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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

## IT'S THE LEAST WE CAN DO

IT is good news that the Red Cross campaign for funds now being conducted by the Indianapolis chapter is running 50 per cent ahead of the record at the same stage of the drive last year. But after almost a full month, Indianapolis still is \$509,000 short of its quota. There's a long way yet to go.

If the citizens of Indianapolis fully realized all that the Red Cross is doing for the service men and women of the nation, the city would have subscribed the full amount, and more, the first week of the campaign. The goal of \$1,146,000 sounds big, but it is not large in comparison to what we spend each week for things we could easily do without, it is not large in relation to the tremendous contribution the Red Cross is making all over the world. It is little enough to ask, when so many are giving everything.

The Red Cross never is slow in ministering to the health, comfort and happiness of our loved ones in service. Can we be slow in giving freely and generously to the Red Cross?

Let's turn in that \$509,000 to the Indianapolis chapter before another week passes.

It's the least we can do, it's little enough to do.

## MANPOWER: TWO QUESTIONS

NUMEROUS propositions for herding civilians into war-essential jobs have been put forward, ranging from broad national service legislation down to various strategies for compelling only 4-F's under 38 to get into important work.

The stepped-up pressure of the draft is bound to cause new personnel difficulties in industry and agriculture, and sooner or later the government may have to resort to some form of compulsion. But in this connection a couple of questions occur to us:

1. Insofar as current talk of applying compulsion only to 4-F's under 38 is concerned, why should compulsion be used only against a particular age class? Granted that the army doesn't want men past 38 for service in battle, who will argue that men in their 40s are necessarily of no account behind a plow or a lathe? And surely their obligation to serve their country to the best of their ability is not destroyed by baldness or bulging of the beltline.

2. Is there any assurance that the administrative geniuses of the war manpower commission, who sometimes seem to be changing their minds with each morning's mail, would be adequate for the job of distributing manpower where it was most needed, even if they had the power? The WMC has shown little imagination, for instance, in coping with the costly hoarding of labor in which many cost-plus manufacturers have recklessly indulged.

Before congress prescribes forced labor of any kind, it had better take steps first to insure that the controllers of manpower know where men are needed, and how many, and where they can be most advantageously obtained.

The principle of work-or-fight is morally sound in wartime, but experience so far has shown greater efficiency in the voluntary co-operation of the people than in administrative direction from Washington.

## A NEW CHAPTER

THE Colosseum, no doubt, is classed among the "cultural monuments" of Rome now threatened by approaching battle. It has been preserved to remind the world of the glories of that great pagan city which flourished where the City of Popes now stands.

But it took the Nazis to remind the world also of the brutal sport that used to attract howling thousands to the great arena. And there are probably few more barbarous chapters in the Colosseum's bloody history than that added in the year 1944 when, according to Swiss dispatches, 300 hostages were murdered there in reprisal for a patriotic uprising against the German conquerors.

In fact, the ancient contests of the gladiators seem almost merciful by comparison. These men at least were armed and given a fair chance to defend their lives. Many were criminals already condemned to die. All, when wounded, had the right of appeal to the mercy of the spectators. And surely the mob did not always turn thumbs down.

NO, the Nazi chapter in Colosseum history belongs with those of early Christian martyrdom. Those brave professors of a new faith were "enemies of the established order." That was their crime. That was also the crime of the 300 victims of the Nazis. It was not a matter of whether they had shot the guns or thrown the bombs that killed 38 German soldiers and Fascist militiamen. They were chosen to fulfill a promised ten-to-one reprisal because they had fled fascism when Mussolini fell, or because, like stout-hearted old Vittorio Orlando, they had always resisted it.

In their death the Romans may now see and taste the fruit which in two decades has sprung from the seed of fascism.

The Nazis have turned back the pages of Rome's history to a time of cruelty and oppression which Rome had forgotten. Wild beasts in the second century or machine guns in the 20th, the intent and result were the same.

CHURCHMEN plead that Rome may be spared. Their plea is natural and understandable.

But the Nazis are in Rome now. They have shown themselves as they really are, in a spurge of brutality and perverted bravado. They have not spared Rome's people, and they will not spare its antiquities if they are challenged.

Perhaps they have demonstrated to Rome that, if bombs are necessary to drive them out, they are bombs of liberation.

