

Romani, povesti, črtice in opisi
Poučne in znanstvene knjige

KNJIGARNA "PROLETARCA"

2301 South Lawndale Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

Pesmi, poezije, igre
Angleške knjige socialne in znanstvene vsebine

Romani, povesti, črtice in opisi

Table listing various books including 'Bacili in bacilke', 'Babilonska žena', 'Beatita davnica', etc.

Med potniki in mornarji

Table listing books like 'Moje življenje', 'Musolino, glasoviti italijanski ropar', etc.

Tri povesti (L. N. Tolstoj)

Table listing Tolstoj's works: 'Jutro v Kavkazu', 'Stara, Kolkid zemlja', etc.

XV. zvezek: Troje povesti

Table listing various short stories and essays in the XV volume.

Modernna francoska lirika

Table listing French modernist poetry and literary criticism.

Mezno delo in kapital

Table listing Marxist and economic theory texts.

letnik 1929, vezan

Table listing various yearbooks and anthologies.

SLOVENSKI PISATELJI

Table listing Slovenian authors and their works.

Zbrani spisi

Table listing collected works of various authors.

Jurij Josip: Zbrani spisi

Table listing the collected works of Jurij Josip.

Znanstvene razprave, politični in gospodarsko-socialni spisi

Table listing scientific, political, and socio-economic essays.

PESMI IN POEZIJE

Table listing poems and poetry collections.

RAZNO

Table listing miscellaneous books and pamphlets.

KOLEDARJI

Table listing calendars and almanacs.

Advertisement for Dr. John J. Zavertnik, Physician and Surgeon, located at 3724 West 26th Street, Chicago, Ill.

Advertisement for BARETING & SON, Pogrebni Zavod (Funeral Home), located at 424 Broad Street, Johnstown, Pa.

YOU'LL GET PIE-- BYE AND BYE

When somebody asks us what we think about the president's program for cradle-to-grave security, we preface our answer by inquiring what our questioner thinks about the new tax plan which the nation's lawmakers are shaping up for us.

The two plans really ought to be considered jointly to understand the real meaning of present and future living standards. Security may mean high living standards or low living standards. It may mean greater freedom and self-control or less freedom and regimentation.

Right now almost every able person is secure in the ability to get a job and earn wages; the war effort needs us all. But the war effort also needs the things our labor creates, so security isn't going to mean a very high living standard as long as the war lasts. Indeed, even the advocates of higher taxes are admitting now that present plans will leave the earner of a \$40-per-week wage with a net of less than \$17.

Nope! We're not griping about it; let those who voted for this war-breeding system do their griping. All we want to do is recall that, by looking over the back files of this humble publication, it will be seen we knew all along that we'd be paying a heavy bill in terms of living standards.

Now we know something else. We know that security for the workers is not going to mean freedom from exploitation—if the thing is handed to workers by the defenders and beneficiaries of exploitation. We know that the very people who are crying about the tax program which they helped to make necessary by rejecting Socialism will be wailing about the chains that bind them in the service of a super class (not super race) a few years from now.

You may get pie bye and bye; indeed you may! The possibilities of production are so great that there is no longer any reason why the owners should not take better care of their servants.

But we recall reading that the same thing was taking place under the old chattel slave system which was wiped away in our Civil War. Then, too, the more prosperous plantation owners, strong in their power to control and flushed with surpluses, talked loudly about the "abuses" of slavery and piously promised to make the lot of slaves more tolerable.

However, the people who sincerely wished to "do something" for slaves were the most stubborn defenders of the system itself and fought to the death for its preservation.

But the question is, "What do we think about the president's security program?" Well, for the owning class we think it's the best security yet offered. We think that the class system which exploits human beings and causes wars just couldn't exist very long without it after the waste of war ends.—Reading Labor Advocate.

