



V starih časih se je smatralo vojno za opravilo moških, a sedaj imajo skoro vse armade tudi ženske pomožne oddelke in čete. Večbajo se vojaško, pomagajo pa armadi na vojaških vzletališčih, v pisarnah in sploh kjerkoli, le v bitke jih še ne pošiljajo. Gornje je slika dekleta na zdravniški preiskavi, ki se je prijavila za vstop v ženski armadni oddelek.

Kaj si mislijo Rusi o obetani "drugi fronti"

KAPITALIZEM V STRAHU PRED SOCIALNO REVOLUCIJO. — ZAVAJALNA POROČILA, KI SO ZAVEZNIKOM VELIKO ŠKODOVALA. — SIJAJEN ODPOR SOVJETSKO ARMADE

Jesen je tu in sovjetska armada je še vedno do malega osamljena v borbi. Nemške hordde imajo v ofenzivi na Stalingrad in proti Kavkazu premoč v letalstvu, dasi so angleški in ameriški poveljniki že v pričetu tega poletja obljubovali "zatemnitvi nebo nad Nemčijo" s svojimi letali. Churchill jim je v pretnjah pritrdil in pozval prebivalstvo nemških mest v pobeg, "da bo z varnega gledalo, kako gore njihovi domovi".

Nejevolja v Moskvi

Nemci, ki se dobro zastopijo tudi na živčno vojno, so te pretnje poslušali, a izgleda, da jih niso vzeli resno, niti ne zavezniške grožnje z drugo fronto. Zato so udarili z vso silo na južni del Rusije, da prodro do oljnih vrelcev na Kavkazu, vzamejo Stalingrad in odrežejo sovjetski promet po Volgi.

Vsako, ki je prošlo zimo čital poročila o propadanju nemške armade, danes lahko ve, da so bila varljiva, zavajalna in Hitlerju jako po godu. Češ, ako je njegove armade skoro že konec, čemu se pripravljati proti nji? Iz tega vidimo, kako važno je ne samo, da imaš armado, nego tudi, kako slepiti sovravnika.

Nemška sila se je to poletje izkazala v ofenzivi za silnejšo kakor je bila lani, in le dejstvo, da se je tudi sovjetska armada dobro pripravila, se je zahvaliti, da pohod Hitlerjevih motoriziranih divizij ni uspel po načrtu. Vendar pa je nemška premoč tolikšna, da jo sovjetska armada odbija z največjimi naporji in ogromnimi žrtvami. Zavezniki pa se še zmerom le "pripravljajo" in tu pa tam so v "defenzivi". Nič ni torej čudnega, če so v Moskvi nevoljo nad tem odkrito pokazali.

Tudi žurnalisti kritizirajo

Tej neodločnosti zaveznikov že več mesecev zelo ostro oporekajo mnogi ameriški in angleški žurnalisti, dalje poslanci, pa tudi mnogi taki, ki so v vojaških zadevah priznani veščaki. Še celo newyorški New Leader, ki nima do komunistov prav nobenih simpatij, je kar na prvi strani, v okvirju, prjo-

Kaj so napredni Slovenci v Ameriki propagirali pred petindvajsetimi leti?

V Prosveti z dne 15. sept. so v urednikovem članku, v cdstavku, ki se tiče v glavnem sedanje polemike o vprašanju: bodočnosti Jugoslavije, med drugim sledeče besede: "Nekateri med nami trdovratno ponavljajo ene in iste besede, ki so jih izgovarjali pred 25 leti — ne zavedajoč se, da tiste besede danes ne pomenijo nič. Danes so na svetu republike, katerih predsednik je diktator in ljudstvo v njim nima nobene besede; so pa tudi monarhije, v katerih je monarh figura le za okrasek, pravi vladar pa je zbornica, v kateri je zastopano ljudstvo."

Tu se ne gre za kakšno polemiko z urednikom Prosvete, nego za apel na ta list, da naj povemo, če "tiste besede, ki smo jih izgovarjali pred 25 leti, danes res nič ne pomenijo." In ako ne, čemu sploh še treba biti v kakršnih koli aktivnostih, razen za reakcijo, kateri pa itak služi že vse preveč ljudi!

