

LABOR DAY

In America organized labor is still able to celebrate its holiday.

When we think of the countries in Europe who have lost that privilege in the course of the last year, we began to realize that American labor still has a day that should be enjoyed and highly valued, defended and forever preserved.

Workers with hand and brain must become fully conscious of the fact that the only thing that will succeed in stemming the tide of a fast-growing fascist movement in this country will be a powerful, well-organized labor movement.

Besides the millions of workers oriented in the American labor movement, both CIO in AFL, there are at least two million others, who, politically speaking, are oriented in socialist thought. Eventually the time will come when events will force these groups into one solid front against the common foe—fascism. When that time comes Socialists will be found working as they are today with the labor unionists and others interested in building such a movement for the common good.

This is a thought to keep in mind on this Labor Day.

YOUTH'S FUTURE

Repeated with increasing frequency among young people today is the question, "What does the immediate future hold for young men and women of the present generation?"

Grave forebodings of things to come reverberate throughout the world. Conscription, war preparation, national defense, and ultimately, war, in all this young men mostly are affected. All these are ominous signs of the times in which we live.

If it were not for the fact that this is a presidential election year, and the Democrats will very likely have a harder struggle to stay in power than ever since the election of President Roosevelt, Wall Street bankers, through their control of senators and representatives, would have this country driving full speed ahead, into the war, to safeguard the millions upon millions of dollars bankers have invested in Great Britain, France, and other countries.

Foreign investors wouldn't hesitate a minute to send armies of young men from the ranks of the workingclass, to foreign lands to protect their invested millions. Human lives are a secondary consideration to their investments and the fat profits they draw therefrom. Therefore, it is up to you the people over whom the shadow of war hangs and fighting in the front line trenches threatens, to stop the war mongers clamoring for an army to send across the ocean.

DISCIPLINE NECESSARY FOR DEMOCRACY

As we watch the course of revolution in Europe, one principle of vital concern for those who believe in democracy stands out with unmistakable clearness. Democracy can exist and function effectively only when every individual understands and performs his functions and is disciplined in democratic ways of living.

Those citizens who do not take seriously their responsibility for knowing what is done by their representatives and for continuously expressing their convictions on changing issues are weak links in our democratic structure who afford opportunities to the people's representatives to use their offices for other than intended purpose.

Negligence of voters provides opportunity for the political boss with his machine, while universal discipline in the responsibilities of democracy provides the safeguards against practices that would take away our liberties.

The principle applies equally to our unions, which are intended to give us industrial justice and freedom. An effective, lasting union must be built of trade union members who know what a union should do and how it can do it. When the union delegates responsibility and authority to an executive or representatives, it should insist upon regular and adequate reports, to be discussed and passed upon by the membership.

The union must be in the hands of union members who understand its functions and services and are able and alert to detect and check misjudgment and misuse of power anywhere. It is easy to leave study of problems and decisions of politics to a few or to one executive, but that easy way leads to one-man power, whether benevolent despot or racketeer.

Democracy with its freedom and opportunity cannot be given you, but you can achieve and maintain it if you are willing to follow the discipline that leads to it. It is worth all that it requires of you.

American Federationist.

IT'S A GREAT SYSTEM

By JOHN PAINE

A New York librarian has compiled a prize-winning list of 61 books under the heading: "What Every Presidential Candidate Should Know." All that remains now is to get the candidates to read those 61 books before Tuesday, Nov. 5.

REQUIRED READING

The two volumes out of the 61 that we would most strongly recommend for Wilkie are Franklin D. Roosevelt's "Public Papers and Addresses" and Russell's "Power."

F.D.R., we think, would be interested in Stanwood's "History of the Presidency."

More college students are extending their studies beyond the normal 4-year term, Pennsylvania State college reports.

It's a good way to postpone the commencement of unemployment.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Instead of whamming at unruly children with paddles or peach tree switches, Georgia school principals serve a hot bowl of soup.

Pupils report that a good meal improves the teachers.

HORRIBLE THOUGHT

What would happen if the executives of a money-making corporation accidentally sent to stockholders a copy of their hard-luck speeches to union negotiators?

HOW TO CREATE PROSPERITY

We are fascinated by the dilemma of the New York Central railroad, which had to spend \$600 to open an unused drawbridge so a 22-foot boat could pass.

WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE

The question before the peoples of Europe is: Shall we adopt democratic socialism voluntarily or exterminate each other to keep from it?

American Guardian

Things are not always what they seem; the first appearance deceives many; the intelligence of few perceives what has been carefully hidden in the recesses of the mind.—Phaedrus.

Kenya Colony, East Africa, which planted pyrethrum as an experiment in 1928, exported about \$900,000 worth last year, exports to the United States being valued at more than \$750,000.

BRANCH NO. 1 JSF MEETING NOTES

CHICAGO—A check-up at the meeting last Friday on the work members of Branch No. 1, JSF, are doing to get the Socialist candidates, Thomas and Krueger, on the ballot in Illinois, revealed that up to the present time, the Branch has accounted for between 400 and 500 petition signatures, and has made a number of contributions to the campaign fund. The last one was a \$15 collection made at the Branch meeting.

Arrangements were completed for the picnic held last Sunday. Lengthy discussion followed the meeting, on the future course of our Federation, whether we will continue our present affiliation with the national Socialist Party, or become an independent group, working in close harmony with the Socialist Party but directing our energies and resources mainly toward safeguarding our Federation and its publications.

Voting on the issue by the JSF membership will get underway next month.

AMERICAN NEGRO EXPOSITION

CHICAGO—A visit to the American Negro Exposition, which is holding forth at the Coliseum through September 2, is both a thrilling and a culturally important experience. By means of diorama, mural, and exhibit, the visitor comes to realize the truly great progress which has been made by a richly endowed and fearlessly determined people during its three quarters of a century of freedom. The displays at the Exposition demonstrate versatility and excellence, whether it be in the field of music, stage, arts, literature, social science, sports, or industry.

OFFICE WORKERS MEET

CHICAGO—The third convention of the United Office and Professional Workers Union opens at the Morrison Hotel in Chicago, August 31. It will include action showing the viewpoint of the union on vital questions facing the American people.

NO "DEFENSE JOBS" IN WASHINGTON

Rumors and misinformation are causing workers to flock to Washington in search of jobs which are supposed to develop through the defense program getting under way, the United Mine Workers Journal reports.

Warning has been issued by the Social Security Board against this, as no such jobs are available.

IT WON'T TAKE

Col. McCormick, editor of the Chicago Tribune is quoted as wanting the Government to "draft the relievers." In other words the colonel wants the jobless and unfortunates to swing the bayonet while the "upper crust," so to speak, stays at home and ballyhoos patriotism. That's one suggestion that will not "take."

THE WAR UP TO DATE

Dropping Bombs on London; Urgent Appeals for American Destroyers; Bad News From Africa

By DONALD RAMSEY

Undoubtedly, real fighting has been going on along the British coast, but more particularly in the Channel, for the past weeks. It is impossible for anyone on this side of the Atlantic to figure out the result, because the British and German communiques do not agree in any important particular. True, the British admit that a number of big ships have been blown up. This is serious, but at the same time fleets of British merchant vessels appear to be reaching British ports.

It is noticeable, however, that British spokesmen are becoming more insistent that Uncle Sam turn over 50 or 60 of his destroyers, so they may be used as convoys. This plan has been discussed in Washington for weeks, but it has never been officially sanctioned by the White House.

Now it is reported that a majority of the President's cabinet favor the idea, but Senator David I. Walsh, of Massachusetts, chairman of the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs, registers opposition on the ground that it would be "an act of war."

The withdrawal of British troops from Shanghai and North China produced a ticklish situation. The Japs wished to "take over" at once, but Uncle Sam hurried Admiral Hart to the scene of action. Sumner Welles, Under Secretary of State, told Washington newspaper men everything would be straightened out harmoniously. Japs and Yanks have divided authority.

The Japs realize they have the advantage in the Orient at this moment, but they hesitate to strike. They fear they might find Uncle Sam and his powerful fleet on their backs.

No Food for Nazis' Victims

Herbert Hoover suggests extensive plans for feeding the hungry in Nazi-conquered territory. Britain flatly refused to permit the food to go through. "If Hitler makes proper use of the food available, no one need starve," says London. Britain cannot afford to approve any move which might strengthen her foe.

Not So Encouraging

If Britain can hold on, the United States may be able to supply from 1,300 to 1,400 airplanes a month "toward the end of 1941." That information was conveyed last week to Arthur B. Purvis, the Canadian chairman of the British Purchasing Commission, by William S. Knudsen, member of Uncle Sam's National Defense Advisory Commission.