"Decent Respect For Opinions of Mankind"

From the viewpoint of Soviet policy and the building of good will, the execution of Erlich and Adler was stupid, which, in politics, is even worse than criminal. Certainly such disregard of public opinion in an allied country does not rhyme with sensible international relations policy. The only possible explanation of this action by the Soviet regime is that it permitted partisan—Communist party—motivation affect state action. Hatred for party-opponents guided the verdict of the court. Soviet policy was subordinated to Communist phobia.

Mr. Wallace is entirely right: We must not double-cross Russia. And we won't. But Russia must practice "decent respect for the opinions of mankind" in its dealings with us. Our joint interest in the success of our common enemy and the stability of the durable peace which we hope jointly to win and keep demand from Russia, even as it demands it from the United States that party politics not be allowed to transgress the course of international policy.

These are considerations which enter into the field of constructive and broad thinking that men must do now even before the war is actually won, while we frame in our minds the edifice of international peace and security.—The Advance.

SOCIALISM TO HELP OUT BUSINESS AFTER WAR

Under the heading of "Insurance Advertising Men Look into Future," the Savings Bank Journal of January, 1943, carried a report of a speech by Stewart McDonald, chairman of the board and president of the Maryland Casualty company. Commenting on McDonald's speech, the article says:

"The biggest problem, and one on which the solution of all others depends, is the threat of mass unemployment when peace comes, the speaker stated. There is general agreement that, as a rough assumption, there will be between 30,000,000 and 40,000,000 people thrown out of jobs in war industries and demobilized from the armed services soon after the war ends. There is considerable reason to believe that a good proportion of these will be absorbed back into our economy within a comparatively short time. There may be a net total of some 10,000,000 people without jobs.

"Mr. McDonald emphasized the fact that many of the jobless will not be the chronic ne'er-do-wells, the lazy and shiftless. These post-war unemployed will include a large percentage of the cream of our population, many of them young and vigorous and toughened by the rigors of war. They will include men who have risked their lives on the fighting fronts. They didn't fight for the reward of a preferred position in a block-long bread line."

"If the American system of free enterprise, and that includes our insurance industry, is to survive," the speaker continued, "it must take on a great share of this stupendous responsibility of creating jobs for these millions of men and women.

And who is going to take care of the share of unemployment not assumed by private industry? Why socialism, of course. Says Mr. McDonald:

"Already there is being planned in Washington a large scale program of public works projects, calling for Progressive.

an expenditure of some \$10,000,000,000 each year for the first five years after the war ends. Such a program will provide employment for millions of people, and stimulate many classes of business and industry all along the line."

BOTH SIDES OF THE STREET

Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker is one of America's genuine heroes. He risked his life for his country in two wars and, in between wars, he risked his career to brave the wrath of arm-chair interventionists in the fight to prevent American involvement in the Second World War.

Just now, however, Eddie Rickenbacker is making an unholly spectacle of himself. A legitimate crusade against unsavory elements in the ranks of organized labor would have won the applause of the whole nation, including most of the dues-paying members of labor unions. But Captain Rickenbacker's intemperate outbursts are directed not at racketeers, but at all of American labor.

In a recent speech at Philadelphia, he said: "All overtime wages for work up to 48 hours a week should be abolished. You shouldn't have to bribe men to do their jobs."

In the same speech, he opposed the \$25,000 limit on salaries because—"That's a limit on incentives."

Obviously Captain Rickenbacker can't work both sides of the street—and get away with it. He can't, logically, call more money an "incentive" for those who have a net income in excess of \$25,000 and "bribery" for those whose incomes aren't one tenth that amount.

And yet this is the kind of drivel that Eddie Rickenbacker is peddling right now. He would make a lot more sense if he dealt honestly with the subject of equality of sacrifice, if he told his audiences just a little about the wartime profits which the munitions makers demand and receive from the government.—The

THE MARCH OF LABOR



Appeasement's Fruit

We trust that Ambassador Hayes and the State Department are paying heed to the current vocabulary of the Spanish radio. In particular, we hope that Mr. Hayes has learned these words of the Spanish radio, pronounced just two days after his most recent billing and cooing to France's regime in an address at Barcelona:

"A reconnoitering operation by Rommel's vanguard was enough to put a whole American Army to flight. The Germans have verified that in the future one German soldier confronting four or five Americans can provide reasonable hope of victory."

