

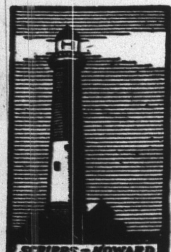
The Indianapolis Times

(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.



Price in Marion County, 3 cents a copy; delivered by carrier, 12 cents a week.

Mail subscription rates in Indiana, \$3 a year; outside of Indiana, 65 cents a month.

MILEY 5551

Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1941

THE BAR MOVES IN

THE appointment of a five-man committee by the Indianapolis Bar Association to make "a full and complete" investigation of practices in the criminal branches of the Municipal Courts is a welcome move.

It is an encouraging and healthy sign that the Bar Association is moving in to take this responsibility upon itself. The Bar has the power to correct many faults in legal practice.

We hope it can cure the weaknesses of our present Municipal Court system.

A HAND ON THE BRAKE

NEAR the bottom of the depression Congress gave the President, the Treasury and the Federal Reserve System a number of powers to inflate currency and bank credit. Some of the powers were used, with results so disappointing that the others were left on the shelf.

The Federal Reserve System now proposes that these unused powers—the President's authority to issue three billions in greenbacks and to devalue further the dollar's gold content, and the Treasury's authority to monetize additional foreign silver and issue silver certificates against seigniorage—be removed from the statute books. Other suggestions are that future gold acquisitions be sterilized, that steps be taken to prevent any further swelling of excess bank reserves, and that the Government make a more serious effort to balance the budget through larger tax revenues from the rising national income.

We've never pretended to expertise on complex monetary problems. But to pur lay minds these proposals make sense. When Congress conferred the above-named powers it was attempting to deal with what was called a deflation. An opposite situation now confronts the country, with many industries running at capacity and prices starting an upward spiral.

The reserve system's report—which incidentally is indorsed not only by the Board of Governors but by the presidents of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks and by the system's Federal Advisory Council—does not say or imply that there is imminent danger of inflation. But the report does say, wisely we think, that it would be prudent "to take measures, when necessary, to forestall the development of inflationary tendencies attributable to defects in the machinery of credit control." For, the report continues, "these tendencies, if unchecked, would produce a rise of prices, would retard the national effort for defense and greatly increase its cost."

A price boom, raising the cost of armaments, not only would burden the taxpayers, but also would reduce the living standards of American wage-earners. And when the big borrow-spend drunk had passed, the country would be left with another economic hangover.

We are glad to see someone reaching for the brake.

DANCING IN THE STREET

AS Big Ben counted 12 and the most fateful of years stole in upon their blacked-out city, Londoners danced in the street.

They did not seem to be impressed with Hitler's pronouncement that "1941 will bring consummation of the greatest victory in our history." The inevitability of further blood and toil and tears failed to dismay them. The defeats of the old year had been hard, but not so hard as the backbone of this proud and stubborn people.

Long ago—long in terms of events if not of time—Winston Churchill told them: "What is the sole method open to us? It is to regain our old island independence by acquiring that supremacy in the air which we were promised, that security in our air defenses which we were assured we had, and thus make ourselves an island once again."

Churchill was on the outside then, a gloomy Gus, a prophet not without honor save in his own country, a lugubrious has-been. It was a week after Munich when he spoke those particular words.

Today, behind the mobile ramparts of the R. A. F., England under Churchill is moving toward that goal of air supremacy. She has a long way to go. But the United States, and Canada, and Australia and New Zealand are enlisted in the race to make the R. A. F. supreme.

Hitler may be correct. But we hope those capers in the blackout will be fully justified as the year unfolds.

GWLADYS HWADYS IN STITCHES

A READER, Miss Gwladys L. Williams, contributes the following verse, which she modestly says is "by Shelley or someone":

DOLOROUS DITTY

If cents can make dollars, do dollars make sense?
A question to puzzle the wildest scholar!
But plain Mr. Creditor's firm in defense
Of the sextuple-asterisked, silly-fool dollar.

We explained to the butcher that butters were cash;
Our reasons were sound, but the boob couldn't follow.
The restaurant-keeper cried: "Cough 'up that hash!"
When we offered him sous for the silly-fool dollar.

The dairyman turned out to be just as tight;
Not a bottle he'd part with—not even a sweller!—
For drachmae, denarii, Turkish delight;
His palm must be crossed with the silly-fool dollar.