## Radical Slump

By Thomas L. Stokes



MADISON, Wis., March 31.—Typical of the times, the LaFollette Progressive party which dominated this state so completely a few years back is suffering now—at least temporarily—the usual fate of third parties when everybody has a job and there is no economic discontent.

Coming to its 10th anniversary which it celebrates in May, the party is weak and torn by factional strife.

Beyond its lack of a major economic issue, on which it flourished in the depression years and some time afterward, the party is now sharply divided on issues growing from the war. One faction clings to the isolationist tradition handed down by the elder LaFollette to his two sons, Robert M. Jr. and Philip; the other is breaking away toward a program of international co-operation. The schism nurtures some bitterness.

THE PARTY reached its heyday when Phil sat in the governor's chair here a few years back. It controlled the legislature and had an effective machine down through state offices. Bob then a senator as now, had a national forum for the party's objectives in Washington and a close working alliance with the New Deal that supplied patronage and prestige.

Today it has only 13 out of 100 members of the assembly and six out of 33 members of the senate. Two of its leading members in the legislature switched to the Republican party two years ago, and more are expected to join the exodus this year. Phil is on Gen. MacArthur's staff in the Pacific. Bob is not so cozy with the administration.

What is happening to the Progressive party has occurred in other third party and independent political movements in what was formerly known as "the radical frontier," including Minnesota with its once powerful Farmer-Labor party and North Dakota with its Non-Partisan league.

The Farmer-Labor party, at its peak, revolved about a personality—the dynamic Governor Floyd Olson. With his death it began to fall apart, Republicans swept back into power six years ago.

## Dual Leadership Holds Party Together

THE TWIN personalities, Phil and his older brother Bob, have held the Progressive party together in a dual leadership. Phil tried a few years ago to branch out with a national Progressive party, but it failed. He was defeated for governor and went into law practice.

In the tense days of debate before Pearl Harbor he spoke all over the country under the auspices of America First, trying to stem the surge toward war. Then he went into the army. He had served overseas in world war I.

The Progressive party is keeping hands off officially in the presidential primary which culminates in next Tuesday's election of convention delegates.

Very likely the Progressives will split their votes among the four candidates, the others being Governor Dewey, Gen. MacArthur, and Lieut. Cmdr. Stassen. Some may vote for the Roosevelt slate of delegates in the Democratic primary.

WHAT ABOUT the Progressive party in the November election, and what about its future?

One thing is certain. There will be no formal alliance with the Democrats behind President Roosevelt as in the past. One authority told the writer that more Progressives would vote Republican than Democratic this fall. Bob LaFollette is not up for re-election this year.

The Progressive party may be in only a temporary slump. It is not wise, one is warned, to count it out. Two years ago the Progressives elected a governor who died, however, before he took office.

Furthermore, it is pointed out that in the post-war period there are likely to be pressing economic issues which the party can capitalize to draw a clear line between itself and Democrats and Republicans. The Democratic party is a third party in this state, and perhaps will continue to be.

(Westbrook Pegler is on vacation. His column will be resumed when he returns.)

## We The People

By Ruth Millett



IN SOME CITIES, judges give the neglectful parents of juvenile delinquents a jail sentence, or make them pay a fine.

But in San Francisco, the juvenile court puts delinquent parents on probation and sentences them to attend a "Parent School" for eight sessions, one night a week.

There a judge tells parents of their legal responsibility. A member of the city playground department tells the parents their children's recreational needs. A representative of the United States employment service discusses after-school jobs for children. A Catholic priest, a Jewish rabbi, and a Protestant minister talk about the place of religion in family life. Someone from the Community Chest tells the parents what organizations such as Camp Fire Girls, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts have to offer young folks. A psychologist discusses family problems. And a physician talks about nutrition, general health, and communicable diseases.

System Seems to Work

THE SCHOOL has "graduated" 200 parents—and so far hasn't had a single pupil sent back to repeat the course.

This school hasn't cost San Francisco anything. The course is held in a public high school and the lecturers don't charge for their services.

Every town and city in the United States that is alarmed over its juvenile delinquency problem ought to set up its own Parent School.

A judge can't make delinquent parents better by making them pay a fine or spend two weeks in jail—or by giving them a public "bawling out."

The only way you can make good parents out of poor parents is by educating them.

