

The Menace of Abundance

Misfortune stalks these great United States of America. The people have produced more than they need of almost everything. As a result, our national police-makers are worried and our fellow citizens are menaced by poverty.

If that sounds silly, don't blame us. It's the way things are, the way they always have been under our private-profit economy and the only way they can be so long as wealth is produced for the profit of owners instead of for the use of everybody.

Right now Congress has a little mountain of bills dealing with possible ways of freeing society from the curse of super-abundance. Take potatoes — go ahead, take 'em; they're free if you can pass the right tests—as an example. Shall we burn 'em, feed 'em to the pigs or send them to the starving Chinese? Take eggs, butter, cotton. What shall we do about these things that are piled mountain high, but for which most of us must pay such high prices that our dollar of 1939 is worth only 60 cents or less in the year of 1950?

Eat 'em? Wear 'em? We can't; Americans should have been born with two or three stomachs and an equal number of bodies. What business that would make! But as things are, we Americans are wondering how long it will be before all this surplus of food will be forcing us to line up at relief stations.

Already an admitted 4.5 million Americans are jobless and rapidly going broke, according to official figures. Almost certainly the true total is higher. And all because there is too much of the stuff that people need!

Say, fellow citizens, what do you think of an economy that makes all of us afraid of having too much? And why it is that we have to fear surpluses?

The answer, of course, is in the ownership of the means of production and the purpose for which things are produced.

You wouldn't be worried about beans if that little garden of yours produced more of them than you needed, now would you. Oh, but you own the bean patch, so the beans are all yours.

But that's the trouble. You don't own the means of production and distribution that make up the capitalist economy. So you don't own the surpluses that are produced. And so you are still hired when you are wanted and cast aside when the corporations that do own things can't sell them.

Well, for the 'steenth time we're tell you—that's capitalism. That's what most Americans have continued to vote for down through the years.

Socialism wouldn't operate like that. Socialism has a program that is so sensible that it provides a way for the producers of wealth to also enjoy the wealth they produce and the leisure that machinery and science now make possible.

Wouldn't you like to be free of the danger of plenty? Wouldn't you like to use the surpluses that are giving capitalist lawmakers a headache? Or would you rather drag along until another war requires your services and eats up those vexing surpluses? Well the choice is still yours. Socialism or Capitalism... use or profit. You cast your vote and you take the consequences.—Reading Labor Advocate.

A Tory From Fort Worth

A Tory is a Tory, wherever you find him. Whether north or south of the Mason-Dixon Line, they indulge in the same hysterical appeal. The "Star-Telegram" of Fort Worth, Tex., makes profits which would force your eyes to pop out, but still it sees destruction around the corner unless we stop this "drift toward socialism." One of the "Star-Telegram's" editorial page writers says:

"The defeatist view is that nothing much can be done and that the only promise that can be made is to go on further and operate existing socialistic experiments more efficiently.

"This is nuts. Bureaus like the R.F.C. could be liquidated and voted out of existence. The Tennessee Valley Authorities could be sold to the public. Institutions, like the life insurance companies and the pension funds, would provide a market for such financing. The co-ops and similar tax-dodging operations could be brought under the tax laws.

"All that is needed is leadership, both in business and in politics, with guts." The language leaves much to be desired, but the objectives are fairly clear: Destroy anything which puts the government in the business of advancing the general welfare or which interferes with the profits of Big Business. Fortunately, the American people are pretty smart and they are not likely to fall for such stuff.—Labor, Washington, D. C.

Coudert Would Save The Republic

In the back of the "Congressional Record" we find some impassioned remarks by Hon. Frederic R. Coudert, Jr., a Taft-Republican member of Congress from New York. Mr. Coudert wishes to save the American republic. How does he propose to do it?

Why it's the simplest thing in the world. Amend our income tax law so it can only be used to pay off the national debt and the interest thereon and to meet war emergencies.

Mr. Coudert says our income tax law "is destroying the incentive and hope of the American citizen." We haven't noticed such loss of incentive. At the moment Americans seem to be doing pretty well.

Of course, taxes are high, but Americans have money to pay taxes now. It was different in the days of the "Hoover hunger." Now after paying all our taxes, we have about three times as much left as we had in those bad days.

Mr. Coudert's proposal will be received with loud cheers by certain rich men, already rolling in wealth but anxious to get more.

