

Declaration By Slovenian American National Council

News dispatches of May 28 carried the report that Attorney General, Mr. Clark, classified also the Slovenian American National Council (SANC) among the organizations which the reactionary bigwigs consider "subversive." The Slovenian American National Council shares this arbitrary designation with many organizations which have before been labeled "disloyal," despite the lack of any proof for such accusation. Similarly, the black-eyeing of SANC is void of and not based on any facts or actions which could in any manner rightfully be termed subversive. On the contrary, during the entire period of its existence the Slovenian American National Council demonstrated and proved with numerous activities its loyalty to the Constitution of the United States, which is the only true measure of loyalty in this country.

During the most critical war period SANC built and kept up the morale of its followers, mostly war production workers; inspired by SANC, its members and supporting organizations kept on purchasing millions of dollars of war bonds, aided the Red Cross and other patriotic institutions working for the victory of the allied democratic nations over the monster—Fascism. Many of them were awarded certificates of merit for their services and loyalty by highest authorities. Numerous are also families of SANC members, which have sacrificed their sons for this precious victory; all the contributions tendered by SANC in this field would compile a volume. The loyalty of the Slovenian American National Council was at all times beyond the shadow of doubt and it often enjoyed the recognition by the authoritative functionaries who sought from it information, invited its officers to speak on radio for domestic and transoceanic transmissions, and tendered the Council their moral support.

But if all these performances are now considered subversive, then the imperious decision of the Attorney General can lead only to the deduction that all the acts of the Government of the United States during the war period were incorrect; that Teheran, and Yalta, and Potsdam were all errors; that its aspirations for the preservation of unity among the allies, without which Fascism could never have been defeated—were all disloyal and subversive. SANC, of course, does not entertain this thought because it is convinced that only the common efforts and unity of the allied nations have saved the world from the horrible fate it was facing, had Fascism emerged the victor in the war. The Slovenian American National Council also believes that the preservation of this unity among the allied nations is the only security for the world peace.

The Slovenian American National Council always was and is now a loyal American organization, dedicated to work for understanding, friendly relations and lasting peace between the United States and other freedom loving nations of the world, especially the Slavic nations. This, however, does not mean that it will renounce its constitutional rights, the freedom of speech, the freedom of press, and before all, the freedom of thought, which is inseparably linked with the freedom of criticism. Conscious of these truths, The National Board of the Slovenian American National Council protestingly rejects the irresponsible designation of disloyalty and considers such arbitrary blacklisting contrary to all democratic concepts, principles and traditions of the American people and its history.

This declaration was unanimously adopted at the annual meeting of the National Board of the Slovenian American Council, held in Cleveland, Ohio, May 30, 1948.

Slovenian American National Council.
F. A. VIDER, National President.
MIRKO G. KUHEL, National Secretary.

Example of Medical "Ethics"

An attempt to bribe newspaper cartoonists for propaganda against public health legislation has been pinned on the National Physicians' Committee for the Extension of Medical Service—the extension of medical service for a profit, that is.

This is the organization which recently offered several thousand dollars in prizes for cartoonists attacking the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill to improve the public health.

The cartoons, however, had not only to be drawn, they had to be published. In this way the committee hoped that cartoonists would submit drawing to their newspapers attacking the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill. The committee was not interested in cartoons, unless they were printed in a newspaper or magazine of wide circulation.

The reaction to the proposal was not flattering. Several cartoonists of wholesome reputation immediately drew cartoons attacking the

National Physicians' Committee instead of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill.

They resented the idea of the committee that they could be bribed.

This physicians' committee is a branch of the notorious National Committee to Uphold Constitutional Government, sponsored by Frank E. Gannett, the newspaper publisher.

The bribery episode illustrates the lengths to which "ethical" doctors will go to protect their profits. In fact, the violent hostility of the entire medical profession, including the American Medical Association, to the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill shows a complete lack of the ethics of which doctors boast.

Individually and collectively the doctors have attacked this and other measures to improve the national health as "socialized medicine."

The Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill is not socialized medicine. The medical profession knows that it is not.

Federal Code with Teeth

The retirement of Dan Harrington as mine bureau chief in Washington recently, brought from Harrington the statement that inability to enforce the federal mine safety code makes it worthless and it ought to be repealed.