V času prve svetovne vojne je JRZ zastopalo, oglašalo in propagiralo v glavnih potezah sledeči program:

1. Ustanovitev jugoslovanske federativne republike, vitevši Bolgarijo, z najširšo socialno zakonodajo in ljudsko zaščito.
2. Sodelovanje jugoslovanske federacije z vsemi državami s stališča splošnih ljudskih dobrin vseh povsod.
3. Enota in nerazdeljivost jugoslovanske republike.
4. Enakopravnost in osebna svoboda vseh državljanov.
5. Demokratična reprezentativna uprava države in njenih delov.
6. Splošna, tajna direktna in proporcionalna volilna pravica za vse javne zastope za vse državljane od dvajsetega leta dalje.
7. Neovirana združevalna, zborovalna in tiskovna svoboda.
8. Svoboda mišljenja in verovanja; ločitev cerkve od države in dosledno od javnega šolstva.
9. Demokratiziranje diplomacije in javna zunanja politika pod kontrolo parlamenta.
10. Socialna politika, katere namen je ustvaritev enakih gospodarskih pogojev za vse.

Ta program je bil med nami oglašan v korist narodom v Jugoslaviji v prejšnji svetovni vojni. Četudi je bil zavrnjen, to še ne pomeni, da je zanič. Ako bi bil sprejet v Jugoslaviji, in v svojem bistvu po vsem ostalem svetu, pa ne bi bilo sedanje tragedije. In ne bilo bi vpitja o demokraciji, ker bi jo imeli, namesto da le kričimo o nji.

PRESOJANJA DOGODKOV DOMA IN PO SVETU

Sam Brewer, poročevalec čilkaške Tribune, nastanjen v Ankari na Turškem, pravi v depeši z dne 19. sept., da "srbski patrioti" napadajo "komuniste". Pobijajo vse one upornike, ki nočejo priznati generala Mihajlovića za svojega vrhovnega komandanta. Vsem tistim gerilcem, "ki prejemalejajo povelja iz Moskve", je Mihajlović ukazal, da naj se Moskvi odrečejo, ali pa bo po njih. Tako so torej "komunisti" med dvema ognjema. Ta usodni spor med jugoslovanskimi gerilci ni nov. Proletarec je bil dosedaj edini slovenski list, ki ga je čitatelem predočeval in razjasnjeval.

Koliko je gerilcev v Jugoslaviji? Prej omenjeni poročevalec pravi, da jih je pod Mihajlovićem 80.000, pod komunističnim poveljstvom pa od 10.000 do 12.000. V isti depeši poroča, da italijanski in nemški propa-

gandisti spor med jugoslovanskimi gerilci pridno izrabljajo in jih hujskajo drug proti drugemu z radio postaje "svobodna Jugoslavija", ki operira "nekje v Italiji". Da-li je Brewer o razmerah tam res poučen, ali pa je pisal le iz govoric, ne vemo. Vemo pa, da se Jugoslovani niti na svoji Kalvariji ne razumejo.

Primarne volitve so pri kraju in kandidati nominirani. Ljudstvo je bilo tirano na volišča s pritiskom političnih mašin, a vzlic temu se je glasovanje v primarnih volitvah udeležilo le 35 odstotkov volilcev. To je jako malo in za bodočnost ameriške demokracije nič dobrega.

Myron Taylor, ki je bil Rooseveltov poslanik v Vatikanu, je minul teden spet dopel tja. Nemci in Italijani so mu pustili svobodno pot, kot je mednarodno pravilo, kadar di-

(Nadaljevanje na 5. strani.)

Nemška vlada obeta svojemu ljudstvu skozi zimo več mesa

V tolažbo nemškemu ljudstvu je, da bo smel — na papirju vsaj — vsakdo dobiti v prodajalnah skozi prihodnjo zimo 12 unč mesa na teden, pa tudi odmerki kruha so zvišani. Kdor ima denar, in če je kruha in mesa dovolj v prodajalni, si bo obojega lahko privoščil.

Mesni odmerek je zvišan pol-drugo unčo na teden, ali skupno, kot že rečeno, si ga sme vsakdo kupiti 12 unč. To je malo, ako pomislimo, da ga tu v marsikaki družini poje vsak otrok več kot toliko na dan. Kolkoli časa bo to ilo, ne vemo, kajti tudi tu nas "straijo" z odmerki.

