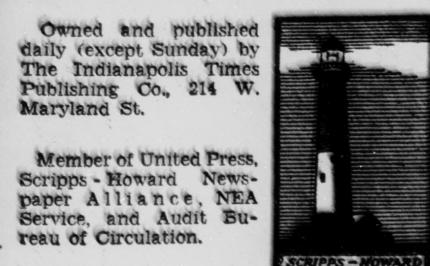


# The Indianapolis Times

(A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER)

ROY W. HOWARD President RALPH BURKHOLDER Editor MARK FERREE Business Manager



Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by The Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214 W. Maryland St.

Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance, NEA Service, and Audit Bureau of Circulation.

Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1939

## Fair Enough

By Westbrook Pegler

Sharp Practice and Cheap Politics  
In the Shadow of L. S. U. Couldn't  
Have Done Students Any Good.

NEW YORK, July 7.—Whatever else may be said of the educational standards of Louisiana State University, it cannot be denied that that section of American youth which had the privilege of attending school there has been given a thorough look at political extortion, embezzlement and the cruder methods of graft. And, from the absence of any protest audible beyond the campus limits, it may be assumed that youth, as represented by the student body of L. S. U., studied these practical devices, not with the pious abhorrence due sin but with the avidity of restless and inspired adolescents eager to go and do likewise.

Huey Long built his, and his successors have extended the physical development of the school which he called "my university," just as he called the coffee-colored Mississippi flowing past Baton Rouge "my river." And it is said that in the matter of routine book learning the university has a very respectable rating. But all this time the students have been exposed to the example of elders and direct superiors, both in the state capitol and in the university itself, who made corruption attractive by mocking the very name of decency.

Residential building here was more than double last year's construction during the first six months of the year, \$3,201,078 for 1939 as against \$1,533,691 for last year. But even more significant was the increase in industrial building activity from the 1938 figure of \$390,175 to \$563,140, a jump of \$172,965.

There are few healthier signs than a community's building, especially in the industrial field. We hope that the figures for the next six months show the same upward trend.

### A VOTE TO WATCH

THE much-amended and devitalized Hatch bill will be brought to the House floor for a showdown vote sometime next week or the week following.

People who are interested in cleaning politics out of relief and in having public servants devote their time to the public service, rather than to political activity, will want to watch how their Congressmen vote on this measure.

The real test will come when Rep. Dempsey (D. N. Mex.) proposes an amendment restoring those vital provisions to the Hatch bill. So watch how your Congressman votes on the Dempsey amendment. If he votes "aye" you will know he places his country above politics, and if he votes "no" that he places politics first.

### UNIVERSITY "BUILDER"

THIS country has seen many strange things in recent years, but the spectacle of a university president being returned under arrest from Canada to face charges of embezzlement surely is one of the strangest.

Whether Dr. James Monroe Smith will be able to explain away the accusation that he speculated with, and lost, hundreds of thousands of dollars belonging to Louisiana State University remains to be seen. Meanwhile he has done the cause of higher education a service which, though unintentional, may prove very real.

In 1930, Huey Long, angry because he failed to receive an honorary degree from Tulane, determined to build Louisiana State into an institution which would dwarf Tulane. He selected Dr. Smith to do the building, explaining that "he has a hide as thick as an elephant's."

Dr. Smith was Huey Long's man. Did a student newspaper criticize Huey's attempt to appoint a football player to the state Senate? Dr. Smith fired the editor and suspended other students who signed protest petition. Did Huey decree that Louisiana State must have "the best football team that money can buy?" Dr. Smith attended to it.

Louisiana State received funds for a marvelous expansion. In less than a decade, enrollment increased from 2000 to 8000. New buildings sprang up—at a total cost of \$18,500,000. Huey Long passed to his reward, but Dr. Smith, as he boasted, knew how to "get along" with the politicians. He continued to build a university rich in everything but character and intellectual freedom. Then, between suns, he resigned and left the school to face the worst financial scandal in the history of American education.