Mr. Hayes should ponder those lines, recorded yesterday in "The Axis on the Air"—but he has no reason to be shocked by them. During the weeks before he spoke at Barcelona, Spanish broadcasters had indulged in such fulsome language as: "The Jewish banks of New York and London, in concert with Bolshevism, unleashed this war," and "Like a brilliant ray of hope, Hitler's voice assures us that this fight will not finish as the Jews wish." Franco himself, of course, had long since answered American appeasement during our belligerency by boasting of his solidarity with Hitler.

We are well aware that Franco, in a land so cruelly impoverished by his rebellion as the creature of Hitler and Mussolini, and in his fear of a rising of the people, wants to "keep out of war." Is that a reason for bolstering his regime? We think not. We think the way to increase Franco's healthy desire to avoid a war with us is to prove America's might and the United Nations' might.

We also think it is not yet too late to prove to the Spanish people that their fight is ours—that our victory means their freedom. The reforms now under way in French North Africa, if carried to a real democratic fruition, and if held as a pattern of our intent for Europe, will strengthen us more in Spain than any amount of special privilege for the Spanish dictator. If the Germans do march through Spain to meet us, or if strategy ultimately requires Allied action in Spain, the help of the people, based on the hope of the people, can do for us what it did for Wellington.—The Chicago Sun.

Insull Security Holders Get \$1 for Every \$1,000 Invested

Another sad chapter in the mad financial ventures of Sam Insull was written in Federal court at Chicago. It made sickening reading for thousands of investors who were duped by the one-time utility titan.

Reports filed before Federal Judge Michael L. Igoe by Garfield Charles, special master in chancery in the liquidation of Insull Utility Investments and Corporation Securities Company, revealed that owners of the securities of these companies will collect only about \$1 for every \$1,000 invested.

When the distribution is made, the investors will have exhausted all legal means for recovery.

Many of the almost-worthless "gold notes" floated in sales by Insull are owned by Chicago school teachers, who were forced to accept them as part of their salary at a time when the city's finances were in bad shape.

Evidence taken in bankruptcy proceedings involving Insull's companies brought out the fact the promoter knew the bonds were worthless when he peddled them.

Insull's story is so well known to Proletarec readers that it scarcely needs repetition. He built up a billion-dollar pyramid of holding companies by ruthlessly tramping on the laws of the land. He corrupted legislators and bought up city government and newspapers like fish in the market place.

When the blow-off came he fled to Europe and caused the authorities no end of trouble in getting him back. Penniless and under a flock of indictments, he passed away a few years ago, unhonored and unsung.

But it will be years before his piratical manipulations are forgotten. Directors of some of his corporations still face charges of mismanagement or worse in "rubber-stamping" Insull's wishes. If these charges are proven, these directors may be

stripped clean in paying damage suits, those now pending aggregating something like \$75,000,000.

LITTLE LUTHER

"Gee, Daddy," Little Luther remarked, "reading the newspapers is harder than doing long divisions and fractions."

"What," Mr. Dilworth asked, "are you mumbaling about now?"

"On one page, the newspaper is raising the dickens because the workers are not working enough. They call it absenteeism. Then on another page, they put because the government has ordered a 48-hour week so the workers can work longer. And they call that inflation. I don't get it."

"You don't hear about any absenteeism in the foxholes of North Africa, do you, my boy?"

"And I don't hear about any soldiers being fired by the army because they had pneumonia and couldn't fight for a week. That's what happened to a worker in the Bethlehem yards who was out for two weeks with pneumonia."

"Absenteeism can only be cured by labor conscription."

"How can conscription cure pneumonia? Wouldn't a hospital and a doctor do more good, Pop?"

"Some workers are just natural loafers. They're got to be disciplined."