V Nemčiji je sedaj glavna hrana krompir. A ker so Nemci izborni kuharji, in veščaki v agrikulturni, vrh tega tudi izborni roparji, jedo v sedanji vojni veliko več in boljše, kot pa so v prejšnji vojni, ko jim je angleška blokada res škodovala.

"Stavke bodo uničile unije"

Včasih so bile stavke sredstvo za utrjevanje unij. A sedaj pa mnogi unijski voditelji, med njimi odbor unije delavcev v kemični industriji, smatra, da jih lahko uničijo, in s vared pred njimi. Dogajajo se vzlic temu, a ne mnogo. Le malo izmed njih je takih, da se jih lahko označi z "neodgovornostjo". Delavci imajo pač veliko mero prepežljivosti, a kadar je prepolna, vzkipi.

Leon Blum izgubil kmetijo

Bivšemu francoskemu premierju Leonu Blumu je vlada v Vichyju zaplenila vso imovino, vključivši njegovo farmo, ki obsega nad 50 akrov. Pravijo, da ima nekaj gotovine na varnem, namreč v švicarskih bankah, vse drugo pa so mu vzeli. Blum je v zaporu zaeno z drugimi tistimi ministri, ki so bili od nacijev obtoženi krivde za sedanjo vojno in od Lavala pa krivde za poraz Francije.

"Ersatz" niklji

Ameriške kovalnice denarja vliivajo nove niklje ("groše"), v katerih ne bo nič niklja, pač pa 35 odstotkov srebra, 56 odstotkov bakra in 9 odstotkov manganaze.

Kanada za enakopravnost žensk v industriji

Kanadska vlada je odredila, da morajo imeti v industriji in kjer koli ženske enako plačo kakor moški, ako opravljajo enaka dela.

Kanada omejuje konsum opojnih pijač

Kanada se je odločila znižati uporabo opojnih pijač, da bo več denarja za druge namene. Ceni se, da Kanadčani zapijejo približno \$250.000.000 vsako leto.

Zed. države bodo odločile vojno in narekovale mir

NAŠE IZGUBE V PREJŠNJI VOJNI MAJHNE V PRIMERI Z ONIMI, KI SE NAM OBETAJO V SEDANJI. — ALI BODO ŽRTVE POPLAČANE Z MIROM, KI BO ČLOVEŠTVU RES V KORIST?

V ameriški javnosti prodira mnenje, da če bomo hoteli v sedanji vojni res odločno zmagati, bo ta vloga odpadla saj kar se vojne z Japonsko tiče zgolj na Zedinjene države.

Anglija izgublja pomen

Anglija je v tej vojni veliko utrpela in še več pa izgubila. Njena vloga v Aziji je z izjemo Indije odigrana. Pred Japonci se je nagloma umikala in prekrizala vse račune ameriškega vrhovnega poveljstva. Zato smo tudi ob gumij, Japonci pa so ga dobili tako zlahka kot da jim je bil prinesen na pogrnjeno mizo.

Tudi vprašanje druge fronte je takšno, da je stvar povsem odvisna od Zed. držav. Anglija ima armado kakih tri milijone izvežbanih vojakov, ima dokaj dobro zračno floto, ki prizadeva Nemčiji precej sitnosti, ne pa toliko, da bi ji usodno škodovalo.

Torej, ako hočemo Nemčijo premagati, kdo naj izvrši to nalogo?

Rusija se bori in če bi je Hitler ne napadel in se s tem ukani v svojih načrtih, kje bi že bila zavezniška demokracija! Šele odpor Rusije je svetu pokazal, kako ogromno militariistično silo predstavlja Nemčija.

Rusija sama je ne bo premagala. Pomaga ji nihče toliko, da bi se morali Nemci otepati saj na dveh resnih frontah. Ampak predsednik Roosevelt poudarja, da bo Hitlerjem zdrobljen, in šele tedaj bodo Zed. države pripravljene skleniti mir.

Sedaj pa se pripravljajo šele na vojno. Neglede na izid na vzhodni fronti, ali v Afriki, (Nadaljevanje na 5. strani.)

Kdor se brani lista kot je Proletarec, mu je vsak izgovor dober

Agitatorji, ki se trudijo razširiti delavske liste, kot je Proletarec, poznajo izgovore, na katere nate, da jih bi lahko kar oni navedli in prihranili onemu, ki se otepa, čas in besede.

