

The Indianapolis Times

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Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

Time for a Special Session

THE President is wise in calling Congress into special session on Nov. 17. Twin domestic and foreign emergencies face the country. If the people cannot look to their government to meet such crises, they will end up in defeatism, despair and worse.

Mr. Truman cites "the alarming and continued increase in prices in this country." Inflationary danger is growing. As the cost of living soars, there are higher wage demands and more strike threats. Thus the fatal spiral ascends, preparing the way for that boom-and-bust sequence in which all lose.

The President says he will recommend to Congress "suitable measures" for dealing with this problem. Two types of approach are possible. On the negative side is price control. The trouble with that, as Americans and others have learned from experience, is that price-fixing can't work without wage-fixing—which most political and labor leaders oppose. On the positive side is larger production. If the White House has found the key to bigger output, we can lick inflation.

At any rate Congress should be in session, struggling with this problem.

THE need for prompt consideration of the foreign economic emergency is equally clear. Scores of competent investigators, including members of Congress, support the expert findings of Secretary of State Marshall, of foreign governments, of the international monetary fund and the world bank that self-help abroad cannot succeed without American aid—food, fuel, machinery.

Superficially, American relief shipments cause domestic shortages; and superficially we might stop inflation by the isolationist expedient of keeping all we have for ourselves. But such quack remedies ignore our inescapable interdependence with the rest of the world. As we learned in two world wars and one world depression, isolation is impossible even though it were desirable—we go up together or we go down together.

NOT only our material prosperity is tied up with the rehabilitation of our customers, but our civilization as well. Only a hungry Western Europe will go Communist. Only a Western Europe which looks to American democracy in vain will turn reluctantly to Moscow. And if we wait until Stalin raises the Red flag on the shores of the Atlantic, it will be pretty late in the night for us to seek allies to preserve our Western civilization.

Most Americans understand this. But good intentions alone will no more win the present war against foreign chaos and domestic inflation than wishful thinking could win the military battles of which this is the sequel. The vastly difficult task is to provide needed foreign help that will speed the maximum production abroad, in which we and they have failed in past relief. And to do this without irreparably draining and weakening ourselves—for an American crash would hurt Europe even worse than us.

This is the job to which the President has called Congress. It will need all the wisdom of Congress, all the leadership of which the President is capable and all the constructive support the American people can give.

The Red Feather

THE annual drive of the Indianapolis Community Fund is just around the corner.

Already, some commercial organizations are carrying out solicitations. At least one has exceeded its quota, others are nearing theirs.

The Community Fund activity is one in which a major investment is made in building the community, one which deserves support of everyone. This combined one-time solicitation replaces the old-fashioned method of requests for funds from several scores of organizations. It is the modern way to invest in your community.

When the volunteer worker asks for your contribution, ask yourself just how you benefit by Community Fund agencies. You'll find that at least several of them touch your life.

Give... and give generously.

Russia Makes More Enemies

BRAZIL'S and Chile's break of relations with Russia is a sign of the times. Argentina and others may follow soon. Eventually Russia will have no friends left except her satellites—and their slave relationship can hardly be called friendship—if she continues her lawless policy.

RUSSIA cannot have it both ways.

She cannot vilify others, as she has been doing daily in the United Nations Assembly and elsewhere, and retain their confidence. She cannot use her embassies abroad to undermine foreign governments and expect to enjoy their hospitality. She cannot conduct a world conspiracy against other nations in the form of a Communist International without being regarded as a menace. She cannot act as a bully without being treated as one.

Congressmen and Housing

LET'S hope the visiting Congressmen who were in Indianapolis yesterday to investigate housing arrive at some helpful suggestions for at least a partial solution to the problem.

It has been two years since the heaviest stream of returning war veterans came home to start again to build for the future, to found their own homes and begin civilian life.

Many of them have been disappointed, are still unable to buy houses at prices which they can afford or to find a place to rent.

Perhaps the congressional committee can at least point the finger to the reasons locally why Indianapolis has not met the problem. Unless it does at least that much, its visit will have served no useful purpose.

In Tune With the Times

Donald D. Hoover

'INTELLECTUAL OPIUM'

ROBERT E. LEE called novels "intellectual opium" and never read them, but we lesser mortals (one of us hereby confesses) are not above a mild sedative of mental narcotic now and then.

It is so very pleasant just to read, to lose oneself for an hour in a world of phantasy, to follow without effort, and almost without thought, some well remembered path of the imagination, and so to go, as it were, on a brief literary vacation. We know the landscape and the friends to be met along the road, and from that "wasted" hour we draw a golden dividend of relaxation and peace of mind.

