

The Indianapolis Times

PAGE 14 Tuesday, Oct. 7, 1947

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

A SCRIPPS-HOWARD NEWSPAPER

Owned and published daily (except Sunday) by Indianapolis Times Publishing Co., 214 W. Maryland st. Postal Zone 9.

Member of United Press, Scripps-Howard News-paper Alliance, NEA Service, and Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Price in Marion County, 25¢ a copy; delivered by carrier, 25¢ a week.

Mail rates in Indiana, \$5 a year; all other states, U. S. possessions, Canada and Mexico, \$1.10 a month. Telephone Riley 5551

give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

Self-Control

WE believe that self-control is the best control. From now on, we shall be testing at every meal the degree to which each of us is willing to exercise self-control for the good of all."

The country heard that from President Truman Sunday night. It is true that the food-saving program, of which he was speaking, is a test for the American people. But it is not, surely, a very difficult test. It calls for no unbearable sacrifices.

Individuals are asked to eat no meat on Tuesdays, no poultry or eggs on Thursdays; to save a slice of bread each day. Farmers are asked to reduce the amount of grain fed to livestock and poultry. Industries that use grain are asked to use less for a while. The grain exchanges are asked to raise their margin requirements to at least 33 1/3 per cent, as a means of curbing what the government considers unhealthy speculation.

All is voluntary. Because it is voluntary, there are many who say that the program cannot succeed—that nothing but compulsory measures can get the results desired.

We refuse to believe that the American people must be compelled to do what clearly is in their own interest, in the interest of national welfare and in the interest of world peace.

Let us prove that self-control is, indeed, the best control.

Another Red International

STALIN'S creation of a new Communist International was to be expected. When he buried the old one in May, 1943, we made this editorial comment: "If a world Communist outfit—a burden now when Russian survival depends on a close capitalist alliance—appears to serve Russia's interest in the post-war period, there is no reason to suppose that he will not revive this one or create another."

During the last two years a Communist International has been operating more or less openly. Now that it is announced officially, there will be no great change. The Kremlin simply will continue to dictate the thoughts and acts of its minions abroad, and to organize them for the sabotage and destruction of non-Communist governments, as it has been doing all along. The fact that the new international is officially limited to Russia's eastern European puppet states, plus France and Italy, merely means that in other countries the small Communist Parties can operate better without formal alliance with their master.

Even public avowal that the new organization is aimed "against American imperialism and its English and French allies and against right wing Socialists" only repeats what Soviet officials and publications have been saying for a long while.

As a propaganda agency, a Communist International is of minor importance in our judgement—it can do little more than duplicate the larger poison pen facilities of the Soviet and satellite governments and their agents in other countries. Its real purpose doubtless is to tighten the teamwork of scattered conspirators and sabotage artists who take orders from Moscow agents. As such it can be effective.

In a general way, however, the struggle between an aggressive Soviet power and defensive democracies is already too far advanced to be influenced decisively by any Communist International. Russia gains or holds ground only by use of armed force, or by taking over when there is economic-political collapse in a victim country.

Preparedness and production are the best defense against Soviet expansion. Counter-propaganda is largely futile without superior military and economic strength.

Democracy in Britain

ENGLAND is trending toward totalitarianism, the British Tory Party annual conference warned in its call for a general election. "There is no shadow of doubt" that England will remain a democracy, Viscount Jowitt, Britain's Lord Chancellor, told the New York City Bar Association the day before.

Whichever is right, America has a tremendous stake in the outcome. If Britain were to go the road of dictatorship, we and the smaller democracies would lose our oldest and strongest ally in the decisive world struggle for human decency. If democracy can't survive in the home of Magna Carta and parliamentary institutions, it is finished on the European continent where the dictatorship disease is far more virulent.

We take the Tory campaign statement with the goodly pinch of salt such partisan prophecies need. If government ownership were the test of totalitarian trends, then nobody could deny that British dictatorship is around the corner. But surely a more accurate definition is the police state, with its terrorist methods and degradation of the individual. Though it has a Socialist government and nationalization of some basic industries, England retains more genuine civil liberties and human tolerance than flourish in any other major country—including the United States—in our judgment.