Slovenski pregovor pravi, "da je vsak izgovor dober, tudi če ga . . ."

In res jih ne zmanjka v nobenem slučaju.

Agitator pove namen svojega obiska. On deluje v krizi in v dobrih časih, v vsakem vremenu. In poslušaj izgovore:

"Ne morem, ni denarja, ne delam, še za assessment nimam, imam zadosti drugih listov, saj vsi enako pišejo, mi ni za čitanje, slabo vidim, samo kregajo se, vsak zase gleda, kaj bi podpiral one, ki pišejo, delati naj gredo, vsi skupaj lažejo . . ."

V "dobrem času" pa:

"Delam vsak dan, sem pretruden za čitanje, še drugih listov ne utegnem brati, še eden mi je odveč, saj nič ne povedo, to kar pišejo, že vem, no, res, bi naročil, pa kaj mi hoče, ko pa niti na seje ne utegnem . . ."

In tretji:

"Ga ne maram, ker je premalo mednarodni; preveč proti veri, premalo za slovanstvo, kakšen socializem zastopa, je preveč za Rusijo, premalo za Rusijo, komuniste hvali, preveč komuniste napada, prepusto gradivo, ima 'pretežke' reči, da bi jih razumel, — res, no, bi naročil, a ne sedaj, pridi drugič . . ."

Profitarji najtežje breme v vojnih naporih Z. D.

Po vsi deželi se debatira o krizi, ki prihaja med nas valed "pomanjkanja". In ljudje se vprašujejo: "Česa naj nam bi manjkalo, ko pa smo vedno poslušali le zagotovitve, da imamo vsega več kot preveč?"

Glavni problem sedaj je kavčuk. Nobena dežela na svetu ga ni uporabljala toliko, kot Zed. države, in na drugem mestu Anglija ter njeni dominjoni.

Dobivali smo ga skoro vsega iz Azije. Nad 90 odstotkov vsega prirodnega gumija se je pridelovalo v Aziji, in ves ta za

sedanje tehnološko dobo tako tako važen vir so kontrolirali angleški, ameriški in holandski kapitalisti.

Bili so uverjeni, da ga jim bo vojna sila teh držav čitila in niti v sanjah jim ni prišlo na misel, da bi Japonci nekega dne utegnili udreti v bogastvo prirodnega kavčuka in ga vzeti.

A dogodilo se je. In nekaj mesecev po tem nepričakovanem dogodku se je zvezni kongres lotil preiskave, da dožene, kaj je s kavčukom, koliko ga imamo in čemu ni tu zalog, kakor jih bi lahko imeli.

Brez večjih stroškov bi lahko v naprej ugotovil: Nima mo ga radi tega, ker so se kapitalisti, ki imajo to obrt v področju, bali, da bi padle cene, pa so ga radi tega dobivali sem le "za sproti".

Enako slabo so se izkazali v tej vojni drugi trustjani. V njihovi naturi je da mislijo edino na profit. Vse drugo jim je posttransko.

Dognalo se je, da mesarake veldružbe, ki so v prejšnji vojni goljufale vlado s prodajanjem pokvarjenega mesa za vojake, spet skušajo izkoristiti

sedanje razmere in ne samo to, nego so kršile tudi izjemne postavke, ki določajo, da cene ne smejo višje kot "do stropa". Izognile so se tisti naredbi na ta način, da so prodajale po najvišji ceni najslabše vrste mesa, drugega pa z velikimi dobički pod roko.

Slične goljufije uganjajo razne druge velekorporacije, med njimi kemična industrija, pa jeklarska, stavbinska itd.

Vsega tega ne bi bilo, če se bi ameriško ljudstvo zavzelo bogastva socializirati in jih obratovati v skupno korist.

The Relieve the Rich at The Expense of the Poor

Poor Get it "Where Chicken Got the Axe" in the Senate's Tax Bill, as LaFollette Predicted

One of the hardest tax blows in history was dealt the poor man by the Senate Finance Committee as it labored on this week with the gigantic tax bill. After rejecting all kinds of Treasury Department proposals for spreading the burden of war financing, the committee adopted a gross income tax, to be imposed in addition to the regular income levy.