An almost perfect country for such an outing is the "never-never land" of Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson. One falls without a struggle into the role of the good Doctor, echoing, at the close of each incredible adventure, his "Wonderful Holmes!" sharing his mild chagrin at the inevitable retort, "Elementary, my dear Watson"; treasuring up in memory as he must have done (or how else came the stories to be written?) every word and movement of the master.

In pre-war London a tourist always visited Westminster Abbey, Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London—and then he was apt to start hunting for 221-B Baker St. If he was wise, however, he did not search too carefully, knowing that failure might force from him the heretical admission (anathema to all true Sherlocks) that the great detective's only existence was in the fertile brain of Dr. Doyle. I know, for I did it once myself!

—FRANCES H. INSLEY.

♦ ♦ ♦

C. O. D.

We ordered a baby fully equipped. But when he got here—All the parts had not been shipped.

They forgot to send his clothes, They forgot to send his teeth, And they forgot to send his baby hair, They forgot to make him walk, They forgot to make him talk, And they forgot the guarantee as to wear.

Oh! We thought that we'd been gypped! All the parts had not been shipped. But when we took a closer look, We found our baby is an angel-boy Straight from a story-book!

—BETTE.

MORE ABOUT DELINQUENCY

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY may be due in part to a desire for adventure. That desire can be guided into activities satisfactory to the boy and conducive to the cardinal virtues of courage, prudence, fortitude and temperance. The Boy Scouts, 4-H Clubs, and like organizations thrive because of their success in this field. They should be supported to the point where they are available to every boy on terms of freedom from financial embarrassment.

A spirit of rebellion may be the cause of some delinquency. That spirit is not always evil. To be willing to seize upon "this sorry state of things entire, and then remold it nearer to the heart's desire" may be heroic.

But to be set against one's own world with a purpose to get even with it or to destroy it but not to improve it—that spirit produces crime. It is anti-social. No one wants to be in that state of mind. The victims of it are wretched. Psychiatrists and psychologists have found that it is generally produced by forces not willfully set in motion by the victim.

Such a person needs help, while society may need protection against him. Scientific knowledge of mental processes has now developed to the point where the delinquent may be diagnosed as a sick person to be cured. Scientific work in that field should be supported by a public educated to the point of knowing that crime does not pay, either for the individual or for the public which neglects any possible method of preventing it, and that prevention is less costly than punishment.

—JOHN HOOSIER.

♦ ♦ ♦

OF MANNER MAJESTIC

A young man of manner majestic Addressed a young maiden aegistic. Said he, "You're uncouth." Said she, "It's the truth, But I also am very domestic."

—MYRA AHLER.

♦ ♦ ♦

An Ohio farmer reports that a pet rooster spends every night perched on the horns of one of his cattle. Sounds like a cock and bull story.

Eisenhower-for-President Boom Worries Democrats

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24—Republican "Eisenhower-for-President" boom now have Democratic politicians genuinely worried. As a result, a few young Democrats of the New Deal persuasion here in Washington have been toying with the idea of trying to persuade General Ike to declare himself a Democrat. Whether he does or not, they are looking around for backers to launch a boom to make Eisenhower the Democratic candidate for President in 1948.

The way these Democrats figure it, Eisenhower could be elected President hands down, no matter what ticket he ran on.

If he ran as a Republican, a lot of Republican candidates for Congress would ride along to victory on his coat-tails. That would mean that the present slim Republican majorities in Congress would be made bigger.

The way these Democrats figure it, Eisenhower would then become the captive of this conservative Republican majority in Congress and he would have little if anything to say about politics.