Public Power

Do municipally owned utilities pay? According to the Wisconsin "Rural Electrification News," the answer is "yes." As an example, in Wisconsin cities with over 20,000 population, 1,500 kilowatts, under the commercial rate, cost \$23.75, if the city owns the plant. However, if the plant is privately owned, the average cost is \$45.41.

In other words, according to the "R.E.A. News": "The average charges of profit-power companies are almost double the amount the users would have to pay in comparable publicly owned systems."

Pittsburgh Singer Soloist at Zarja Concert

Cleveland, O. — Those of you who managed to tune in Martin Antonic Slovene hour at 10:30 over WGAR March 26 and April 2 will need no further sales talk whatever to convince you to listen to Miss Josephine Klun thrill you again (in person) with her exceptionally rich mezzo voice at Zarja's spring concert just as she did in the broadcast of her two recordings referred to above.

It will be amazing to many to hear such volume and depth of tone emanate from the throat of this slight, almost frail-looking woman. However, for all her slight appearance, she can and will execute her choice of arias "Voi Che Sapeta" from "Le Nozze di Figaro," "Stride La Vamp" from "Il Trovatore," "Seguedille" from "Carmen" and the simpler songs, such as "Tam Kjer Tece Bistra Zila," "Sanje," "Trees" and others with an ease that will please both the ear and the eye of the listener.

Miss Klun's fine voice is appreciated and well known by music lovers in her home city of Pittsburgh and also in many other Slovene populated towns of Pennsylvania, for she has given much of her talent to enrich programs of various SNPJ lodges and other Slovene organizations. So we can assure you it will be a treat to hear her at her best in Cleveland.

Adding to the program of this April 16th will be our Singing Society "Zarja." We will share approximately half of the two-hour program with a variety of songs, one of which is the current popular song among Cleveland choruses — "Vrbsko Jezero." A three part women's chorus "Pomlad" will be another offering and because of its title will be obviously appropriate for this particular program. Our male quartet, Al Fatur, Frank Elersich, Andy Turkman and Frank Kokal, always a welcome foursome, will harmonize in "Pastirček" and "Z Veselim Srcem Vošcim."

"Tam Kjer Beli So Snezniki" and "Jagerček" by Jennie Fatur and Frank Kokal, our two leading singers, will be a pleasure to hear as will be the duets "Homecoming Waltz" and "Trebba Ni" by Sophie Elersich and Alice Tekavec plus "Mati Piše" and "To B'la Lepa Urca" by Josephine Turk and Tony Perusek.

Other selections of merit, too numerous to mention but listed on the programs, will also be extremely agreeable to hear. And so, the final song, Sibelius' "Oj Mili Dom" (Dear Land of Home) by the entire chorus with Miss Klun doing the solo will close the afternoon program.

The evening program will consist of the partaking of good food well prepared by our capable cooks and the quenching of your thirst after a few exhilarating dances to Pintar's orchestra. Therefore, we hope you and you and you come to enjoy a fine afternoon program at the SND on St. Clair at 3:30 p.m., then top it off by an evening of personal participation in dancing and refreshing old friendships. So come and "Enjoy yourself — it's later than you think" (with apologies to the composer). — Zarja Reporter

Job Outlook is Tough For Engineering 'Grads'

A record total of 50,000 graduates, far more than jobs available, will pour out of the nation's engineering colleges this year, the Labor Department announced this week. The total will be five times the pre-war annual turnout of engineering "grads." The Department predicted stiff competition for engineering positions, but it said many of the "grads" are likely to find openings in administrative, sales and technical jobs.

Story Time
Restless youngster (at 3 a.m.): Mommy, tell me a story.
Mother: Hush, dear. Daddy will be in soon and tell us both one.

THE MARCH OF LABOR



McCarthy's Mess

Senator Joe McCarthy, who has adopted the Communists' technique of smear, said in the Senate February 20:

"I will not say anything on the Senate floor which I will not say off the floor. On the day when I take advantage of the security we have on the Senate floor, on that day I will resign from the Senate."

On March 15, The Christian Science Monitor reported: "Reporters asked Senator McCarthy again if he would repeat his charges (about Judge Dorothy Kenyon's alleged 'Communist activities') off the floor, where he would not be protected by Senatorial immunity from libel suits. He declined to reply directly." (Bold face ours.)

That's the stuff, Senator. Keep jumping and dodging all over the place and pretty soon your motives will become so transparent to everybody you will have jumped yourself right out of any chance of re-election.