Dr. Smith's service to the cause of education is this: He has provided a perfect example of how not to succeed as a university president. It is an example that may be studied with profit by other men who, envying Louisiana State's sudden growth, may have been tempted to "build" their own institutions by adopting jazz methods, supressing freedom of thought and getting along with the politicians.

### GUFFEY'S RUMBLE-SEAT

WHEN Senator Joseph Guffey of Pennsylvania looks around for a coat-tail he is not of the sort to be satisfied with a thin and precarious thing flapping in the wind. What he wants is a well-upholstered conveyance fashioned in the manner of a rumble-seat. That, no doubt, accounts for the extreme to which he goes in insisting on Franklin D. Roosevelt for a third term—to run, be it noted, simultaneously with Guffey's campaign for re-election to the Senate in 1940.

Guffey sees America destroyed if any other than Roosevelt is made President; this "last, great, free democracy" done to death. Actually, he declares, F. D. R. hasn't served any term yet, having been cheated out of his first by the courts, and of his second by the "ingrates and the middle-of-the-roaders."

All of which gags us; and is no great treat, we suspect, to Roosevelt himself, who is wise enough to know that many a man in public life has been sunk by overstatement and adulation. That only one in 13 million is capable of being President is certainly a defeatist theory in a democracy. For when we arrive at a stage where a single heart-beat separates our nation from chaos we are in a bad fix, indeed.

So we are glad that all who issue statements are not Guffeys. We are impressed, for example, by what Senator Johnson (D. Cal.) says about Burton K. Wheeler. Johnson thinks Wheeler should be considered; pointing to Wheeler as a liberal of record unchallenged, so liberal in fact that he ran for Vice President with the elder La Follette when F. D. R. was campaigning for John W. Davis.

While we aren't herewith making a nominating speech for Wheeler we do believe the chaos of which Guffey warns would not overtake us if Wheeler should happen to land in the White House. We believe that the country will survive if Wheeler should be made President, or any other of several score who have made their mark—Democrats or Republicans.

In a century and a half, plus, this nation has developed quite a lot of talent. And the healthiest thing that would happen right about now would be to get our goods out on the counter and look over all offerings, rather than to confine our shopping to any one or two bolts of cloth.

We might be surprised.

## A Woman's Viewpoint

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

WOULD you like to serve on a jury, Mrs. Housewife? And how about you, Miss Business Girl? What's your pleasure in the matter?

I daresay if you put the question to every woman you met in a week's journey, only a few would answer, "Yes." But that is no reason to scoff at the efforts of the National League of Women Voters to awaken our sex to its citizenship responsibilities and break down legal barriers that keep us from jury service.

You might ask men the same question and get a similar reply from most. It seems they, too, dodge this task consistently, and those who oppose women's help with it are often the most artful of all dodgers. Probably justice will be no better served when every jury box is half filled with petticoats, but women ought to derive great benefit from the experience, individually and collectively.

The sheltered, domestic type needs a few eye openers about what goes on in the big bad world. And, although we are accustomed to thinking of the business girl as an inhabitant of a land of wide horizons, it is still true that many of her kind live in narrow spheres. Sometimes her universe is bounded only by the four walls of an office. In fact, most of us exist in snug little nests.

Women engaged in the task of bringing up tomorrow's citizens often remain their whole lifetime in dense ignorance of the temptations which their children will have to meet. They know poverty exists, but are completely unaware that it can and does incite most of the crime in the country.

In short, they are not able to associate deeds of violence with their causes. Perhaps jury service would make them better citizens, as I am almost certain it would make them wiser mothers.

## THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

Not Thinking of Checking Out Are You?—By Talbert



## The Hoosier Forum

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

### CLAIMS REQUEST FOR JOB BRINGS LAUGHS

By Morgan County WPA Worker

I read in your paper about giving the WPA workers a 30-day lay-off to look for work. Well, here in Martinsville, Ind., where one could get work the employees are worked about a day and a half a week, don't work over 12 men and the boss puts me in mind of an old hen and 12 chickens.

