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ROY W. HOWARD WALTER LEICKRONE HENRY W. MANZ
President Editor Business Manager

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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way.

"NO COMMUNISTS WANTED"

THERE can be no doubt about the attitude of our local C. I. O. unions toward Communists and communism after the statement (published on this page in The Forum Saturday) of policy just authorized by the Indianapolis Industrial Union Council.

Without mincing words the Indianapolis C. I. O. has flatly told them to get out and stay out.

Since we know, and have long respected, a good many C. I. O. members and officers around here, we're not much surprised at that. It certainly represents the overwhelming sentiment of both members and officers of C. I. O. here. And because they have been both vigilant and forthright in their local unions they have been less plagued by the infiltration of these enemies of unions and of labor than have some other cities.

The occasional individual who describes himself as a "fellow traveler" and who has attempted to misrepresent himself as the spokesman for local C. I. O. groups hasn't got very far with his fraud. Local units of national unions which have a Communist problem have consistently fought that kind of domination.

Their statement of policy, it seems to us, has a value that goes far beyond the local field, though. This kind of backing from the local organizations will tremendously strengthen the hand of national union officials in their fight against Communist controls.

WE DEMAND PEACE

WARREN AUSTIN, U. S. delegate to the United Nations, has made a convincing reply to those critics who have held that President Truman, in proposing an independent aid program for Greece and Turkey, was bypassing the United Nations. The President in fact was supporting a United Nations agency's recommendation when he urged relief for Greece, Mr. Austin pointed out.

He recalled that the food and agricultural organization of the United Nations had recommended that the Greek government ask the economic and social council and the American and British governments for funds for food and other essential imports, after the withdrawal of UNRRA on March 31.

Moreover, the United States strongly supported use of United Nations machinery for the industrial rehabilitation of Greece, and would co-operate in such a program, Mr. Austin said. We would welcome corresponding interest and support from other member states, he added.

But Mr. Austin did not stop there. In addition to economic aid, he said, the United States regarded it as vital that the United Nations act to discourage and prevent threats of aggression of any kind against the independence of a member state. Thus, the United Nations has been invited to protect both Greece and Turkey from threats to their sovereignty.

The United States took the initiative last December in proposing establishment of the United Nations Balkan commission, now investigating the Greek border disturbances. We now urge that the commission appoint border patrols to maintain order until its report can be considered and disposed of by the security council, Mr. Austin said.

THAT puts the problem where it belongs—right in the lap of the United Nations.

However—

Mr. Austin made it plain that we considered it an obligation under the United Nations charter, "as well as a matter of elementary self-interest," to do our utmost to bring about the peaceful adjustment of any situation which threatens peace.

We respect the right of any nation to follow the way of life or system of government it chooses. But that choice should be "freely made without intimidation," and nations must not "interfere with the rights of other countries or the liberties of other peoples." Thus we do not challenge communism, but only the right of communism to extend itself by force.

Finally, the American spokesman emphasized that the President had more than Greece and Turkey in mind when he spoke of conditions "affecting the security of the United States through the insecurity of the world." Thus all nations are on notice that we are prepared to go to the relief of any country threatened by foreign aggression.

WE have urged the United Nations to deal with all threats to peace, if it can and if it will, and have pledged our full support to such a program. But we have reserved the right to help free and independent nations to maintain their freedom. Thus we stand, as we have from its inception, squarely behind the United Nations and its high purpose. But we insist, as we should, that that organization remain true to its purposes. The United Nations must not be made a smokescreen for aggression by the Soviet veto.

HEMPHILL UNDERPASS

THE new W. Morris st. underpass was dedicated Saturday night as the Dr. Walter E. Hemphill underpass, a designation chosen by the city council.

For 25 years, this project has been advocated by Dr. Hemphill and by the Enterprise Civic League which he headed for 16 years of the organization's consistent campaign for track elevation or grade separation at the point where the Belt railroad crosses Morris st.

