

# The Indianapolis Times

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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

RILEY 5551

## TIME TO BE SCARED

GOVERNOR DEWEY charged at Boston last night that, through Sidney Hillman and the C. I. O. Political Action Committee, the Communists are seeking to control the New Deal and so to control the government of the United States.

You will now hear the usual counter-charge—that Governor Dewey is trying to scare the American people.

Well, the American people had better be scared.

Many good citizens still find it pretty hard to believe that the Communists, who never were able to poll more than a handful of votes for their party candidates, are an actual menace to this country and its government.

Those who have watched the Communists at work and have studied their methods know better. They know that Earl Browder and his followers were never a political party in the American sense, and are not the "association for political education" that they now claim to be, but are in fact a devious and determined set of conspirators.

AND THE PURPOSE of their conspiracy is just what Governor Dewey says it is.

It was precisely because very few people would vote for Communist candidates that the Browderites put on their new masks. They are applying in national politics the same tactics they have always used in gaining control of labor unions and other organizations.

The Hillman Political Action Committee is exactly the sort of medium that they know best how to use, and a fourth term for President Roosevelt is right in line with their objective.

Of course Mr. Roosevelt is not a Communist, or a sympathizer with communism, and his repudiation of Communist support may be completely sincere.

But he can't escape that support. There is no way he could shake it off—not because the Communists love, admire or even respect him, but because they believe his re-election would aid their conspiracy against the United States.

THEY WANT A President who is weak on administration; who knows no real solution for the post-war unemployment problem; who would spend the country deeper and deeper into debt; who would centralize more power in Washington; who would seek further to undermine the prestige of congress; who has muddled ideas of "liberalism" that would lead him to admit more sympathizers with communism into official positions; who, in short, would send the United States down along the road to that condition of chaos and collapse in which the Browderites hope to seize power.

And Mr. Roosevelt, on his 12-year record, is their candidate for four years more.

That's why they don't want a change.

INCIDENTALLY, Governor Dewey disposed effectively of the false argument that "Americans must love communism or offend our fighting ally, Russia."

"Not even the gullible believe that," he said. "In Russia a Communist is a man who supports his government. In America a Communist is a man who supports the fourth term so our form of government may more easily be changed. The question of communism in our country has nothing to do with our allies any more than it has to do with where a man was born."

We suspect that Mr. Stalin, who assuredly wouldn't tolerate activities in Russia against his form of government, will acquire new respect for the United States if next Tuesday we elect a President who is determined not to let our form of government be undermined from within.

## A NEW AND BETTER MANUAL

THE Indianapolis board of school commissioners has wisely decided to give first priority on its post-war building program to the erection of a new Manual Training High school building. The present structure was well adapted to the needs of Indianapolis in 1895, but the last 49 years have greatly changed the size and character of the city.

The downtown area has crowded in around the location of the school, changing the neighborhood until it is unsuitable for an educational institution. Meanwhile, the residential districts have moved farther and farther out, making it necessary for the students to travel long distances daily. The building is outmoded, by modern educational standards, and two busy arterial thoroughfares block expansion. The traffic hazard alone is considerable, not to mention the noise, smoke and dirt that have increased constantly with the development of the business district. It is not to be wondered at that the enrollment at this historic school has declined in recent years.

FROM A STRATEGIC standpoint, the school is not placed to serve the present educational needs of the city. A glance at the map will show that five high schools are located in a narrow strip bisecting the city from east to west—all within 10 blocks of Washington street. Two others are on the far North Side, Shortridge at 34th street and Broad Ripple at 63d street. The whole area of the South Side has no convenient high school facilities.

The ideal of modern education is equality of opportunity. The school board has done well to recognize, if somewhat belatedly, that the South Side deserves a better break for its children. This need will be met by a high school that will carry on the name and traditions of Manual in an adequate modern plant, suitably located. And it is appropriate that plans for this improvement should be under consideration as Manual prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary next February.

## MR. ROOSEVELT SAID—

"LET us not at this time pursue the easy road of centralization of authority lest some day we discover too late that our liberties have disappeared."

But that was said in 1937.

## REFLECTIONS—

### 'Nods and Becks'

By Robert Duncan

"I KNOW almost everything," Franklin P. Adams has admitted modestly, and in his new book, "Nods and Becks" (Whittemore House) he sets about to back up his statement. He succeeds amazingly well.

First claimed by New Yorkers, who for years read his column "The Conning Tower" on commuting trains and subways, and then shared by the nation's radio listeners as one of the full-time experts on "Information Please," "F. P. A." is among the foremost of today's truly literate. "Nods and Becks" is a rich collection of his writings, much of it reproduced from "The Conning Tower." His knowledge is vast, but not pedantic. His humor is boundless, sometimes a little on the wry side, sometimes downright bitter, but not often. His verse is pointed, and sounds effortless, although he'd probably scream at such an "accusation."

## Loves and Hates Are Universal

F. P. A.'S LOVES and hates are universal. There seems to be nothing that he lacks an opinion on, be it peanut butter, for which his "hate is utter," or political oratory, for which he expresses the same feeling.

"To the city by the early train" is a typical opening line from his Samuel Pepysian diary. And then:

"Every day my stuff I do  
And work as hard as you or you;  
And every day when I don't shirk  
I get a cocktail after work."

That day's work is a real day's work, he'll have you know. F. P. A.—engenders the suspicion that he has occasionally been accused of having a pretty soft time of it, and a testily defensive note rings out clearly every now and then. But he doesn't have to take up the cudgels. We don't begrudge him his salary, and would wish Mr. Adams the fortune he'd like to have, except that by his own admission, he'd stop writing if he had that much money. And that would never do.

"FOOTHOLD OF EARTH," by Richard Matthews Hallet (Doubleday Doran) is one of the extremely rare books which a publisher actually describes in understatement. It is less the story itself than the strange, half-world, almost magic mood which makes this novel outstanding, though not great.

"Foothold of Earth" is divided between land and sea. Jason Ripple, merchantman whose ship is torpedoed, returns to the Maine seaport town where the Ripple-Redfern feud is tradition. Outside his home hangs the lighted lantern, which every night for twenty years has vainly beckoned home Andy Ripple, Jason's father, who was either lost at sea, or "just skedaddled." Emma Targleton and her husband, Riffy, quarreled over which it was, and haven't spoken to each other for the two decades.

Not Just Another Book

JASON GOES back to sea with Bill Queer, who escaped from reform school and before coming to Jason commits the "crime" that haunts him, and later is to haunt Jason when Bill is lost at sea.

The long days in an open boat after another ship goes down are handled in a powerful manner all the author's own. The climax is strong and avoids the yawning pitfall of melodrama. The Maine dialect is rich in sound, imagery, and humor.

Mr. Hallet is a poet, with more claim to the name than many who use the verse form, as well as a novelist of unusual talent. Don't let the jacket fool you—"Foothold of Earth" is not just another book.

"CLIPPER SHIP MEN," by Alexander Laing (Duell, Sloan & Pearce) is the fascinating story of the development of the "perfect ship." Mr. Laing, who has his subject down cold, goes back to the correspondence school in the country and any man that has the ambition can study for a vocation. The cost for this course is only \$2 for the whole course. No soldier will miss that out of his monthly pay. Just in case he has any trouble with a course, there are men who help him to pay in any way that they can.

CLIPPER SHIP MEN

by Alexander Laing

Price, \$2.00

Published by the author

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