New Deal.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—The Administration is concerned about prices—about the cost of living, especially of meat, because it has gone up; about the stock market, because it has gone down; about cotton and wheat prices, because they are jittery.

Whatever the trend of prices, down or up, this Administration can blame, or credit, nobody but itself. The President last spring used his great influence to break the stock market. He said markets were too high and threatened withdrawal of Government buying to break them. The markets broke a little later. I think he was right that the stock market was too high. But is it the business of Government to Jimmy with the markets? The President, once said, "No."

As to other prices, and especially those affecting the housewives' market basket, and the cost of living, this Administration deliberately set out to raise them.

PRINCIPALLY, in order to do this, the President increased the price of gold by about 70 per cent and of silver by more than 100 per cent—by fiat. That was a direct decrease in the purchasing power of wages.

Mr. Hoover was repudiated for his Grundy tariff, Mr. Taft for a similar cause, but this magic stunt, by decreasing the purchasing power of our dollars abroad, was the exact equivalent of a vertical increase in

## The Hoosier Forum

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

DENIES BLACK ERRED  
IN JOINING KLAN

By M. Kelley, Beech Grove

Your editor's article upon the Black speech appeared to me as sincere. First let me assure you that was no error made in Black's joining the Klan, and those that remember the conditions as they were in the South in those days would much rather hear him say such circumstances again be similar he would do so again.

The Klan was formed of citizens with every respect for justice. They saw, at the time, a rising revolutionary force throwing into power such people as the late Senator and Mr. Black had no desire to protect this nation as a democratic state. It was later the Klan got beyond the control of its originators and became a political weapon of destruction. It was for such reasons the Scotland Yard idea was put into existence and the G-Force was formed. It is for such reasons the Supreme Court is needlessly remodelling, because they have stood solid in a body behind big corporations who spread money to corrupt laws against common decency.

As I understand the assignments in our diplomatic service, Mr. Norman Davis has a roving commission to visit other men's beats to see if their wine and cigars are up to the American standard, and not to report them to the State Department if there are dents in their plug hats.

But Joe Davies is not Norman Davis. Joe Davies, in fact, is just a freshman ambassador, and yet he is been bouncing all over the place, and other statesmen hardly can be blamed for suspecting he is trying to show them up.

CATHOLIC BELIEVES  
BLACK PREJUDICED

By Thomas McNulty

Commenting on the speech of Mr. Justice Black on the radio, I wish to state that it is everything that I, as a Catholic, expect from him. He might have taken his leads from a radio program that featured W. C. Fields in which Mr. Fields was panning Bolivia and the Bolivians, and when he was started by the door accidentally slamming behind him, he shouted out, "I tell the Bolivians, but don't some of you told him that it was only the door that slammed, and not a shot which he anticipated, he was much relieved and kept on panning Bolivia.

I never saw or heard, from any one in my whole existence who had anti-Catholic leanings that did not have the following for an immediate answer whenever questioned about them: "Why, I number Catholics among my best friends," or, "Some of my best friends are Catholics." It is my opinion that the Catholics, as a whole, will see through the veneer that Mr. Black tried to put on in his radio address.

I know, as a Catholic, that a man as smart as Mr. Justice Black did not take the Klan oath without knowing what it meant, and without being sincere when he took it. People

Blessed are they that have not seen and yet have believed.—John 20:20.

WE cannot too often think that there is a never sleeping eye that reads the heart and registers our thoughts.—Bacon.

Autumn Time  
By MARY P. DENNY

The autumn fires are burning. The leaves to gold are turning. The lights of day are shining. All through the hours of time.

The corn is turning yellow.

The flowers a golden glow.

It is autumn time.

And harvest time.

And all the days are shining

In amber and in gold.

DAILY THOUGHT

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seen and yet have believed.—John 20:20.

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ROYALISTS' BLAMED  
FOR ATTACK ON BLACK

By William Lamon

It seems the economic royalists are camping on Roosevelt's trail through Senator Black's appointment to the Supreme Court.

Senator Black has always favored labor legislation and has made an enemy out of Hoover's economic royalists and his "Mexican Peon Laborers."

They used the ghost of Lincoln to secure colored votes, and now they use other ghosts to bring the sheep back home again, knowing that labor has a friend in Washington.

NOTHING that I can promise will be as effective

as the things I do. Whether you believe in my political and economic philosophy or not, you ought to be able to admit that it is a progressive idea.

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I may say that on the High Bench the two men to whom I am going to turn for aid and counsel are Justice Brandeis and Justice Cardozo. I think they are the men in the Court whose economic ideas go along in the direction in which I want to follow. Anybody who says that I made a compromise with my conscience is correct. It may even be argued that I made an ignoble compromise. But I ask you to judge me from this day forth.

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I think that would have been a better speech. In fact, I think that Hugo Black implied all that. I wish he had said it.

General Hugh Johnson Says—

Alabama Friends of Black Wrote His Radio Speech Replying to Charges; New Justice's Failure to Denounce Klan Assisted New Deal Politically.

By Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—Many newspapermen

credited Thomas Corcoran, star White House ghost writer, with having a hand in Hugo Black's historic broadcast.

Only two men helped him with it, neither

of whom is a Negro.

Some such note from the Chief Justice is customary.

But Mr. Black heard not a word. This has caused the belief in pro-Black circles that the Chief Justice was tipped off in advance that the Klan ex-

istence was on its way.

IT surprised no one around the Supreme Court that Justice Black was allowed to take his seat.

The secret strategy worked out by the Chief Justice was to let Mr. Black join the bench without challenge, then let him be challenged by counsel whenever a case comes before the Court involving the slightest tint of religious interest.

Such cases may be frequent. Already an important law firm, whose members all happen to be Catholics, is considering challenging Justice Black when its case

slightly comes before him.

They may ask him to show why his attitude, as a former Klanman, is not prejudiced against them.