Nevertheless the problem is not as simple as Viscount Jowitt and his fellow Laborites make out. While they are not building a police state, they certainly are creating a colossal centralized bureaucracy—with resulting inefficiency and loss of that national individual initiative which has been England's salvation so often in past crises.

To picture the unarmed English bobby as a potential storm-trooper is rather difficult. But it is not hard to see the English people as tired and leaning on government for too many things—that is their present condition after eight years of sacrifice. Democracy there is not going under, but it has lost some of its drive—at least for the moment.

Too Far Afield

THE Soviet government has refused visas to a touring party of United States senators. Apparently the Kremlin feels that American Congressional investigations, like American politics, should stop at the waterline.

In Tune With the Times

Donald D. Hoover

WE NEED A WEATHER-VANE

A RECENT news story reported the crash of a taxicab and a bus on Road 67 "a mile north of the city."

This random use of the weather vane disconcerted me no end. The Road 67 that I ride is at no point strictly "north of the city." Its geometric turnings are sharp and well defined as it crosses town from the southwest and when it leaves the city limits it is headed due east. In my mind's eye I cannot locate the scene of the accident.

The question that follows this needless worry is: If the reporter is correct—then where is the city? Is it the east side again in the ascendancy? Is the invasion north of the river checked? Is Indianapolis now a fringe city with no core? Is the mile square no longer a guide?

Perhaps we should set up a commission to determine the center of the metropolitan compass. Perhaps we are nearly old enough to rename the component parts so that we can better box the compass. Oldsters set up a hue but no cry years ago when the streetcar company discarded some of the car signs submerging forever names like Irvington and Mapleton.

Perhaps we should raise a mythical wall around the mile square and call it Old Towne. The pre-cessus future of the Market House rules out Market Place. The Lincoln Hotel has not been too successful in establishing Lincoln Square. Anton Scherer's fabulous south side is not yet Scherrerville.

What can we do put a vane in Miss Indiana's hand so that even the greenest cub reporter never again misleads us with "South Prospect st." or "Road 67, a mile north of the city."

—C. S. STEWART.

BASEBALL

The world is a baseball diamond—
God the umpire; we the players.
If you sass the umpire—
You're out!

The world is a baseball diamond
Nations play their parts.
Some are first basemen,
Some are third,
Some pitch, some catch—
But it is the team that wins
or loses—
So co-operate!

The world is a baseball diamond,
God the umpire; we the players.
The laws were made in Heaven—
If you sass the umpire, you're out!

—MRS. W. F. HUGHES.

Now we know of another reason why they are called storm windows, after listening to Jerry the Janitor put them up.

♦ ♦ ♦

THE SCOLDING

He was only 5 years old
With mischief in his eyes.
Any trouble he got in
Would not come as a surprise.

But one day patience was at end.
He'd not been found at all.
At last I found a tent was made
From Grandma's parasol.

In the center of the porch it was
From under it he'd peep
To look at all his wondrous toys
All piled in a heap.

I scolded him right then and there
He gulped and swallowed then
Great tears enveloped big blue eyes
He retreated to his den.

He bundled up the parasol
Complete and tied with string.
He took it to his Grandma
And told her everything.

She listened to his story,
Viewing situation clear
And brushed the tears from
childish eyes.

And said, "It's all right, my dear."

—T. R. CAMPBELL.

BACKGROUND . . . By Paul R. Leach

Tough Senators Scan Europe's Aid Requests

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—Whether Europe gets any more free dollars out of the United States treasury, how many and on what terms, is going to depend largely upon first-hand look-sees by a dozen tough-minded members of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

That goes for the \$580 million—or more—emergency winter relief President Truman wants by December. Also what's done later about the 19 billions the 16 nations want for four years under the Marshall plan.

Wednesday ten of these senators, nine of them Republicans, leave for a five-week tour of Europe. In England they'll be joined by two more Democrats, already there. Their purpose is to study every-phase of European requests which involves dollar appropriations.

A majority of the dozen are men who insist upon being shown that France and Italy will go Communist, as Mr. Truman fears, it not fed right now by the United States. They want to know if the actual need is as serious as Mr. Truman and George C. Marshall, Secretary of State, have said it is.