## So They Say—

IF EVERY ONE of the 36 million homes in America avoided wastes of food, fuel, paper, metal, rubber and gasoline, the needed works, materials and production facilities would become available automatically.—Air Forces Gen. Henry H. Arnold.

WE CAN KEEP the millions now in industry and agriculture employed and we can absorb the men now in the armed forces into our working economy, but we must be willing to produce and produce on a basis that will permit greater consumption.—Eugene Casey, presidential assistant.

IF THE JAPANESE fleet presently should attempt a toe-to-toe battle with the American naval forces, the enemy would stand a good chance—a very good chance—of losing the bulk of its naval power.—Marine Commandant Alexander A. Vandegrift.

IF PRIVATE ENTERPRISE does not succeed in providing something approaching full employment during the years that follow the war, the state will again be called upon to care for the needy and to undertake activities that make work.—Eric A. Johnston, president U. S. C. of C.

## The Achilles Heel



## The Hoosier Forum

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

### "THEY ARE FOOLING ONLY THEMSELVES"

By A. Tank Gunner, Camp Cooke, Cal.

I've been reading the Hoosier Forum for quite some time. Women arguing about the way they dress, pocketbooks and things that seem foolish—that's what brought about the article which I'm writing.

I was home on furlough the first of February. I came home to see my folks and have what little enjoyment I could find before returning to army life back in camp. As most service men do, I made the rounds of a few taverns. I was very disappointed in what I saw in these taverns. I saw young married women with men I knew weren't their husbands, but these young wives were having the time of their life while their soldier or sailor husbands risked all overseas. I know wasn't one case but many. I know because I personally knew some of these girls. Is this what some of the fellows are going to come back to? Who do these women think they are fooling? My opinion is that they are fooling only themselves. Some are working in war plants making good money and getting an allotment check. But are they making any attempt to save any of this money? I can't see how they possibly can be saving any and be in taverns every night spending money as if it meant nothing; and still they cry of hard rationing. These people haven't yet come to realize that men and boys are dying every day in a world war. Something should be done to wake these people up. It's gotten to where young women have lost all self-respect and it is getting worse as the war goes on.

There's a case where the soldier came home expecting to find his wife as he had left her a year before. Instead he finds her out having a date with a fellow who is unfit for military service, but still this 4-F can take a service man's wife out knowing she is a married woman. I don't blame the fellow. It's the way some of these so-called women can carry on their shady deals and still expect to find happiness after the war. I certainly wouldn't want to be in some of their shoes when the husbands do get home.

Lawyers will make fortunes handling divorce cases. Some of these women will be wondering why. Well, I tell them now to have fun while Johnnie is away, but some day all these good times will be paid for, but costly. I'm sure after the war they will all get the reward they rightly deserve.

"SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND A JOB"

By Forget-Me-Not, Indianapolis

In support of Leonard Carpenter: Your article on Shylock, "I Am the

(Times readers are invited to express their views in these columns, religious controversies excluded. Because of the volume received, letters should be limited to 250 words. Letters must be signed. Opinions set forth here are those of the writers, and publication in no way implies agreement with those opinions by The Times. The Times assumes no responsibility for the return of manuscripts and cannot enter correspondence regarding them.)

Law, Blue," bears out the feeling that I and many of my friends have on this character.

I'd like to call your attention to the fact that elections are coming up and let us not forget that he has wifely, and beyond the authority of his office, blocked and attempted to block the functioning of that noble body of law enforcing officers, the Indianapolis police department. This, in itself, should call to the attention of every man and woman of voting age that we have a score to settle; and it will be settled only by asking your friends and having them ask their friends not to overlook the silliness he has forced upon law and order.

Protecting the rights of citizens of Indianapolis is one thing; preventing suspects of misdeemeanors from being apprehended is quite another thing. To my knowledge, very rarely have I read historical data of the Indianapolis courts where people were arrested on suspicion or for suspicious actions or were punished or fined for crimes they did not commit; but, "I Am the Law, Blue" has a different version. Of course, there is a manpower shortage, he should be able to find a job somewhere, I hope!

"DO THEY THINK WE ARE THAT DUMB?"

By Hal Wilson, Indianapolis

One authority tells us that our supply of oil will be exhausted in 15 years. Another, an oil official who should know, says we have enough to last for 2000 years. We are told that there is a gas shortage and Eleanor goes around the world in a mighty bomber taking hundreds of thousands of gallons of gas, perhaps millions; yet we are compelled to forego our week-end trip that takes a measly few gallons. Then we take a cut in ration from four to three gallons per coupon.