Dr. Hemphill well deserves the honor which will perpetuate his name and his achievement. As a member of the city council and later a member of the board of public works, he never lost sight of the need for the improvement. Nor did the Enterprise Civic league.

Westsiders hail completion of the underpass as a major step in a program aimed at elimination of all railroad barriers between the various parts of the city.

The Federation of Community Civic clubs is working for this and other improvements. The success of the Enterprise Civic league—and it required a quarter of a century to attain it—should be an inspiration for all member clubs in the federation. It illustrates that a proper cause can be won even though it may take years to do it.

'Getcher Button, Getcher Truman Button'



Hoosier Forum

"Hope School Board Campaign Will Bring Review of Policies"

By Parent and Taxpayer, City

Recently in your editorial columns there has been some comment about the indifference of the citizens of Indianapolis to the coming municipal election. Special reference has been made to the need for securing a well-qualified board of school commissioners.

As a matter of fact, the whole school system of Indianapolis needs a rather thorough study, investigation, and perhaps reorganization. Whether it is the function of the professional administration to do this, or the function of the school commissioners is an open question. The school commissioners must at least instigate the needed study. The following items should be considered:

1. For a number of years the administration has placed substitute or temporary teachers in a number of the grades. If these teachers are kept in one place for six weeks or longer, they must be given regular contracts and paid an extra dollar per day. As a result, teachers have been moved elsewhere after serving for between five and six weeks in one room, and thus the provisions of the law regarding permanent contracts have been evaded. In some rooms pupils have had as many as four different teachers during the term. This practice has been justified on grounds of economy, but the resultant effect upon the children is extremely bad. About the time they get adjusted to one teacher, she is taken from them and they must start all over getting accustomed to the ways of a new teacher. The schools belong to the community and not to a few administrative officials of the system. There should be a serious consideration of opening school buildings for afternoon and evening recreational and civic activities. There may be objections to this on legitimate grounds of expense of heat, light, janitor service and other maintenance cost, but the somewhat arbitrary attitude of the school officials toward citizen's groups needs correction.

2. The citizen's school committee has done a great deal of value to try to take the schools out of the political spoils system. However, it would be interesting to know how and why the nominees for the board of school commissioners are selected. I have served on citizen's school committee campaigns in the past, have attended luncheons with the campaign, and I have been informed as to whom the nominees were. I remember on one occasion seeing a small group come out of a back room and announce that they had chosen the candidates. The persons who get out and promote the ticket and campaign for its election are rarely if ever consulted as to whom the nominees should be. Perhaps this

is the efficient way to do things, but it has left a bad taste in the mouths of many people when they are compelled to swallow somebody else's selection.

3. A good many of the officials of the school system have developed the attitude typical of an entrenched bureaucracy, that they know what is best for everybody, and that they have the last word in projects for the welfare of the community.

4. The board of school commissioners should give serious consideration to advisability of opening school buildings for community activities at night. I know that on a number of occasions civic activities and meetings could not be held in the schoolhouses. It is open to question whether we should use our school buildings only for a very limited number of hours per week.

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5. There is no question but that the whole school system and administration need a thorough airing before the citizens of the community. I hope that the coming campaign will provide just that so that we may all have a better knowledge of where our school system is going and what it is doing for community welfare.

"WHY SUPPORT RAH-RAH BOYS?"

By a Times Reader, Indianapolis

I am writing you in regards to the Purdie crash. This is up to the heads of the college. They have a

"I do not agree with a word that you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." — Voltaire.

college for studies. For safety they must divorce sports altogether and let that be a separate unit. What right have I to pay taxes to support a bunch of rah-rah boys as I have a cottage I built years ago and paid \$30 a year taxes. Now I pay \$125 for the same. Something should be done to correct this evil.