They want to know whether the U. S. taxpayers should feed people who are striking against their own governments, and whether, under the Marshall plan, Socialist governments, such as England's, should be financed by U. S. dollars.

Will Dictate Policy

THIS COMMITTEE MAJORITY carries a lot of weight in Congress. It will have much to say, upon returning to take up the special committee sessions Mr. Truman has asked, about gifts and loans, regardless of what the foreign policy committees of both houses recommend.

Any adverse report could, of course, be overruled by the full Senate. But they could force endless delay by filibusters should they find themselves in the minority holding out against large scale dollar and food relief.

Sen. Styles Bridges (R. N. H.) is committee chairman. He insists upon all facts before providing emergency or Marshall plan dollars.

Sen. C. Wayland Brooks (R. Ill.) is almost convinced the U. S. should let most European governments go through the wringer, although he's willing to be shown about emergency relief. Sens. Bridges and Brooks are taking their wives along to help look.

Sen. Homer Ferguson (R. Mich.) thinks no dollars should be appropriated for foreign government politicians to spend. He believes, instead, in a sort of RFC lending to foreign business firms.

Sen. Kenneth S. Wherry (R. Neb.) and William F. Knowland (R. Cal.) want to be shown the whole picture before adding to our high cost of living through scarcities, and adding to our debt.

Other Republicans going are Guy Gordon (Ore.), Leverett Salten (Mass.), Milton R. Young (N. Dak.) and Henry C. Dworshak (Ida.). They, too, want facts for themselves.

McNutt Back in Harness

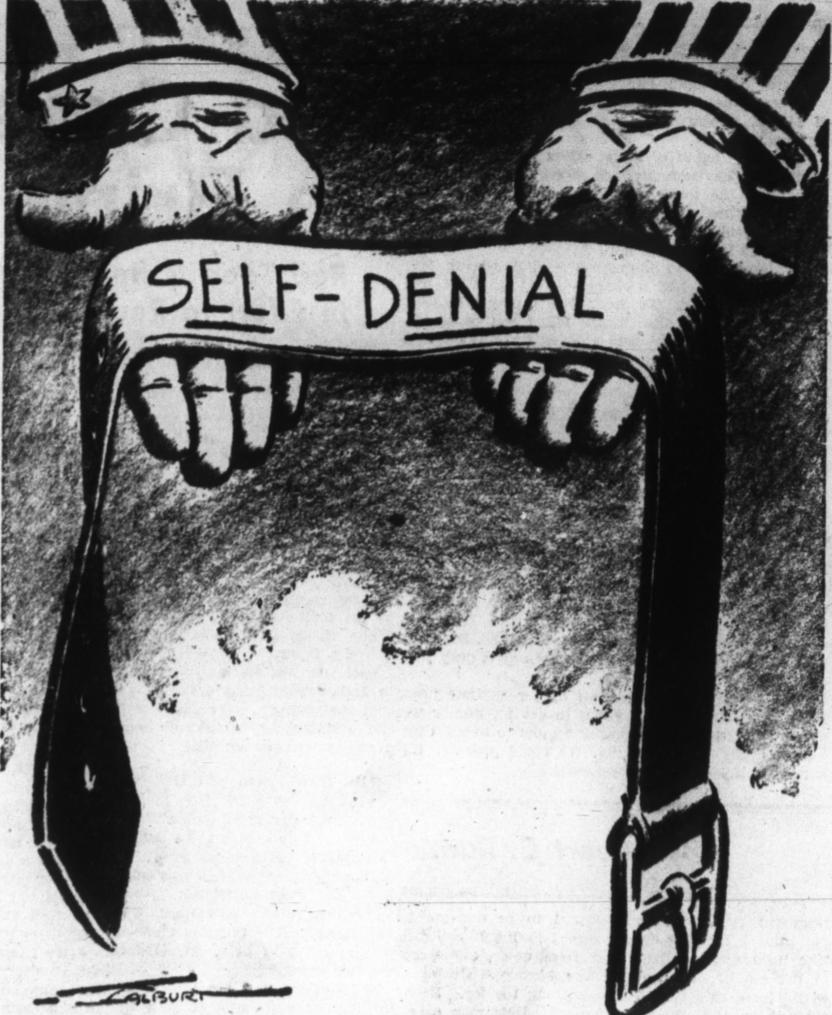
SEN. RICHARD B. RUSSELL (Ga.) is the only Democrat sailing Wednesday. They'll all be joined overseas by Democrats Theodore Francis Green (R. I.) and Millard Tydings (Md.).