An outstanding example is the post-war refund, which took away an estimated \$660,000,000. The percentage depletion privilege accorded oil and gas and mining companies deducted \$200,000,000 more. An increase from \$60,000 to \$80,000 in inheritance taxes, refusal to tax income from state and municipal securities or to compel husbands and wives to file joint returns lost hundreds of millions more.

WHAT THEY SAY?

Claude R. Wickard, Secretary of Agriculture:

"On the home front a self-sacrificing American must wage two great battles—the battle for production and the battle against inflation. We are running into trouble in both of these battles. But not through the fault of every-day loyal Americans. We are getting into trouble mainly through the doubts and delay caused by tactics of short-sighted group interests who are either interested in making every dollar they can now, or in trying to see that their own business or organizations will be in a favored position after the common people of the country have won the war for them.

"Now most of these obstructionists do not even realize they are unpatriotic. Their minds simply are set in the old grooves of seeking or maintaining advantage. Such men sit in many places. There are business men who still would take needed materials and transportation away from the war effort so that they can maintain their business organizations as usual. There are individuals in Government who resist changes, even though those changes now are imperative. There are men in positions of leadership in labor and agriculture who still think more in the old terms of group advantage than in terms of the Nation's welfare.

"All of these people are making a tragic mistake. What will it profit any group to win a temporary advantage and lose the whole war? Ask the business men of Germany, or the labor leaders of Norway, or the farm cooperative leaders of Denmark. I am sure that the vast majority of Americans know how foolish it is to try to conduct business as usual in a world at war."

Lieutenant General George H. Brett, U. S. Army:

"You men and women of labor, you are blood brothers to the pilot. He is half in your hands when he takes a plane into the air. He depends not only on the skill and knowledge he acquired as a cadet. He depends on the skill and knowledge you put into his plane. You go with him on his mission. His life depends on you. Yours is not a glamorous part, sweating along the production lines. You will get no cheers, there will be with what they want to tell you.

no parades for you. But without you there will be no victory. On you depends everything we do.

"Don't think the Air Force doesn't understand. You should see a pilot grin and pat his plane when he comes back from a fight. He knows you helped to bring him back alive, so that he can fight again, and come home when the war is over."

WAGE BOOST SOUGHT FOR COTTON PICKERS

\$2 Rate Held Necessary to Bring American Workers Up To Mexican's Guarantee

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Thousands of handbills are being circulated throughout the South by the Southern Tenant Farmer's Union, calling on farm workers to demand \$2 per 100 pounds for picking cotton. Rates now range from 75 cents to \$1.50.

The union asserts that the government has made an agreement with the Mexican government to guarantee a minimum wage of 30 cents an hour to all Mexicans brought into the country to work on farms.

American farm-hands, it is claimed, are entitled to at least equal treatment, and the \$2 rate is held necessary to bring hourly wages of pickers up to 30 cents.

HEN HAS RIGHT TO CACKLE

The American hen has become a symbol of American industry in time of war. In the first seven months of 1942 she has done two-thirds of the year's task set for her. From January thru July, Biddy produced a grand total of 3,050,000,000 dozen eggs—leaving somewhat less than 1,500,000,000 dozens to be laid in the remaining five months, if production reaches the total expected at present. This, the U. S. Department of Agriculture points out, should impose no strain on her, since Biddy will have the help of millions of young pullets that will join the production line in September and October.

Some people are mighty poor listeners. That is because it interferes with what they want to tell you.

THE MARCH OF LABOR

EMPLOYMENT IN THE U.S. REACHED AN ALL-TIME HIGH IN JUNE, 1942, OF 38,720,000! THE U.S. CONSUMES 60% OF THE WORLD'S SOAP. IN 1939 THE AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE IN NEW YORK STATE WAS \$1,048 - IN MISSISSIPPI \$435! TRADE UNIONS ARE ALWAYS FIGHTING AGAINST INEQUALITIES WHEREVER THEY OCCUR. BUY A UNION-MADE PRODUCT YOU ENDORSE ORGANIZED LABOR. THIS LABEL IS YOUR GUARANTEE OF A UNION-MADE NAT.

Paying for a Wasted "New Deal"

For the sake of the future, we should realize that most of the difficulties of defense and war production are due to a wasted "New Deal" decade, and pre-New Deal decades. America's major material shortage are—steel, rubber, power, transportation, including gasoline and fuel oil, planes, bombers, etc., sugar, and shortly—other kinds of food and wool.