"You mean like the fellow who worked seven straight weeks without a day off and then when he collapsed with bleeding ulcers was fired by Bethlehem for absenteeism?"

"The fellow was probably drinking too much rotgut whiskey."

"Or maybe eating too many greasy beans in Ulcer Gulch."

STAGGERING OUTPUT

The value of all goods and services produced by Americans during the fiscal year ended last June reached the staggering total of \$134,000,000,000, Secretary of Commerce Jesse H. Jones reported recently.

THE RED STAR RISES

By FRED A. KIRCHWEY, in The Nation

No weekly journal can match the tempo of the Russian advance. Leagues are covered while the presses run, and discussion of the significance of the recapture of Kharkov is made meaningless by the fall of Krasnodar. The only interesting speculations are those which themselves advance far beyond the present front and consider the consequences of a Russian victory more sweeping than the boldest "expert" dared suggest a month ago. The Nazis' 1941 "winter line" has already been overrun and its key anchors lost. Observers in Washington and in neutral observation towers in Stockholm and Berne have begun to talk about a probable stabilization of the front along the line running from the Baltic to Odessa—a line backed by the Pripet Marshes and the upper reaches of the Dnieper River. But the Soviet army may break through these predicted positions as it has through those established in earlier guesses. And even if the experts are right and a combination of spring thaws and extended communications checks the Red Army, it seems most unlikely that the depleted and exhausted Nazi troops can launch another major offensive this spring—much less conquer Russia in the long run. In spite of the losses and hard fighting that lie ahead, Stalin has won the Battle of Russia.

Reactions in the West to this tremendous reversal on the eastern front are curious and contradictory. Official public comment is, on the whole, carefully enthusiastic. The tributes to the Red Army on its triumphant anniversary were generous and sounded genuine. But the anxiety now openly expressed in many conservative quarters—even by some persons wholly in favor of fighting Hitler to a finish—shows how precarious are the underpinnings which hold up our alliance with Russia. Opinion in these quarters seems to be almost equally divided between a conviction that Russia will stop fighting any moment now, leaving the other Allied powers in the lurch and Hitler in control of Western Europe, and a fear that Russia will not stop fighting at all but will push on and on until all Europe is engulfed in the Bolshevik tide. Both fears, in their most extreme form, are absurd. Both have a few seeds of reality which circumstances might nourish.

Stalin is neither an altruist nor a fool. Neither is he an imperialist. He never wanted to be dragged into a world war. He wanted the security of Russia's frontiers. He was ready, from the time the Soviet Union joined the League, to accept the obligations for collective security, seeing in this method the only chance of averting the disaster that has overwhelmed the world. As long as any hope remained, his Foreign Minister, Maxim Litvinov, fought a tenacious fight at Geneva to turn the pretense of collective action into a reality. The betrayal of Spain by the major Western powers practically ended Russia's dream of a united front against the Axis threat. The collective surrender at Munich, and the exclusion of Russia from the four-power conference that emerged from it drove Litvinov out of office and the Soviet Union into isolation. And the explicit knowledge that the Chamberlain government had been trying to interest Hitler in a campaign of expansion to the east rather than a general European war was not calculated to quiet Stalin's deep-rooted suspicions of the Western powers.

Russia will never again willingly permit itself to be jockeyed into such a position. And today it is strong enough to choose the policy which will best serve its national interests. That policy might be either one of armed isolation buttressed by a group of satellite states or one of conquest and revolution. It is up to the other Allied powers Britain and the United States in particular, to decide whether they want a victorious Russia to adopt either of those courses. A return of pre-war power politics built on a system of reactionary states held together by American food and Allied arms, would confirm Russia's old fears—fears which Allied foreign policy during the war has done little to dispel. If control in post-war Europe is restored to the elements in each country that fear social change above all else and seek only to protect the privileges of church and army and business, then Russia will make trouble—not because Stalin is an imperialist bent on conquest or

This Is the Time to "Think About It"

Board Suggests What Must Be Done to Avoid Chaos After War; "F. D." Says Congress Must Draft the Blueprints

President Roosevelt has transmitted to Congress a report from the National Resources Planning Board—"After the War—Towards Security." Some call it the "American Beveridge report." Some denounce it as a very dangerous document, "full of Socialism." Others insist, "This is not the time to talk about what we will do after the war."