Sen. Russell and Tydings are as hard-headed as the Republicans in wanting to be shown. But, with Sen. Green, they'll go as far as they honestly can in backing up Mr. Truman.

Herbert Hoover came to Washington for two days to begin work on the reorganization of government departments despite the fact that he's not fully recovered from a case of shingles.

He's getting along well, insists upon going ahead with the investi-

Here's Your Belt—Pull It In!



IN WASHINGTON . . . By Peter Edson

City Slicker vs. Country Cousin

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—The \$29.5 billion, which it is now estimated U. S. farmers will receive for this year's crops, represents 13 per cent of America's gross national product, tentatively put at \$225 billion.

Present farm population of 27,550,000 is nearly 20 per cent of the U. S. total of 140 million people.

So 20 per cent of the people are getting only 13 per cent of the wealth, it can be argued they aren't getting their share.

This may overlook the fact that the farmer reduces his cost of living by growing his own food. He eats better than city folk—and look at all that fresh air he gets.

But where the farmers' lower standard of living really shows up is in comparison with the city folks' per capita income. Here is a Bureau of Agricultural Economics table that gives the picture:

Per Capita Annual Income	Non-Farm	Farm
1935-39 (Average)	\$ 603	\$243
1944 (Mid-war year)	1290	688
1946 (First post-war year)	1288	779
1947 (Preliminary estimate)	1365	853

This shows that, while per capita farm income has gone up 28 per cent since the war, the non-farm income rose 226 per cent.

Hired Hands Still Fare Badly

COMPARISON OF FARM AND CITY wage rates shows up even worse. In 1946, the average cash wage income for farm hands was only \$521. The average hired man, worked about five months on the farm, which paid him \$391. The other \$130 he earned from non-farm work.

These average annual earnings are low, in spite of high wage rates for seasonal labor. In the present harvest season, wages have averaged \$98 a month with board, \$114 without.

Though their wages are three and four times as high as pre-war, they do not begin to meet the city wage which, in manufacturing industries, now averages close to \$100 a month, with a lot steeper work.

In spite of this unfavorable comparison, the living standard of the farm population has increased

greatly during the years of war prosperity and since. Farm tenancy is now at a low ebb. Only a third of the farmers are share-croppers. In the early 1930's, it was 42 per cent.

A study made this past summer by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics shows farmers at least 25 per cent better off than they were before the war.

Based on 1940 and 1945 censuses of agriculture, a county-by-county survey was made to determine what city conveniences are now, to be found on farms.

Parts of Maine and Florida, the truck garden and dairy farm areas from Boston to Baltimore, the corn belt area from Central Ohio west to Nebraska, the irrigated areas of California, Texas, Kansas, Oregon and the highest standards of living.

Today over 40 per cent of the farm homes have radios. Over 60 per cent have automobiles and are on hard-surfaced roads. Fifty per cent have electricity, 30 per cent have telephone. Three-fourths of the farm houses now average no more than one person per room.

While these figures look good, giving the American farmer the highest standard of living of any rural people in the world, there is still a big gap to be closed to bring farm standards up to city standards.

These average annual earnings are low, in spite of high wage rates for seasonal labor. In the present harvest season, wages have averaged \$98 a month with board, \$114 without.

Though their wages are three and four times as high as pre-war, they do not begin to meet the city wage which, in manufacturing industries, now averages close to \$100 a month, with a lot steeper work.

The job of state and federal farm advisers is to reduce these differences, win for the farmers higher income, longer school terms, better health care and the same high living standard enjoyed in town.

Hoosier Forum

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

By J. C. Clark, R. R. 19, Indianapolis.

In your issue of Sept. 25, 1947, you published an editorial on speculation in the grain market. I liked your editorial but I think you might have gone a bit farther.

Some years ago I was the manager of a brokerage office in Southern Idaho where a lot of wheat is grown. We had direct wires to the Chicago