As a matter of fact, McCarthy's motives a few years ago were so obvious that the Wisconsin State Board of Bar Commissioners recommended his disbarment. The commissioners said: "He knowingly and willfully placed the gratification of his personal ambition above the interests of the public and the rights of litigants."

And his motives in remaining a state judge while running for the Senate in 1946 were so apparent the Wisconsin Supreme Court ruled that he had violated his oath of office and stated that he was "guilty of an infraction of the moral code."

Incidentally, if McCarthy is as wrong about communism in the State Department as he has been about the Taft-Hartley Act, rent control, TVA, housing and minimum wages there's not a Commie within a thousand miles of the place.—League Reporter.

Monopoly Probers Get Only \$30,000, Un-American Probers \$150,000

The House has voted a new appropriation of \$30,000 to continue its investigation of monopolies by the committee headed by Rep. Emanuel Celler.

It was a strange contrast with the \$150,000 voted for the un-American Activities Committee, which has had many such juicy appropriations in the past, but the new appropriation is enough to permit the Celler Committee, which has been on dead center, to get going again. With a new counsel—Edward H. Levi—the committee is now preparing for the hearings on the steel monopoly, scheduled for April 17.

Congressmen who live in glass houses...

Congressman Roy O. Woodruff (R., Mich.) recently made the headlines in every reactionary newspaper with his criticism of President Truman, who, he charged, lives in luxury. He said:

"A private citizen, to match the standard of living now enjoyed by the President, would need an income of between \$3 million and \$3.5 million a year."

To reach these figures, Woodruff added to the President's yearly salary the cost of the Presidential staff, the White House travel allowance, the cost of operating the Presidential yacht and airplane, the cost of the Secret Service and White House guards, and other items which the President has no authority to curtail and which he certainly did not ask for and which would represent a fixed expense to the Government under any President, Republican or Democratic.

After Woodruff made his "sensational expose," a CIO staff member, wondering what the same kind of figuring would show about Woodruff, put the matter up to an expert on government affairs, who provided the following information, according to The CIO News:

Rep. Woodruff receives an annual salary of \$12,500 and has a \$2,500 tax-free expense account. He is allowed \$16,300 annually for clerical help, \$500 for telegrams and long distance telephone calls.

"That amounts to \$31,850," the expert said, "but that isn't all." Rep. Woodruff also gets the free

Call 'em Communists

Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy, the Wisconsin Republican who has done some blasting of the Senate Department as a patron of Communists, made the mistake of going into particulars. He mentioned names, among them that of Dorothy Kenyon, who believes in democracy and in plain talk. So Miss Kenyon has called McCarthy a liar and taken the trouble to prove her charge.

Since we are political Socialists, we are despised by Communists where we are weak and hated and hounded by them where we are strong. However, it wouldn't surprise us at any time if some blatant apostle of the racket called "capitalism" would come out and charge us with being commies. As a matter of fact, there are some, like young Franklin D. Roosevelt, who link Socialists right along with Communists when they list their pet hates.

We are glad that McCarthy is being forced to eat his words in public, because that may put people generally on their guard against these dishonest individuals who attempt to becloud issues with disagreeable-sounding names.

Calling 'em Commies is a cheap way of disposing of one's enemies, if one can get away with it. We have seen lesser people than Senators do just that on a number of occasions, with the result that their victims were robbed of prestige and their dupes of understanding.

As a rule, these "Commist-killers" aren't concerned with the fact that Socialists propose to end the private-profit economy by legal means, while Communists are ready to throw democratic processes to the winds. The main objection of the McCarthys is that they just don't want anything or anybody to put an end to an economy that is based upon class privilege and exploitation.

To prevent that, there are plenty of self-proclaimed "patriots" who will sacrifice, not only the truth, but democracy itself. Those of them who throw charges around without regard for the facts need to be watched lest they become violent in action as well as in words.

SPRING CONCERT

Cleveland, Ohio — On Sunday, April 16 at 3:30 p.m., the singing society "Zarja" and Miss Josephine Klun, American Slovene vocalist from Pittsburgh, Pa., are presenting a concert at the Slovenian National Home on St. Clair Ave.

This concert should be of special interest to the members of the SNPJ, because Miss Klun, a talented singer gifted with an outstanding soprano voice, has unhesitatingly offered her services at benefit performances and celebrations of our various cultural and fraternal organizations including the SNPJ. These audiences have invariably paid the highest tribute to her vocal abilities and have placed her in the category of the leading Slovene singers in this country.