"G. I. MUST HELP WITH HIS HANDS"

By J. S. H. Greenwood

Why is it I read so many letters about G. I.s being in so much need of finance. I read where one wife said her husband made only \$30 a week. What is she crying about? I know of 10 G. I.s in my neighborhood. I haven't heard a complaint out of any of them. They know the war is over and Uncle Sam is through taking care of them so it's up to them that are able to take care of themselves. When so many got married why didn't they add a home in their plans when they were planning the future. I had bought my home before I met the lady and had a few hundred dollars for emergency. And I worked for it. My highest wage was \$24 per week and I worked 60 hours. Don't think I have no respect for the G. I. I certainly do. I am only trying to show him he has just started the hard part of his battle with the help of no weapons, but hands.

"WORLD IS FULL OF INVESTIGATORS"

By Mrs. Walter Haggerty, Indianapolis

Prior to election, I talked to Mr. Ayres, one of the commissioners who was seeking re-election on the Republican ticket. He assured me the reason our roads were bad we had not elected good men to office. Mr. Ayres was re-elected in November but somebody is to blame for dumping the stuff they call gravel on the road in front of our homes. Stones, the size of a cup and worn and yellow soil, which is good for nothing. Could this have been hauled from some fellow citizen's farm at a good price to the taxpayers and a disgrace to the public? A little girl on her way to the store was standing in a puddle of mud lifting one foot, then the other. I asked her what she was doing. She replied "I am making a lollipop and when I get this done am going to make some mud pies." Three small boys were riding on their bicycles, they told me they were trying to see how high they could splash the mud. I turned around to see a woman with a baby clothes were a solid cake of mud I called Mr. Ayres again. Nobody seems to know who did this, but they are going to send a man to investigate. The world is full of investigators and things, but the poor mothers who have to shovel out the dirt these youngsters carry in bear the brunt. Mr. Ayres says crushed gravel is too expensive. Women are too busy cleaning up the dirt to say much and oh the blessed and wise little children what sensible things they say. If they can't have the things that they wish for, they take others and say "let's play."

"BETTER SPEND MONEY ON VETERANS HOUSING"

By Lee Burkett, 1428 Park Ave.

The Rev. Paul Gracian Jr. of the Romanian Orthodox church very courageously prods officialdom with the suggestion that we need a veterans housing project more at this time than place development. More than downtown garages, too.

But discussion without action is futile. That is where most plans bog down. Would the church members for whom he is spokesman support the necessary bond issue?

We doubt it. As a taxpayer, I'd rather see the money spent for veterans housing than almost anything else on earth. But how many others feel that way?

I'll wager the reverend \$10 toward his pet welfare fund that he can't find over a dozen articulate proponents for a veterans civic housing project in his own congregation. And if the church members don't lead as humanitarian a cause, who will?

"EVEN MR. LIE SLAPS U. S."

SIMILAR MASS MEETINGS, it is understood, are in prospect in this country and abroad. Even the United Nations Secretary General Trygve Lie, in a speech at Lake Success, was described as taking a slap at the United States. The United Press quotes him as saying, only if all countries showed a readiness to resort to the United Nations even when the most vital national interests are at stake.

That the United States has no intention of bypassing the United Nations has been made clear by the White House and state department. But it is equally certain that Moscow and its allies everywhere are not going to give the United States the benefit of the doubt.

Mere saying the United Nations is not now in a position to go to the aid of Greece and Turkey—100 per cent true though it is—will not still the hue and cry. The United Nations lacks money and a police

OUR TOWN . . . By Anton Scherer

When the Dictionary Took a Beating

IT'S A MISTAKE to believe that Theodore Roosevelt brought about simplified spelling all by himself. David Starr Jordan and John H. Holliday also had a hand in it.

Mr. Jordan, a native of Gainesville, N. Y., was a teacher in the Indianapolis high school from 1874 to 1875. A year later, the Indiana Medical college pronounced him a full-fledged M. D. Three years later, while teaching at Butler, that institution made him a Ph. D. He spent the next 12 years at Indiana university—the first six as professor of zoology, the remainder as president. In 1881, he was called to California and made president of Leland Stanford university.