The shipping problem is chiefly due to failure of protective agencies, and non-construction of air trucks.

For twenty years Congress has had before it legislation to set up a Government Farm Marketing Corporation, utilizing both producers and consumers cooperative organizations, which could have obviated many of the difficulties Price Administration Henderson faces.

For five years Congress has had before it a bill creating a National Natural Resources Corporation, empowered to acquire coal, oil, waterpower and gas—the four competing sources of energy—and to sell the products to ultimate consumers, and also, to make and sell to ultimate consumers electrical appliances and equipment.

This Corporation could have constructed pipe lines, and measurably prevented the gas and fuel shortage—even in war time.

For five years also, Congress has had before it a bill for public ownership of the iron and steel industry, and had this been adopted, with technician and engineer operation—we should not have had our present steel shortages, for all productive capacity could have been utilized, instead of being held out of use, to prevent post-war scarcity competition.

For seven years Congress has had before it bills for public ownership of the railroads.

Six years ago, legislation was drafted for government ownership of the motor industry, but at that time auto workers and other unions would not support it. Had we had such ownership, we could have saved nearly sixteen months' delay in conversion to manufacture of tanks, guns, munition and airplanes—a delay which is costing the lives of thousands of American boys.

Had we taken over more farm acreage, rapidly, under the Farm Security Administration, we would have averted many threatened farm shortages.—Reading Labor Advocate.

Wages of 15 to 40 Cents An Hour Paid 7,500,000 American Workers

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Nearly 20 per cent of American wage-earners are receiving less than 40 cents and many are working for as little as 15 cents an hour.

This fact protruded like a sore thumb from the report made by L. Metcalfe Walling, administrator of the Wage and Hour and Walsh-Healey Act division of the Department of Labor. It came while some officials and many lobbyists clamored for wage freezing and taxes to soak the poor.

At 40 cents an hour the weekly wage of this segment of the population amounts to \$16, or \$822 a year, providing the worker takes no time off or managed to go through a whole year without illness.

That amount, according to the report, represents the highest earnings of the 7,500,000 who are existing at the very edge or below the minimum standard of health and decency.

Only the 1,500,000 covered by the Wage and Hour law are receiving between 30 and 40 cents. In the excluded classification wages run as low as 15 cents an hour, or \$6 a week and \$312 per year.

"Even for those of the 7,500,000 paid up to 40 cents an hour, or \$16 at the most for a 40-hour week, it must be remembered that the rise in prices has levelled the purchasing power of their 40 cents down toward that of 30 cents set as a minimum standard of decency when the act was passed in 1938," Administrator Walling said.

Moreover, the report shows "chiseling" employers are reluctant to pay even the modest minimums required by the law. Since last December alone, 22,000 employers throughout the country violated the act by paying less and were compelled to make restitution totaling \$16,250,000 to 415,000 workers. Employees are protected not only by

criminal provisions of the act, but by another section which permits underpaid workers to start civil suits to collect double the amount due them.

MISS LENROOT'S SOUND APPEAL

Katharine Lenroot, chief of the U. S. Children's Bureau, noting the alarming increase in the number of boys and girls between 14 and 18 who are being rushed into industry on the theory that "it is necessary to win the war," sounds this timely warning:

"We are all keenly conscious that whatever is necessary to do to win the war, must be done, but before permitting an exodus of children from school for work, we must be certain that what is gained in labor for productive industry now is not lost in needed equipment for future manpower."

Every sane man knows that a nation's future is dependent on its children. Their welfare should not be jeopardized, except in time of dire need, and that time is not here, so far as the United States is concerned.

CENSORSHIP—Prisoner of War Mails

Effective September 7, 1942, all cards, letters and parcels originating in, destined to, and transiting the United States, to and from prisoners of war, and interned or detained civilians, are to be forwarded to New York, N. Y., for censorship. Therefore, effective September 7th, persons in the United States corresponding with prisoners of war and interned or detained civilians should plainly endorse, on the address side, all mails and parcels, "Via New York, N. Y."—Ernest J. Kruetgen, Postmaster.