We hoped that the landlord would see what we meant;
He merely got feverish under the collar,
When showered with roses and rubles for rent.
He clung to the cult of the silly-fool dollar.

L'ENVOI

And it's silly-fool dollars to doughnuts, alas!
The Collector of Taxes will set up a holler,
If we tender him quidnors or goodwill or grass;
In lieu of the sanctified, silly-fool dollar!

'Nose Dive'

By Maj. Al Williams

 That's What One Writing 'Expert'
Took Judging by Laughs Which
Greeted Recent Magazine Article

WHEN I entered the air-line pilots' lounging room one chap greeted me with gusto, waving a magazine (one of our big weeklies). He said, "Say, why doesn't someone, the Government or what not, organize a school for aviation writers—make them join a union or qualify so they know that diabolical is not some kind of religion?"

I thought he was ragging me until I caught the name of the weekly in which there was a well-to-do but glaringly inaccurate story of Europe's aerial war. I had seen it, too.

Here are a few samples. "Clearly there can be no victory won over a determined opponent by means of aviation alone." That writer must know the final score of the Battle of Britain. Submarines and airplanes are besieging England—no marching armies—no trenches—no barbed wire—no warships.

And then get this, a few paragraphs later: "The German purpose in air battle is clearly to break the Royal Air Force by inflicting heavy losses, and without the R. A. F. there would be small hope of defending the island against total war, when it comes." In other words airpower cannot force a decision alone, but if the defense loses control of the air, there's little chance for the defense. Maybe I'm mixed up. At least I ought to be after reading that conflict.

HERE'S another: "A world's speed record was made by a Hurricane in February, 1938, from Edinburgh to Northolt at an average speed of 408.75 miles per hour." That's a honey. There's no such recognized world speed record for such a course, and, furthermore, world's speed records never recognize speeds made with tail winds. I remember the flight to which he refers, admitted by the British themselves to have been made with the aid of a 55-mile-an-hour tail wind. The British officially claim 335 miles per hour for the Hurricane, and the claim is correct.

The next was a peach—and the boys roared as they read it aloud: "The Messerschmitt (109, single-seater) had great disadvantage in armor, but the pilot's head was left insufficiently protected and the tail was quite unarmored." Maybe we have been missing something in airplane armoring, but to date we haven't heard of anyone building an iron or steel turret around a single-seater pilot's head.

Then he mentions that "The Hurricane and Spitfire have no periscopes by which they can see directly behind them, so the Messerschmitt also derives a great advantage by firing into the enemy's tail." How ridiculous! Single-seater fighters from its inception is based on maneuvering until you can get on an enemy's tail, because his guns are all pointing the other way and that's always a sensible way to attack any enemy—on land, sea, or in the air.

GET this for misleading the public: "Our P-40 in the same class for speed and general performance." (Meaning in the same class as the British Hurricane and Spitfire). Certainly no airman who knows what he is talking about would agree with that. We are lucky to keep our P-40's in the air for any length of time, and they are far slower than the Spitfires.

Then he switches to pilots turning at high speeds in modern fighters. "Older men 'black out' that is, lose consciousness." Nonsense. The blackout is the temporary loss of vision. And when a pilot is blacked out during a tight turn at high speed or the pull-out at the bottom of a dive, he can think just as clearly as when he is flying level.

The blackout is caused by centrifugal force driving the blood down and away from his optic nerves, and no one pays much attention to it. Uncomfortable for the moment, but that's all, and it has nothing whatsoever to do with consciousness. But when this author "suspects that the 240-mile-an-hour German Stuka can outrun practically any fighter machine in existence." Well, that's where I quit, especially when Spitfires and Heinkels 112's and Messerschmitt-109's skip along about 355 and 460 miles per hour.

Business

By John T. Flynn

 Still Puzzled by British Refusal
To Use Billions of Assets in U. S.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—Up to this moment I have not been able to get from any financial authority here, or from any political authority, any explanation of this singular fact—that Britain with five billion dollars in credits here has notified the American Government she will place no more orders in America beyond her present commitments.

The nearest approach to an explanation I have been able to get is the following: Much of Britain's property in this country is in the form of direct investments. And these direct investments are in industries upon which Britain is dependent because they are so important to providing employment for her people.