It is hard to understand how any thinking man, whether conservative, progressive or radical, can take the latter view. If we don't "think about it now," we are not likely to have a chance to think about it when peace comes, because the flood of post-war problems may literally sweep us off our feet.

It should be emphasized that the report merely suggests things which should be done in order to avoid confusion, and perhaps disaster, when the shooting stops and men begin to think of normal living.

It points out that jobs must be provided for millions of men and women now in the armed forces or in war industries; that the government will probably have to aid business, possibly forming a partnership with some industries; and that a greatly enlarged scheme of social insurance must be provided, to the end that those who won the war may not be compelled to accept semi-starvation, or something even worse, at the conclusion of hostilities.

In a nutshell, the report seeks to make real one of the "Four Freedoms" promised by the "Atlantic Charter"—Freedom from Want; the right to work when strong, and a life free from fear of old age, want, dependency, unemployment and accident.

To those who say that freedom from want will make us a nation of "sissies," the report replies:

"There are doubtless some marginal who would deliberately choose to avoid work, even if guaranteed only a minimum subsistence, but these must be balanced against the millions of cases where deep anxiety, haunting fear of want, acute suffering and distress, blight and sear the lives of men and women and children, too.

"Most of the drifting souls are those on whom the door of hope has been closed, either by nature's equipment or by the unfortunate circumstances of unkind social experience.

"The cure for this lies in the cause. We must and do insist that the bulk of mankind who are able to work are willing to work, and that they will strive for something more than a doghouse subsistence on a dole."

As to the need for the reforms proposed, the report says: "Political democracy has little appeal, unless translated into economic reality. To be worth dying for, a political system must make possible a society that is worth living in." That last sentence is worth remembering.

As we have said, the report outlines the objectives we should keep in mind, but it does not tell us how we may achieve them.

President Roosevelt intimates Congress must take care of that part of the job. Congress should not hesitate to accept the challenge. The Senate has already appointed a committee to conduct hearings. Perhaps it would be better to create a joint committee, representing both houses.

We have had enough platitudes. Now we need blueprints showing just how this "Freedom From Want" may be attained.

If we do that, we will win the peace, as well as the war. If Congress shilly-shallies, if it listens to those who say, "This is not the time to talk about it," or "Where are you going to get the money?" or "It's not the business of government let private enterprise do it," we will find that the aftermath of the war is infinitely worse than the war itself.

We may defeat Hitler only to find that our democracy is crumbling before the advance of Fascism or Communism.—Labor.

An altruist concerned with extending the benefits of collectivism to the rest of Europe, but because he is selfishly concerned with ending the threat of Western power politics to his own position and Russia's security.

Peace with Russia can be won and kept by creating a Europe in which democratic elements control the diplomacy of each nation, in which the ordinary people control the government, in which collective security means more than pompous resolutions adopted by statesmen with fingers crossed and tongue in cheek.

The Co-operatives

The Co-operative movement flourishes with democracy and it can help to keep democracy vital and dynamic. The Co-operative movement in the United States is still young, it is still growing. It has almost unlimited potentialities. But we might as well recognize that its future, like the future of so many of the institutions we love; is bound up with the future of democracy.—Claude R. Wickard, U. S. Secretary of Agriculture.

ALWAYS DID Wife—I see by the paper that women are getting men's wages these days. Husband—Humph—they always have one way or another.



Just before the orders to commence firing, our radio station on Midway was blown to bits. Marine Sgt. Harold P. Hazelwood, the operator, was severely wounded by shrapnel. Despite his serious wounds, he assembled parts and sent out the firing orders that saved the day. Your money is needed to "have the day" every pay day. You've done your bit; now do your best—Buy more War Bonds.