Then Kaltenborn goes to the South Pacific and to South America, and Eleanor goes to the Caribbean. We are then told again there is a

shortage of gas and take another cut from three to two gallons per coupon. Do they really think we are that dumb, that we do not know they are using the high octane gas that the army and navy needs, and that the gas we are using is the lower test not used in aviation? We know all this and do the powers that be think that sort of thing is going to bring the whole-hearted support of the hard working and sacrificing public? Do they think they can whip the black market by dangling gasoline up before the public and saying you shan't have it because some others can't have it?

"EIRE PREFERS NOT TO FIGHT"

By James R. Meisler, Attica

In this Irish-American dispute there are some who put Eire first. They are more Irish than American. In this war to save American liberty they prefer to take no part. That is what Ireland means to them. Secretary Hull just said, "All liberty loving people should show they deserve it by fighting for it." Eire prefers not to fight.

From the first Eire has refused to fight, yet she demands we sell her ships, food, oil and gas and anything else she may need. These things we need ourselves, these things whose use here is regulated by rationing, these things our fighting forces need, these things our allies and their starving children need, these things are vital to our war effort; and they refuse to help in return.

Since Eire refuses to co-operate, let her furnish her own oil, gas, food, clothes and the ships to haul them. Since she prefers to go it alone, let her go it alone.

"THEY PROFIT FROM DISASTER"

By W. Scott Taylor, 756 Middle Drive, Woodruff Place

The "stop-Willkie" movement among the machine politicians is going strong. If a person could have listened in during the arguments of the President-makers in the smoke-filled rooms, the reasons why Mr. Willkie wouldn't do, if put in nursery rhymes for a Pappy O'Daniel musical campaign, would probably sound something like this: "First: never run the same man twice, like Hoover, Willkie, Landon, because when views become well-known, all hopes we must abandon. Instead, we need a mystery-man, whose silent, vague or sly—a man well versed in double-talk, not one like Wendell Willkie. We need a smooth high-tariff man, an expert trade-obstructor, conducting foreign commerce like a perfect non-conductor. With him, we'll build our wall as high, as ever did our Hoover; for, what care we if barriers be a customer-remover. Behind that wall monopolies enjoy some relaxation, exerting all the power they please of sovereign taxation. Thus home fronts give the huge reserves against the sure depression, with profits big in global wars, whichever is in session. In war or peace they want a man like Dewey, Taft or Bricker, whose thoughts are less on jobless men, than on the Wall Street ticker. For they can talk of lasting peace. They can so well endorse it, that law and order seem secure, with nothing to enforce it. They'll get the votes of profiteers whom price-control engages and lift the ceilings off of goods and hold them firm on wages. Along with that, they'll get the votes of all the wartime yawpers who can't remember busted banks and 40 million paupers. Then when the Hoover plan blows up, they'll quiet all alarmers with Hoover's words: 'It might be worse' and dispossess the farmers. No war so long, no times so bad, but they can always bear it; there's businesses and customers they're certain to inherit. That's why they want a mystery-man—(no Willkie for their master)—they gain from each catastrophe, they profit from disaster."

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## Our Hoosiers

By Daniel M. Kidney



WASHINGTON, March 31.—Republican congressmen from Indiana have been hopping mad at Wendell L. Willkie ever since he sounded off at Kenosha, Wis., last week and produced this headline in The Washington Post: "Willkie Says He Lost Election Lugging Anti-war Republicans."

The "anti-war Republicans" means them, they admit. But they go on to add that individually they polled more votes in their district than Mr. Willkie did. Mr. Willkie carried the state by 699,466 to President Roosevelt's 674,083 and Senator Raymond E. Willis was elected on the Republican ticket with a total vote of 888,070. So the G. O. P. senator fell short of the Willkie total by 11,896.

He then came here for his first term and joined at once with what Mr. Willkie terms the "anti-war Republicans."

### Rep. La Follette Is Only Willkieite

THOSE RE-ELECTED on that record in 1940 included Reps. Halleck, Johnson, Landon, Gillie, Harness, Grant and Springer. Also elected in 1940 was Rep. Earl Wilson who immediately joined them.