This explanation I have discovered in print in two or three inspired sources. But it is, of course, utterly without basis. England's purchasing power in this country consists of (1) gold and bank deposits; (2) inventory and stocks of American goods; (3) outright ownership of plants in which goods are manufactured.

Of course the gold and cash are not giving any employment to people in England. They are available to pay bills here, and there is enough of this gold and cash in the United States alone to pay Britain's bills here for the seven years to come. As for the stocks and bonds, there are evidences of ownership in American industries, which are in America and which give employment to American workers. And some of them actually compete with the industries of England in which British workers are employed.

THE direct investments consist in a number of manufacturing and some distributing enterprises that operate here but that are owned by English capital. The plants are here. The people employed live in this country. They are mostly, if not totally, American workers. These industries play but little part in giving employment to British workers.

The British Government can do what ever other government has done. It can take over, and it has in large measure taken over, these properties—cash, securities, plants—paying her own people in British bonds. She can then sell these properties here and pay for all the goods she can order and get for at least two years.

Some explanation, therefore, ought to be made to the American people of why Britain refuses to pay for any more of her purchases here unless we lend her the money or, better still, lend her the materials themselves.

Her refusal to order any more goods here was in the nature of an ultimatum. There seems to be no other interpretation to it than this—that unless we take up the job of financing her she will make peace and thus leave our war industries flat.

So They Say—

CITIZENS have a right to expect that the schools will help solve problems of fitness.—Dr. N. L. Engelhardt of Columbia University.

I'VE ATTENDED meetings, meetings, meetings almost every night of our married life, and any wife who stands for that deserves a medal.—George Weller of Milwaukee, member of 17 organizations.

TO ACT IN THE spirit of Christian mercy is a good business.—Anne Morrow Lindbergh.

MR. KNUDSEN has asked industry to do what was frankly termed the impossible. And let me add that it will do the impossible.—H. W. Prentiss Jr., president, National Association of Manufacturers.

O'er the Ramparts We Watch!



The Hoosier Forum

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

URGES LIGHT CHANGE TO AID PEDESTRIANS

By Mrs. Claude Martin

Why can't we change our stop and go lights in the center instead of caution to walk. Then the pedestrians would have a chance and not have to watch for cars to come around the corners. This is how East Chicago and Gary do their corners.

URGES BREAD INSTEAD OF BOMBS FOR EUROPE

By E. W.

At this time of year, when our hearts and souls are filled with thoughts of peace on earth, it comes as a sign from above, a strong reminder to men that faith in God is embedded deep down in the hearts of everyone.

The warring powers of Europe, with all their strife and bitterness, openly admit and respect that they have one thing in common; they have ceased firing as a sign of their faith in the King of Kings.

It is my humble belief that our great nation, reflecting upon the above example by the belligerents, can and will make the greatest contribution toward peace on earth and bread instead of bombs to the suffering humankind of Europe, regardless of race, creed, color, religious or political belief.

VIEWERS HELP TO BRITISH PROTECTION FOR U. S.

By S. E. W.

The last war was to have brought a new era—an era of peace and international accord. This failed to materialize because we helped to strangle the League of Nations, the only agency which might have been an effective instrument toward maintaining international stability and international peace, the only agency which might have adjusted any wrong done at Versailles.

Since the close of the "war to end wars," we have seen the most brazen international brigandage in the history of the world.

England and France were the last citadels of freedom to be attacked;

(Times readers are invited to express their views in these columns, religious controversies excluded. Make your letters short, so all can have a chance. Letters must be signed, but names will be withheld on request.)

CLAIMS PEGLER CRITIC MADE MATTERS WORSE

By James E. Metzler, Attica, Ind.

When Tom Berling footed his attempt to answer Pegler's expose of the New Bedford Carpenters' Union charging men \$75 for the right to work on a Government project and the curious coincidence of those men getting fired as soon as the \$75 was paid, he made matters worse. There is no decent defense for extortion.

Mr. Berling blames the worker who paid the money for his alleged inexperience instead of the union who demanded \$75 for the right to work and took it. If the workman was inexperienced, so much the worse for the union's good name. It is on a par with those fake colleges who sell diplomas to quacks. However on this job it was a regular procedure for men to lose their jobs as soon as the union got his \$75.