And to go around to some of these places and ask for work, they would make fun of you, and ask why if you were not trying to get on WPA instead of trying to get work where they have laid all their help off.

I have been on WPA work more than 18 months and all the time I have been on I have tried every way in looking for work. I say let these big men that are trying to down poor men who want a living for their families, make it so the WPA workers can have work.

Let them put their heaps of riches they have locked up to work. And maybe then we little poor WPA workers can leave WPA for good and live from the labor of the rich men's money at jobs it made for WPA workers.

Mr. Jones told the Senate Banking Committee that Senator Mead's plan won't work. Mr. Jones then put his finger on what seems to be the fly in the ointment. The trouble is not with the banks but with the borrowers.

Mr. Jones told the Committee that any deserving borrower who would be reasonably expected to repay his loan can obtain all the funds he needs now.

### Writes His Own Ticket

If he can't get them from the banks he can get them from the R. F. C. by merely applying. At the present time a man who needs money and is considered a good risk can go to the R. F. C. and write his own ticket for a five-or-10-year loan, and Mr. Jones went so far as to say that Government loans have been made on plants that couldn't be sold for junk and that the Government has been taking these gambles on a man's success.

And he intimated that the Government had made loans to men who had shown continuous losses on their business over a period of years right up to the time the loan was made.

All this makes pretty plain the fact that the trouble in the credit jars lies not with the lenders but with the borrowers. Enterprises with a fairly reasonable hope of repaying loans are not asking for loans.

They can get loans now if they want them. But you cannot stimulate loans by guaranteeing the loans when people do not want to borrow.

The trouble lies, as has been urged continuously here, in other fundamental economic factors. Senator Mead's bill for guaranteeing loans will not reach them and Jesse Jones' disapproval of the bill and his unanswerable arguments about it will probably sound its death-knell in the Senate.

### ASKS SOME QUESTIONS ON ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

By Curious

Will some of you prize students of economics please answer a few questions for one who has observed this raging battle between and among those "fer and agin" the capitalist system?

1. Seeing as how all wealth originates from the earth in the form of raw material and is made valuable only by human effort, is he who organizes and planned the processing of this raw material entitled to a return or share in the finished product?

2. Inasmuch as this planner must sell the finished article in order to pay wages, should he sell at cost, or at more than cost? Can a man make himself wages?

3. Is a storekeeper or a farmer a capitalist? Does the farmer expect to reap only the amount that he sows? Does the storekeeper handle goods and make them convenient to the public for nothing?

4. If the worker is to receive pay

Menus are given for 100 simple, appetizing, and inexpensive dinners

ply of money, why is it not possible to make enough for everybody to do cash business with?

9. Do you think that the employer likes hard times any better than an employee does?

10. Who has throttled both capital and labor?

### PROTESTS BLASTING ON THE SABBATH

By B. R.

I have been a reader of The Times for a long time and have always been interested in the Hoosier Forum. There always seems to be someone to answer whatever question or opinion that appears.

Now I am wondering if there is not somewhere in the statutes a law to protect the Sabbath from being desecrated by dynamite blasts in quarries and also blasting at night, even as late as 9 o'clock. The quarry I refer to is beside a main-traveled road. No one is sent out to watch the road and stop people from passing. It is very dangerous as rocks fly in all directions.

6. If the employer is all-powerful why were more than 250,000 factories and stores taken over since 1929, and who got them? Who sicces one labor union against another who loses—who gains?

7. To whom is the national debt due? Is there actually enough money in the country to pay it? If not, how can it be paid?

8. How can we honestly do a \$6 billion dollar a year business on the strength of five or 10 billion dollars in gold said to be buried at Ft. Knox?

9. If we have to do a credit business, owing to an insufficient sup-

ply of men and women, why is it not possible to make enough for everybody to do cash business with?

10. Do you think that the employer likes hard times any better than an employee does?

11. Who has throttled both capital and labor?

12. Who has been most responsible for the depression?

13. Who has been most responsible for the high cost of living?

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