REFLECTIONS

By the Editor of the Reading Labor Advocate

An old-time Socialist writes to ask: "What has become of the opponent of Socialism whose worst charge against us was that 'Socialists believe in dividing up?'"

Well, the answer is that he's dividing up all right. Only he's dividing scarcity instead of the plenty which would have been available if Socialists could have had the support of capitalism's dupes and victims.

The fact is that, one by one, we are accepting all the evils which, we have been told, would accompany Socialism. And the sad part of it is that now we are not getting the good things of Socialism to compensate us.

Rationing and priorities—necessary, to be sure, if we are to supply the demands of war—give us a system of dividing up that resembles the worst that was predicted for a Socialist economy. We're getting that, not to make life richer, safer and happier, but to make possible the slaughter of millions of human beings of our own and other nations, all of whom, we are told, have been created in the image of God.

And then there was the matter of individual initiative. Socialism would destroy initiative, we were told. Well, it wasn't so, of course. Even now individual initiative remains an innate attribute of mankind and can never be destroyed. But initiative is being shifted to new fields.

How much initiative remains for going into private business? Get your answer from the priority board.

Now comes the program of Paul V. McNutt, chief of the government board that have control of all labor resources.

Mr. McNutt tells us that workers are to be rooted from their homes and shipped to all parts of the nation where their labor and skill can serve the purposes of war.

Socialists need not complain about that to make their point that there is a plan for breaking up the home.

Remember? It was the Socialists who were going to break up homes. Remember, it was the Socialists who were going to destroy freedom? Well, the home isn't worth much and Freedom wears a strange mask when a worker is forced by economic need or by government decree to leave home and family for service in strange surroundings. It wasn't Socialists who broke up the homes of the subjugated peoples of Europe and compelled workers to accept service in Germany. And it won't be Socialists who are in control when war makes labor migration a national necessity.

And Socialists were opposed to private property. Remember that? We were going to confiscate a man's possessions weren't we?

What do the owners of private automobiles think about that evil now—when there is a probability of government seizure of the family car? Private property isn't safe any more—and it hasn't been the Socialists who were shaping national policies.

"Oh, but now we are at war," insist the apologists of the private profit system.

As though they'd prefer to arrive at the changes which must be made by the bloody avenue of conflict instead of by the road of reason and cooperation and peace and plenty!

That's the sad part of it all; that human beings insist upon making progress the hard way. We might have socialized our economy long ago. We might have done all the things we are now being forced to do. We might have exchanged an old and outworn world for a new and better one.

Now time is forcing the change upon us. The old, dear values to which we held until the very end—private profit, competition, individualism—are going, going, gone!

And because the old order is passing there is hope that this hateful present will be followed by a happier and more fraternal future—if the people will unite to exclude human exploitation from the socialization which is now taking form.

Convention in Boston, Starting Nov. 9

WASHINGTON.—CIO's fifth annual convention will open in Boston, Mass., on November 9, the Executive Board voted this week.

At the same time the Board authorized President Murray and the Executive Officers to name another location in case military or transportation authorities turn thumbs down on the Bean City.

It will be the CIO's first convention in New England. Previous ones have been held in Pittsburgh, San Francisco, Atlantic City and Detroit.

Some good will come out of this war if it can blast the theory of scarcity out of our economy.—Thurman Arnold.

THE FARM BLOC ISN'T THE FARMERS

The President has served notice on Congress that it discontinue playing the game of the Farm Bloc and keep farm product prices on a basis compatible with the people's purchasing power. Let there be no mistake about the meaning of this. The Farm Bloc is not the expression of the hardworking farmers of the United States. The Farm Bloc is in its relation to the American farmers what the U. S. Chamber of Commerce or the National Association of Manufacturers are to the industrial or manufacturing workers of the United States. The President has not attacked the interest of the dirt farmers. He has stepped on the special interests of the speculators, manipulators, money men and large scale farm operatives. The President calls for a price ceiling over farm products even as he stands for a stabilization of labor wages. Putting a ceiling on farm products, the ceiling based either on parity or existing prices, whichever is higher, is exactly stabilizing farm prices. Even so, labor has been willing to stabilize wages, the price of labor.

The President has not assailed any vital principle of democracy in his ultimatum to the Congress. In effect, he has told Congress to perform its duty as a part of our democracy or prepare to be considered an obstruction in the way of democracy. If Congress does its duty, it will not surrender its authority to the President. It will only demonstrate that it deserves its authority under our democratic constitution.