Miss Klun was tutored in languages for singing at the Berlitz School of Languages and also attended the Opera Workshop at the Pennsylvania College for Women, where she received instruction in the subjects pertaining to opera work and appeared in several scenes from "Faust" and "Aida." At the present time she is studying under Frances G. Lewando of Pittsburgh, teacher of many network singers, including Jane Pickens of New York.

As a former member of "Junior Prešeren Singing Society" of Pittsburgh and soloist on Slovene programs, Miss Klun has a fine background of Slovene music to enrich her repertoire, which should be sufficient to please the most discriminating.

"Zarja" will be on hand with a fine selection of choral numbers including the ever popular "Vrbsko Jezero." To add variety to listening pleasure, there will be solo, duet, and quartet numbers presented by Jennie Fatur, Frank Kokal, Sophie Elersich, Alice and Joe Tekavec, Albert Fatur, Frank Elersich, Josephine Turk, Tony Perusek, and Andrew Turkman.

"Zarja" will be on hand with a fine selection of choral numbers including the ever popular "Vrbsko Jezero." To add variety to listening pleasure, there will be solo, duet, and quartet numbers presented by Jennie Fatur, Frank Kokal, Sophie Elersich, Alice and Joe Tekavec, Albert Fatur, Frank Elersich, Josephine Turk, Tony Perusek, and Andrew Turkman.

Poverty is Best Friend of Communism

What makes converts to Communism? Poverty. If anyone doubts that, let him look at two reports from Rome.

In a talk to parish priests, Pope Pius XII described the "miserable conditions" among the Roman poor. Because of their poverty, the Pope pointed out, priests "encounter disillusion and bitterness" when they attempt to "sow the seed of Christ."

In Southern Italy, a crowd of poverty-stricken peasants "invades a town hall," demanding jobs for jobless farm workers and land for the landless. They "seize" land from farm landlords, and this is not the first time that has happened recently in Italy.

"Peasants of all shades of political opinion" are participating in these "invasions" and "seizures," the report says, but Communism is the gainer.

Poverty is the best friend of Communism in any country. —Labor

Worth Remembering

Drivers are safer when the roads are dry; and roads are safer when the drivers are dry.

under the capable direction of Joseph Krabe with Edwin Polsak at the piano.

For those unable to attend the concert comes this invitation to attend the dance in the evening in the ballroom to the music of the Pintar Brothers. This will be a splendid opportunity to get together with the many people expected from Pennsylvania on this day.

The admission to the concert and dance is but 85c and to the dance only in the evening 75c, so come on out and enjoy a day of wonderful entertainment and give this representative of the American Slovenes, Miss Klun, a boost toward becoming a future candidate for the Metropolitan.

— Andrew Turkman

That's Rich

The number of those eligible to cast a ballot who did vote in the Soviet elections is a curious one. It is given as 99.6 per cent or practically as pure as Ivory Soap.

It is not true, as the enemy press would have it, that the Russians had no choice in their elections. They had a perfect choice. It was Stalin or else.

In another numbers game, Senator McGrath, the Big Wind from Wisconsin, stated first that there were 245 Communists in the State Department, then flipped to 81, and finally settled on 57 as his number. Heinz Pickles probably has a cause of action for defamation of "57 Varieties."

The British elections have demonstrated once again that as New Zealand goes so goes Maine.

U.S. Tories were jubilant that British Labor won by only a slim majority. The only one cast in gloom was Thomas E. Dewey. He is peeved that the scorekeepers didn't give him the same benefit for the long count that they gave Churchill.

More in sorrow than in anger, Senator Taft feels that the mine operators let him down. He is ready to let bygones be bygones, however, and will propose tougher laws for the miners to bypass.

Republican experts on foreign relations agree that politics should stop at the shoreline, but they mean the shore on the other side of the Pacific and the Atlantic.

Visitors to New York who find the subway system confusing can always find the Sixth Avenue Line on Sixth Avenue if they don't look for it on LaGuardia's Beaut, sometimes called "Avenue of the Americas."

The nation is almost completely returned to normalcy again. Already children are starving in migrant farm labor camps and the Okies are on the loose in Grapes of Wrath country.—J. C. Rich in The Hat Worker

Means Much to West

Being a Westerner, I confess I am fascinated by New York's rain-making tests. The big city has hired a meteorologist at \$100 a day and has given him six months to show what he can do.

If he can produce rain when needed, the semi-arid regions of the West will give him \$1,000 a day and say it's cheap.—Raymond Lonergan.