But that is not the worst. Mr. Berling writes, "This card entitles him to seek employment on any building in the United States the same as mine." Collective bargaining is all right for those who want it. When it is made compulsory it nullifies the rights of free men to work. That any man should be forced to pay tribute to an irresponsible private organization before he can work on any job, public or private, is a denial of his constitutional rights.

Westbrook Pegler's expose of the various crooks who infect the labor unions and their rackets deserves praise and support by every honest man.

FINDS U. S. SWAYED BY INFERIORITY COMPLEX

By M. C. H.

Several hundred years from now the historian who chronicles the decline and fall of the British Empire undoubtedly will be interested in the amazing influence exerted by it on a former colony which, while nominally independent, permitted the empire to waste its resources, drain its manpower and to a great extent dictate its policies, both foreign and domestic.

This influence which persisted even in the dying days of the empire, over a century and a half after the colony ostensibly had, with great difficulty, separated itself politically by force of arms, will probably be attributed to an inferiority complex fostered and nurtured by complex propaganda on the part of the empire and its dupes in the colony.

An exceptionally interesting manifestation of this influence will be found in the records of the 1940 recurrence of the perennial struggle for the domination of Europe when a situation was created in which a citizen of the former colony was not considered loyal to his own country if he failed to profess loyalty to the so-called "mother country" and was the object of ridicule, vituperation and even personal attack by what were known as "Anglophiles" if he objected to his own country's efforts to preserve the empire.

HOPES FIGHT BARS SWING FROM AIR

By C. F. A.

Some concern is manifested in editorials over the widening breach between the jitterbug union and the broadcasting companies.

I find something very heartening in the situation.

The union is predominantly swing, hence a permanent break with the broadcasters would automatically eliminate the jitterbug union and its squeals, squawks, squaws and bleats incident and essential to swing composition.

Should this occur and radio decide to can its own, it would perforce be obliged to engage some real musicians and use much legitimate music to the lasting gratification of a vast majority of listeners.

The popularity of swing is largely chimerical and self made. The jitterbug is a vociferous animal. One of them will make more noise than a dozen rational music lovers.

Taking swing off the air would not impair its false popularity but it sure would make the old hillfolk look sick.

SYMPATHY

By FLORENCE MACDONALD

Words sometimes seem inadequate, stilted and trite. So try to understand if I should fail to write.

Some message of comfort a friend hates to bestow. Of sympathy and devotion . . . but I would have you know.

That I send you my love and feel the sting of a tear in sharing the hurt of your sorrow, my Dear!

Side Glances—By Galbraith



"Don't be remorseful over having a good time—you'll look dignified when you're in a frame like that, too!"

Gen. Johnson Says—

People Fully Alive to the Danger; What Is Needed Is High Type of Leadership F. D. R. Gave in 1933

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—It would be easy to point out statements in the President's address that were disheartening, intolerant and indefensible in logic. But it would be as unwise to detract greatly from its main purpose by doing that, as it was for the speech itself to detract from that purpose by making it possible to do so.

That purpose was to goad our almost unbelievably laggard production. Whether you believe that it would be better to neglect our own balanced defense by diverting to another nation material that could easily become vital, or that we should provide ourselves with an effective American force under the American flag, is not important so long as we are not getting the production to go.

Some observers say that this is because the country is not sufficiently awake to its danger. These advisers see a remedy in shrieking like banshees and using all the hysteria producing tom-toms that ingenuity can devise—even to the suggestion that, to awaken this country, it is necessary to get into bloody war and kill a few thousand Americans.

It is absurd. Men who travel the face of this country know that there is no lack of appreciation of danger. The people have been far ahead of their leaders in insisting on adequate armament, in demanding vastly increased appropriations and taxes and peace-time conscription. Our unofficial and official guardians need not worry about our people. They would do better to worry about themselves.

This diagnosis sees our timbers hopelessly cumbered with termites—"spies," fifth columnists, appeasers and traitors." If they don't see these actual vermin, they apply these names to those neighbors as do not happen to agree with their defense formulas. Some of these equally patriotic citizens retaliate with "war monger," "divided loyalist" and "British stooge." Leaders for "unity" who demand that all contrary opinion be vilified, silenced and even persecuted, are the greatest disunionists.

For unity there must be great leadership, just as there must be great leadership for maximum production. It is not leadership for unity to threaten, heckle, berate and question the patriotism, brains or motives of followership. Neither does our present laggard production show conspicuous leadership.