Spain Registers a "Kick"

Spain protests against the British blockade; says it is "neutral" and that Britain has no right to interfere with its trade with the non-belligerent world. Here, again, Bri-

tain cannot afford to listen to protests; shipments to Spain might eventually reach the Nazis or the Italians. Besides, everyone knows that Spain, under the present regime, is anti-British.

Squeezing Greece

Italy is picking a quarrel with Greece; says it has been furnishing supplies to British warships and airplanes, and, in addition, has accepted a British guarantee of its independence. The Greeks stand pat—at least, for the present. If John Bull wins, they will be all right; if he loses, they will be "knocked off."

Link-Belt Company Stoker Factory Holds "Open House"

CHICAGO—Residents of Chicago and suburbs will have an opportunity during the next few weeks to visit one of Chicago's large manufacturing plants and see how the Link-Belt "Challenger" models are produced by mass production methods. Here the visitor will see the hundreds of special machines that are used to produce stoker parts at low cost... the stoker research laboratory where new stoker designs are tested out... the assembly department where the stokers are put together... and the display room and retail department where various sizes and models of Link-Belt stokers are on display.

Any one interested in the operation and manufacture of automatic coal stokers is invited to drop in at the Link-Belt plant, 17th St. at Western Ave., or call Canal 2400 for an appointment.

IDEALISM

A great dramatist one time said that he always reached the acme of happiness and contentment when he had a play in the formative state wherein he was getting acquainted with his creations and living with them in a world apart—an idealistic state into which the humdrum of the world could not enter to mar the growth.

Happy then, must be the fellow who holds high ideals in his heart of hearts, wherein he may live with them until they attain full growth, and thus give them to the world emblazoned in all their glory, like a set stage disclosed for the spectator in the rising or the first curtain. To know this satisfaction and happiness is to really live a full life—idealism being the product which the world welcomes with open arms, and never forgets the giver.—Frank F. Adamec in Painter and Decorator Magazine.

To write well is to think well, to feel well, and to render well; it is to possess at once intellect, soul, and taste.—Buffon.

REVIEWING THE NEWS

LABOR AND THE DRAFT

Here is how leaders of the AFL and CIO feel about the conscription legislation now pending in Congress. Lewis: "The Burke-Wadsworth conscription bill was launched by a group of New York corporation lawyers and other wealthy persons hardly notable for their interest in the welfare of the common people, and would establish the principle in this nation that the lives of our young men are less privileged than the profit rights of dollars."

Amplifying his statement that conscription would put profits of greedy corporations above the lives of American youth, Lewis further stated: "The same interests that thus strangle our national defense call loudly for the forcible conscription of our young men."

"They claim in one breath that no dollar will be turned to the defense of our nation without a fat and untaxed profit being assured, while almost at the same moment they call on our young men, most of them workers, to cast aside their liberty and sacrifice their ambitions, or suffer punishment as felons. It would be a terrible day in American history should our young men be forced to lay down its ultimatums to the government."

At the same time he decried the "bold sabotage" of national defense by the refusal of big business to supply the country with armaments except under conditions guaranteeing immunity from taxation on soaring profits.

CIO'S REASONS FOR OPPOSITION

Briefly these are the reasons which have impelled the CIO to oppose the pending measures:

1. There is a better way to recruit a proper army for defense than conscription.

Voluntary enlistment under terms which have a real concern for the needs of the individual would quickly provide a suitable army. The period of enlistment should be shortened to one year. The pay should be raised at least to compare with that of the self-respecting workman. The right to return to private employment should be protected. Provision should be made for the continuation of social security protection during the period of such enlistment. Private debts should be either assumed or suspended. Officers' commissions should be more freely open to enlisted men so that an army career is open to men from the ranks. Under such circumstances the most effective and loyal kind of an army could be raised with much less cost to the nation than the enormous expenditures necessary for conscription.

MEN VS. MONEY

2. Military conscription now would establish the principle in this nation that the lives of our young men are less privileged than the profit rights of dollars.