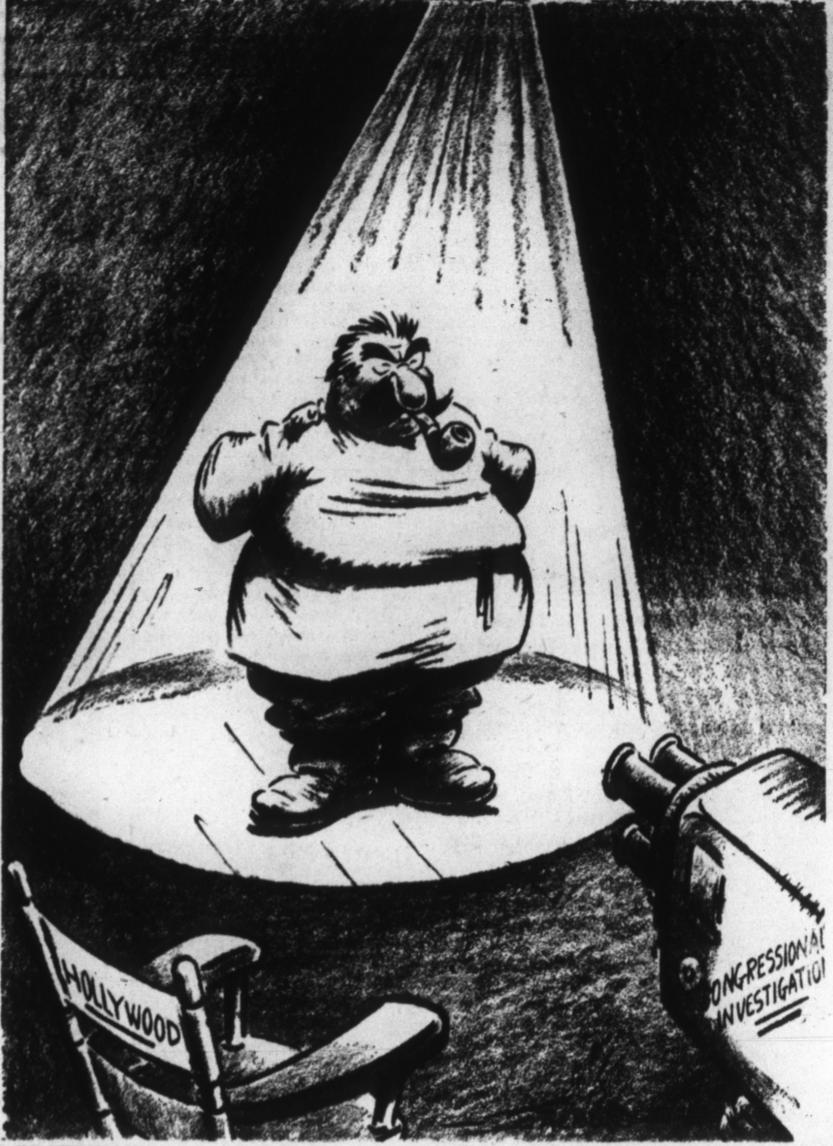
On the other hand, say the Democratic schemers in launching

their trial balloons, if Eisenhower ran as a Democrat he could unite the Northern and Southern factions of the party. He could also carry along enough of the Democratic candidates for Congress to upset the present Republican majorities. Their theory is that as a Democratic President, Eisenhower would have a chance to become the real leader of the party.

There is of course one great big hitch in this political pipe-dream, Harry Truman would have to be persuaded to step aside.

It is a political tradition that every first-term President, as the party's leader, has the right to succeed himself. But the New Dealers who fear a Republican sweep in 1948 unless drastic measures are taken now, advance the argument that Truman isn't too happy in the White House. They think he would gladly step aside if a stronger candidate presented himself.

Stand-In for Uncle Sam?



OUR TOWN . . . By Anton Scherer

Altenheim Knows the Old Tales

UP UNTIL ABOUT 10 YEARS AGO, the ladies auxiliary of the Altenheim (Old Folks Home to you) used to run off annual "bazaars." It was an ancient device thought up in the 19th Century, the purpose of which was to separate people of the loose change in their pockets as painlessly as possible—and what is even more to the point—without the spenders suspecting that they were contributing to charity, thus relieving them of any embarrassment.

I always made it my business to attend these functions, if for no other reason than to partake of the 50-cent suppers served by the ladies. It was lucky I did, for the way things turned out the Altenheim bazaars were the last place in Indianapolis where one could get an authentic Sauerbraten with its complement of honest handmade noodles.

The ladies up there did something to their noodles that made any other noodle taste like an abstraction. People, too young to know better, attributed the delicious taste to a suspicion that the cooks had added a new and distinct dimension of their own. Nothing could be further from the truth. The truth was that in the face of changes all around them, the ladies of the Altenheim had persistently stuck to time-honored traditions—four tablespoonsful of butter to every two eggs mixed, of course, with an appropriate amount of flour and slight quantity of water.

The Unpredictable Future

PROBABLY THE LARGEST and, certainly the most selective unit of Indianapolis men and women that still share the secrets of the last century is the group of 51 contented residents of the Altenheim at 2007 N. Capitol Ave. Considered collectively, they represent an aggregate age of at least 3600 years, a figure which, when broken down, reveals that it includes eight octogenarians. Of these, Mrs. Lizzie (Lizzie) Weiland is the oldest. She moved in 16 years ago, which also gives her the distinction of having lived there longer than any of her present

companions.