These facts are exhibited today to show that Prof. Jordan's career paralleled the history of simplified spelling. As early as 1870, a group of scholars calling themselves the American Philological Association got interested in the subject. The movement was formally launched in 1876. On that occasion the reformers came from all parts of the country to participate in a "Convention for Amendment of English Orthography." Subsequently, they called themselves the "Spelling Reform League" and, finally with complete abandon, the "Simplified Spelling League."

Some very imposing scholars sponsored the league, among them our own David Starr Jordan. Theodore Roosevelt wasn't heard of then. As a matter of fact he was only 18 years old and probably nothing more than an obscure Harvard undergraduate at the time.

1690 Different Ways

HOWEVER, Mr. Roosevelt got around to it when he was elected President. By that time, somebody connected with the U. S. pension office had catalogued 1690 different ways of spelling the word "diarrhea," all of which had turned up in the applications of civil war veterans asking for financial aid. The discovery completely upset Andrew Carnegie with the result that he handed over \$250,000 (the equivalent of eight Carnegie libraries) to have something done about it.

1690 Different Ways

Mr. Roosevelt's approved list was also the word "height." And that brings us to John H. Holliday and the significant discovery that he, too, omitted the "e" in "height" at least 25 years before Mr. Roosevelt got around to it.

The story has its source in the earliest days of The News when Mr. Holliday was its first editor.

One day, as runs the legend, Mr. Holliday got mad enough to track down the printer who had spooled his best editorial.

"Look here," he yelled waving a paper hot off the press, "you spelled 'height' without an 'e.'"

"I followed your copy," said the brazen printer.

"Well," said Mr. Holliday making the most of a sweaty situation, "if I spelled 'height' without an 'e,' that's the way to spell it."

DEAR BOSS . . . By Daniel M. Kidney

'Hoosiers Are Blindly Partisan'

WASHINGTON, March 31—It long has been an opinion of mine that some of the most interesting writing in newspapers comes from the customers. This theory was confirmed today when I got a letter enclosing a clipping from The Times saying that few letters on the Truman plan for aid to Greece and Turkey had come to Indiana congressmen.

Because I had written that story, this woman from the sixth congressional district sent me instead of to the letters to the editor column. She lives in the country and closed by saying she didn't mind the text of her letter being published, but wanted her name withheld. Because her letter is far tougher than the one I write weekly, I shall appropriate it forthwith.

Congressmen Reactionary'

"THERE is a very real reason why the educated people of Indiana do not write their views to their congressmen on public affairs," she says. "What is the use? Why waste the postage stamp? Much less the valuable time involved."

Written on a typewriter, the above paragraph was all in capital letters. She continued:

"I get so provoked with being represented by the most reactionary group in congress, that—well, I want to send this through the mails—so you fill in I say to myself whenever any controversial subject is under consideration and, for that matter, all national legislation is controversial, they—the entire group, save Madden and the new Prof. Mitchell, find the lowest common denominator of human intelligence and vote to please that group. It is utterly futile for educated people to attempt to reach them. I dash off a postcard occasionally and receive a franked reply that is all things to all people . . .

Watson Is Example

"A STATE THAT produced and kept Jim Watson in congress for years can be counted on to be 'agin' everything. Regularly the young Republicans pay him tribute at a big dinner, so what chance has any constructive idea?"

Anyway the lady speaks her mind.

DAN KIDNEY.

the stove. Many more women than men are fatally burned in the kitchen, not only because they spend more time there, but because their clothing is a greater fire hazard than men's."

The boy who stood on the burning deck is no less a vocal martyr today than the wife who—armed with the latest sheaf of small print from that insurance company—suddenly hears the inner man's call to chow. With perfect right before the law, she can accuse her spouse of attempted arson, assault with intent to kill, and callous disregard of her welfare.