THE running record of the moment certainly reveals absence of another necessary element of leadership in this effort. There is not enough life in it because it lacks some kind of spark plug, some inspirational juice, some pull from above that shows men the way and then carries them over the top in perfectly united effort.

You don't get that by driving and coercing people. You get it by inspiring them with confidence in leadership and enthusiasm for it.

One example was our First World War effort. Conscription, questioned in 1917 as hateful to Americans, was the only thing that got us out of our universal eagerness for it engulfed this country in six weeks' time. One has only to compare that all-out spontaneity of the mobilization of industry in World War I, with this torpid stagnation to realize what is lacking.

Yes, that was in war time. But there is an even better example in peace—the first glorious 100 days of Franklin Roosevelt. This country rose behind him in mass to as extreme an effort as that demanded in 1917 and 1918—or now. It can be done again. It doesn't need war. It needs the Franklin Roosevelt of 1933.

A Woman's Viewpoint

By Mrs. Walter Ferguson

ANSWERS to the El Paso housewife whose letter I quoted recently have piled up into such a heap it is impossible to give a hearing to all. Most of them contend that the Texas mother puts emphasis on the wrong things.

A reader in Verona, Pa., says she manages to get along by budgeting a budget of \$90 a month. "We are buying a three-room house," she continues, "at \$15 per month. Utilities average about \$5 per month, and I use \$40 for food."

We are still paying on the doctor and hospital bills for our 2-year-old daughter. Then we figure on \$10 a month for insurance and other small bills. Out of the \$10 left we save for having a few pleasures we have.

"My husband and I have only a high-school education and so thank goodness, we haven't a whole lot of knowledge of what she apparently thinks is tasteless. Our tastes are not expensive. To us a roof over our heads that doesn't leak, a chance to earn a little every day, and our love for each other and for our child, make up our life. As soon as we can catch up with our bills we intend to have another baby. I hope you will print a part of this letter to encourage other women who have to worry along on two hundred or more a month."

The tone of this letter is typical. It breathes courage and determination.

The point to remember we dig into the subject is this: Couples getting along on a small income live always in the hope that it will some day be increased. It is that hope which gives them courage; that is the dream holding them to their purpose. Take it away and you deprive them of their chief incentive for striving and for having more babies.

And that is why I believe the defiant El Paso housewife expresses something which flames eternally in the national soul. Maybe we want too much. But through dissatisfaction and wanting, better ways of living are devised.

No American family ought to be content with a roof that doesn't leak, and all the deprivations the phrase implies. Our land is rich enough to furnish better accommodations for all its citizens. Until living standards are lifted, I hope mothers will continue to ask for more privilege, more opportunities for education and culture, and more comforts for their children.

Watching Your Health

By Jane Stafford

BIRTHMARKS are mistakes in the formation of the body, what might be called one of nature's errors. They are not due to any friction or other external force or action of the mother before the child is born. The old idea that mothers could "mark" their babies is a fallacy.

In the case of birthmarks, nature has produced in the area of the birthmark a mass of one type of tissue, more than she should. The red birthmarks, masses of newly formed dilated blood vessels. The chief other kind of birthmarks are ones composed of solid tissue which are overgrowths of tissues normally found in the skin. Birthmarks can appear on any part of the body. The type that is made up of masses of blood vessels may appear on internal organs and give little or no sign of their existence.

The common mole is a type of birthmark. These may be brown or even black, some are raised above the skin, and some are hairy. These pigmented or colored birthmarks may become cancerous in later life, especially if they are constantly irritated. They should be carefully watched in persons over 40 years of age, warns the Illinois State Medical Society, and at the first sign of growth or soreness they should be removed.

Most of the blood vessel types of birthmarks can be easily controlled, the medical society states. A number of treatments giving excellent results have been developed.

Birthmarks very rarely disappear without treatment, however. This condition, moreover, like many others, in most cases best treated early. Parents are therefore advised to consult a doctor as soon as a child's birthmark is noticed.

DAILY THOUGHT

I have said: Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most high. But ye shall die like men and fall like one of the princes.—Psalm 82:4, 7.

EQUALITY is the share of every one at their advent upon earth; and equality is also theirs when placed beneath it.—Ruskin.