Two years later, in 1911, the newly founded society bought the big historic brick house belonging to John C. Wright for the fabulous sum of \$16,000.

The two proudest people in Indianapolis today are Franz Binninger and Martha Taylor, who directed the improvements this summer. Mr. Binninger is the financial secretary of the society who, for the past four years, has devoted all of his time to see that the institution runs smoothly. As for Mrs. Taylor, she is the matron of the place.

Open House Sunday

MRS. TAYLOR ACHIEVED nation-wide fame in the last Presidential campaign when, one night, Wendell Willkie and a big party of politicians rushed through Indianapolis on their way to Rushville. When they reached Fountain Square, the whole party bogged down because of intense hunger. Spying a little restaurant in that zone, they entered (by way of a frontal attack) and demanded of the proprietor, who was about to close up shop for the night, to provide them with an honest-to-God Hoosier meal. Inside of 30 minutes; the proprietor put on a feast for a king, let alone a Presidential candidate. Sure it was Martha Taylor, maybe, you've wondered what had become of her.

Well, that brings me to the point of today's piece—namely, that next Sunday (Oct. 26) the Altenheim is going to open its doors to the public to let it see how they spent \$7000 this summer and what they have to show for it.

Hoosier Forum

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

'Time for a Change'

By Art E. Gordon, Brendenwood

It is to be hoped that the wretched conditions now existent in Indianapolis will be changed for the better. It is not now safe for men or women to be on the streets alone for fear of being beaten over the head, robbed, raped and the like. It seems that our present city administration is incapable of dealing with these situations, either because they are too busy politicking or just don't care.

Murders in Indianapolis the last few years that have never been solved, just all kinds of crimes which have constantly been on the increase until people are now suggesting that the State Militia be called out to help with these disgraceful goings-on. Now I believe for the good of our city we had better change over to the Democrats. It never pays to let any one political party have a hold too long. They get careless and more and more so as time goes on. Give that fine man, Al Feeney, who made us such a grand sheriff, the opportunity to put Indianapolis back on the map as a God-fearing city instead of the hell-hole it is today.

'How About South Side Skating?'

By A Southsider

I, being a South Sider, join in with the rest of Indianapolis in making a request of the park department. As everyone knows, ice skating is a very enjoyable, a good bone-building and especially healthful sport. So why not do something about our South Side-skating pond?

Why not get to work on the lagoon at Garfield Park. It needs a good draining and cleaning out badly.

Last year, Lake Sullivan was the only good skating place in town. That's too far for most of us South Siders to travel, especially when we have a lagoon at Garfield Park. The excellent lighting for this pond is not doing any good as long as the pond has so much rubbish and junk in it, so that people can't skate.

I'm only one of the many South Siders who have the same opinion of this subject and I'm sure any of them would back me up and say the same thing. How about it—Park Department? Get a little push behind and start working on our South Side skating pond.

'Clean This One, Too'

By a 3100 Block Resident

While we are cleaning up Brightwood, how about the dogs and weeds in the 3100 block. The weeds are so high the school children cannot walk on the sidewalks and there are dogs of every description. Males, females with litters of pups parade the streets. No license. And one is afraid to walk down the street in the day time let alone at night. Let's see if this can be cleaned up too.

'How About It, Chief?'

By R. T. B., Daily Reader

Attention Chief of Police and Traffic Department:

Why are commission house trucks allowed to park their trucks on North side of Virginia Ave. between 6 a. m.-9 a. m. Signs posted. I was given a sticker for violation but police officer ignored the rest of the parkers.

'Good Work!'

By M. Lauck, City

Three Cheers for the manner in which you handled and are handling the Peoples' Needs in Our Fair City! We're loving it!

'Taft-Hartley Bill Brought Peace'

By a Times Reader, City

Labors bill is working! A letter in the Forum of Oct. 20 by "A Proud Member of the AFL," doesn't tell how the labor bill has hurt him. The Taft-Hartley bill is one of the outstanding things this Congress has done. We have more peace in labor than we have had for sometime. The only kick by labor leaders is the Communist affidavit. As far as labor running the election they tried to elect a Mayor in Detroit and a Congressman in Pennsylvania, lost both. The Taft-Hartley bill protects me and Mr. Proud AFL members from labor leading racketeers like Lewis, Murray and Green. They belong in the old country. I must refresh your memory that two-thirds of the Donkey's voted for this bill. The Hoosier people don't vote under labor dictation. The last Senate race had labor working behind Townsend. It was Jenner in Marion County by 29 thousand. Taft isn't through, might be your next President.

By Peter C. Edson