Today the nation is watching the shameful spectacle of our government yielding to the imperious demands of corporate industry for vast tax concessions and enormous loans as a pre-condition to manufacturing arms. The same interests who thus strangle our national defense call loudly for the forcible conscription of our young men. They claim in one breath that no dollar will be turned to the defense of our nation without a fat and untaxed profit being assured, while almost at the same moment they call upon our young men, most of them workers, to cast aside their liberty and sacrifice their ambitions, or suffer punishment as a felon.

3. Forced military service in peacetime would be an alarming departure from the basic principles of our democracy. It is the first step toward the breakdown of those free institutions which we seek to protect.

Citizens who become subject to conscription lose a substantial part of those civil rights and liberties which distinguish a free democracy from a totalitarian state.

Such conscription would further establish in the minds of the young people of the nation the idea that voluntary loyalty to the nation is no longer a necessary virtue. It would introduce them to the principle of compulsion, a principle native to the fascist state and alien to our own.

NO MATERIALS

4. The production of equipment for an army has lagged far behind the enlistments into the military service.

Already there are more men available to the Army and the National Guard than can be equipped for

some time to come. The present speed of enlistments is far more rapid than the provisions of equipment. From the point of effective defense, an efficient, loyal and highly trained army, highly mechanized, is many times more efficient than a sullen, ill-equipped, poorly trained, conscript army of three times the size. Conscription now would be an enormous waste of money and manpower.

5. The entire fabric of the nation, both industrial and social, would be torn by conscription. The dislocations in industrial production and in community life caused by conscription would take years to heal.

Therefore, the CIO is opposed to provision for peacetime conscription as a measure inimical to the most effective kind of national defense and alien to the democratic way of life.

AFL'S POSITION

William Green: President of the AFL, William Green, announced recently that the American Federation of Labor opposes the Burke-Wadsworth Bill, providing for compulsory military service.

"If this nation is threatened with invasion," Green said, it is the duty of our government "to formulate a plan designated to mobilize adequate man-power for national defense and, through the President, make known to Congress and the country the man-power need of the nation."

Under such circumstances, Green declared, American labor will "support the organization and creation of an army large and strong enough to meet national requirements."

As the first step, Mr. Green suggested that voluntary enlistment be given a full trial and an effort made in this "American way" to build up an army of 1,500,000 men.

But, if it becomes apparent that compulsory military service is necessary, he cautioned, such legislation should embody with it provisions which would adequately protect the economic and industrial status of working men and women.

The text of Green's statement follows:

"Developments which have taken place in the war situation in Europe have served to arouse feelings of apprehension among all classes of people and a consciousness of the need of the formation of a constructive, practical national defense policy. This state of mind is reflected in the action which Congress took when it appropriated large sums of money for the construction of naval vessels, airplanes, tanks and war materials. While public opinion showed its opposition to the involvement of our Nation in the European conflict it responded most favorably to the need for home defense and adequate preparation against any attempt of invasion by an aggressor nation.

"The American Federation of Labor has cooperated and will continue to cooperate with the Federal Government in the formation and execution of its preparedness plans. We have expounded a philosophy which proclaims that loyalty to labor unions presupposes loyalty to our Government. This is both primary and basic. Labor, as represented by the American Federation of Labor, will stand immovable in its defense of our Government, of our democratic institutions and of the blessings of liberty, freedom and justice, provided for in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States."

PRINTERS WARN AGAINST "UNFAIR" MAGAZINES

CHICAGO — The Organization Committee of Chicago Printing Trades Unions has notified all state federations of labor and city central labor bodies that the two sports magazines known as National Sportsman and Hunting & Fishing have been placed on the "We Don't Patronize List" by that organization.

The announcement states that National Sportsman, Inc., publishers of National Sportsman and Hunting & Fishing magazines, has refused to remove its two publications from the notoriously nonunion printing firm of R. R. Donnelley & Sons Co.

AFL Backs Fight

The fight against these two magazines is a part of the nationwide anti-Donnelley campaign which has been endorsed by all state federations of labor, hundreds of city central labor bodies and local unions and by the American Federation of Labor itself.

Trade-unionists interested in sports are requested to support the following sports magazines all of which are printed under union conditions: Field & Stream, 515 Madison Ave., New York; Sports Afield, Mt. Morris, Illinois; Outdoorsman, 386 South Fourth Street, Columbus, Ohio, and Outdoor Life, 353 Fourth Ave., New York.

OUT TO SMEAR ORGANIZED LABOR