They continued to vote "isolationist" until Pearl Harbor. When Mr. Willkie tried to get some of them to change their course they promptly turned thumbs down.

In 1942, however, the sole Willkieite joined the Hoosier G. O. P. here. He is Rep. Charles M. LaFollette of Evansville. And he has voted more for the two Democrats, Reps. Madden and Ludlow, on major issues than he has his colleagues.

The house Republicans numbered 208 after the election of 1942, which meant that they gained about 50 seats over 1940. By far the majority of those seats, particularly in the Midlands where gains were greatest, were men of the stripe of the majority of the Hoosiers, rather than like LaFollette.

So when Mr. Willkie says they sunk him, they become irate indeed.

Most of them were highly pleased at the latest Gallup poll showing Indiana Republicans favor Governor Thomas E. Dewey of New York by 47 per cent, as against Mr. Willkie for the 1944 nomination with only 18 per cent.

### Willkie Still Has Indiana Following

MR. WILLKIE still has a great following among Indiana women, however, and some of them write their congressmen and lecture them for not coming out for him.

One Indiana woman who worked for him in Massachusetts in 1940 has left here to join Mrs. Grace Reynolds, Indiana Republican national committee woman, head of the women's division at the Willkie headquarters in New York City.

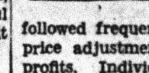
She is Mrs. Charles McKenna, who is the daughter of Joseph Emerson of Ladoga and Indianapolis. She had been on the staff of the late Senator Frederick VanVun, Indiana Democrat, her husband being in the army.

Until leaving for the Willkie assignment Mrs. McKenna worked for Senator Samuel D. Jackson (D, Ind.) who took over the entire VanVun staff.

An Indiana university graduate, Mrs. McKenna expressed surprise at the failure of Hoosier Republicans to support Mr. Willkie as a favorite son.

## In Washington

By Peter Edson



WASHINGTON, March 31.—First industry to be mobilized for war was the machine tool industry and, conversely, it is the first to be demobilized. The tendency has been to sing the blues over the industry's future, on the broad assumption that during the war it has produced enough machine tools to last for the next 10 or 15 years and has so manufactured itself out of a job.

This line of reasoning has been followed frequently in dickerings with army and navy price adjustment boards on renegotiation of excess profits. Individual machine toolmakers argue that since they have already supplied their post-war market for a decade or more, they should be allowed greater profit margins to build up post-war reserves. By and large, this argument has fallen on deaf ears in Washington.

Also, a new note of optimism is beginning to be heard, like the first robin of spring on the grass plots around the offices of the machine tool builders. Pencils have been sharpened to record those notes and the result is something of a song that maybe there aren't 10 years of continuous winter ahead. And since the prosperity of the machine tool industry is basic to general American well-being, it's worth listening to.

At the end of 1939, U. S. industry had about a million machine tools in operation. Sixty per cent of these tools are over 10 years old and could stand replacement. As of today, approximately 700,000 new tools will have been built for war industries. About 200,000 of these have been built for private industry, leaving 500,000 government owned.

Privately-Owned Tools No Worry

THE 200,000 privately-owned tools are no particular worry. They're going to be put to use, replacing older and less efficient tools, for in the competition for post-war markets, with higher labor production costs, manufacturers with the most efficient tools will have the advantage.

Concerning the 500,000 government-owned tools, estimates vary. From 5 per cent to perhaps 20 per cent or approximately from 25,000 to 100,000 are special purpose tools for war industries and manufacture of munitions. These tools offer no post-war competition to civilian industry.

How many government war plants the army and navy will want to keep in a "stand-by" condition, ready for any possible emergency resumption of hostilities, is an unknown factor. One thing that is counted on is the desire of army and navy to retool all their navy yards and arsenals, replacing old machinery with newer and more efficient models which they already own. Estimates of the number of new tools that will go "in grease" for stand-by plants and to retool government shops range from 70,000 to 150,000 units.

Export Market Is Unknown Quantity

POST-WAR DOMESTIC demand is another indeterminate market, but it is pointed out that many old machine tools have been worked during the war far beyond normal life. Also, these tools have been worked on a two- or three-shift basis. Getting all American industry back to a one-shift basis and replacing obsolete tools might dispose of 100,000. A minor market to be developed is retooling of the 125,000 machine shops in technical and vocational schools, which might take 8000 to 10,000 of the newer model, simpler machine tools