The President will have the support of the people in this crisis. We have no doubt about it. We shall all be very happy if the Congress chooses to join the people and the President.—The Advance.

UNFAIR FIGHTING

The President's order against time-and-a-half for Sunday work ends a scandalous situation. The great industrial unions in the armament industries long ago gave up this sort of bonus. It was a part of their sacrifice in the interest of continuous operation.

Then a strange thing happened. Anti-union employers used this sacrifice as a weapon in their anti-union fight. They offered the bonus to members of company unions and held it out as a bait to lure men from union shops or from their union membership. The history of the long struggle for union status offers no dirtier example of hitting below the belt.

The President's order comes, then, in response to a nation-wide protest. It removes an effective weapon from the hands of unfair employers. Thus ends a strange and instructive chapter in our labor history.—The New Leader.

RAIL PROFITS CONFOUND THE "EXPERTS"

A year ago many big investors—corporations and individuals—were disposed to turn "thumbs down" on all railroad securities. Railroad earnings soared, but prices of really good railroad bonds scraped bottom, and, with the exception of a few choice issues, there was no demand for railroad stocks.

Now the tide has turned. "Railroads are leading the market," the financial writers report. And no wonder! For the first six months of this year the Santa Fe reports its net profits, after paying all bond interest and other obligations, amounted to \$7.89 a share on the common stock—or more than 300 per cent above the same period last year!

The Atlantic Coast Line admitted it earned \$12.24 per common share, which is more than 200 per cent above last year.

Finally, the Association of American Railroads proudly proclaimed that revenue for July for all Class I roads was 35.5 per cent over last year.

Where are those "experts" who testified during the last wage hearing that the carriers would be "ruined" if their employees secured even a modest increase in wages? Every prediction they then made has proved a "dud."—Labor.

FROZEN TO JOBS

Strict curb on the movement of 200,000 workers in the metal and lumbering industries in 12 states from the Rockies to the Pacific Coast were decreed this week by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission.

Employees may not switch to other jobs, and bosses may not release them without a permit from the U. S. Employment Service.

What we hope ever to do with ease, we must learn first to do with diligence.—Dr. Samuel Johnson.

FOR VICTORY BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

V-MAIL

Space occupied by mail on planes or ships serving our armed forces outside the continental United States seriously reduces the space available for vital war materials. Full use must be made of every inch of shipping space in order that our forces will receive the maximum amount of needed supplies as well as mail.

V-Mail was inaugurated for that purpose.

V-Mail letters in their original form, or on microfilm occupy but a fraction of the space required for letters of the usual type and Army planes carrying mail outside of the United States give V-Mail preference over all other classes of mail. V-Mail micro-films are now being sent and received from our forces in the British Isles, Egypt, the Middle and Far East, Hawaii, Australia and other points in the Pacific.

Limited supplies of V-Mail envelopes are still available at your nearest postal station and no doubt may in the near future be secured from your nearest stationary or department stores.

Note:—When sending V-Mail letters be sure that the name and address of the addressee is shown in the panel at the top of the message side of the sheet. This information in the panel is photographed, as well as the message, and when reproduced at destination, serves as the address for the message when it is placed in a government envelope for delivery to the intended recipient.

Ernest J. Kruetgen, Postmaster.

MINING JUNK FOR WAR

The war has brought on a new kind of mining in regions where there are no mines and never were any. It's called "junk dump mining" and it is being pursued extensively in farm regions and small towns.

The "miners" are after scrap metal and they find it in plentitude in ravines and ditches on farms where farmers for years have been leveling the land by dumping tin cans, old machinery and assorted junk into gullies and then putting dirt on top of them.

Much successful "junk mining" is also being done in small towns where old stoves, worn-out automobiles and all sorts of castoff metal is hauled to the edge of town and dumped so that the city may be neat. Price of scrap metal has been so low that in most cases nobody felt repaid for collecting the junk to sell, and so it lies there now, a rich harvest for the scrap drive collections.—UMW Journal.

We are made for cooperation, like feet, like hands, like eyelids, like the rows of upon and lower teeth. To act against one another then is contrary to Nature, and it is acting against one another to be vexed and turn away.—Marcus Aurelius.