Harrington has spent many years in Washington and he should know the inside of the federal code situation, but Harrington's statement is about as political as one saying that the law prohibiting stealing ought to be abolished because there is so much stealing. The federal code is a good code—if it were enforced—and the only way for it to be enforced is to provide it with a set of strong teeth. The code will save lives if fol-

lowed, but will not be followed if there are no penalties provided for keeping operators in line.

Rep. Melvin Price is trying to set teeth into the code and it is hoped, for the benefit of all coal miners, that he succeeds.—The Progressive Miner.

Small Loans Grow

Twenty years ago commercial banks "couldn't be bothered" with small loans for individuals. Recently the National City Bank of New York, one of the largest financial concerns in the world, reported that during the last two decades, it has put out considerably more than a billion dollars in small loans and is glad to get more such business.

THE MARCH OF LABOR



How to Win

The Census Bureau has given out a provisional statement of the number of people who will be eligible to vote in the coming election, and the figures concern YOU. Here they are—and they are huge—94,815,000. That is nearly 10 million more than were entitled to vote in 1940.

In the congressional elections of 1946, while over 90 million were entitled to vote, only about 35 million votes were cast—and the result? The most reactionary Congress of this generation. The reactionaries won through a vote in which only about 40 citizens in every 100 eligible to vote cast a ballot.

Of the nearly 35 million votes cast in 1946 around 18 million were cast for reaction. So you see that, because of the failure of millions to vote, a contemptible minority won an election. But the theory on which our government was founded was controlled by the majority. Talk about a tail wagging a dog! In 1946 there wasn't even half a tail that did the wagging.

A few weeks ago over in Italy, a country plunged into misery by a dictatorship for over a generation, when at last the people were given a chance to cast a ballot, over 90 per cent of those eligible voted. Suppose that should occur here? If it did, about 14 million people would vote. If that happened here there is every human probability that a majority of the people would take control of the government and put an end to minority rule as it exists today.

The only revolution we need to create is a government to serve the needs of the people. And this could be done if the majority went to the polls, armed with the most powerful weapon in the world—a ballot cast in an absolutely free election.

Our people have lost control of the government by default. Fortunately they still have the weapon—the ballot—which millions of them have failed to use.

See to it in the coming election that you use this weapon yourself and in addition influence everyone with whom you come in contact, in your shop and in your county, to do the same.—The Advance, Official Organ of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

"WOMEN AREN'T PEOPLE"

This column has sometimes referred to women just as though they were people, for instance, those K.C. gals who smeared their raincoats with grease to make Cudahy office workers more reluctant to crash their picket line. Now a correspondent—or is it fan mail?—writes in that women leaguers aren't people but ought to be.

We had taken for granted that women were people, but the women were not included in the 14th Amendment adopted in 1865 and were excluded in the 15th Amendment of 1869 and are still out of the picture so far as a legal claim on these rights are concerned. The 19th amendment in 1920 gave them the right to vote, but, says R. S. Greathouse LLB: "In no other particular does the constitution grant them any rights which American women of 1787-1789 did not have." So it seems that outside of New Jersey where the constitution has been changed to say women are people, they're just females that somehow got the right to vote and pay taxes and do other odds and ends.

Those who object to this sort of thing have been trying to get the constitution changed. Meanwhile if women aren't persons under federal law, it would seem that here is some doubt whether they have to pay taxes; holding up axes until they are recognized as persons and thus taxable might be as quick a way as any to get that law.

The actual recognition of women as people requires something more than words on a piece of

paper. Those gals in Kansas City who smeared up their raincoats before going on the picket line acted just as if they were people, and for that reason this columnist thinks they were. But a scissorene is admittedly sub-human. (A scissorene is a female scissorbill, and a scissorbill is a worker from his ears down and a capitalist from his ears up.)

WHEN PEOPLE—including females—lose their jobs it is usually expected they will collect some "rocking chair money" between then and the next job. California's released some figures of how that worked out last February. There were over 500,000 unemployed in the state, but only 127,300 collected state unemployment compensation. A-d-d, 49,000 who claimed under GI Bill of Rights, and 19,000 who got disability insurance, and you have left 305,000 who got nothing.

UNCLE SAM sent us a cookbook. At the page where we opened it up it said how to buy meat, 3 ounces of steak for example per person to be served. If you plan steak dinner for four, that means you ask the butcher for three quarters of a pound. Wonder if the folks who put that cookbook out eat on that basis?

BUT WITH SCABS being run into struck packing plants, and every effort made, including cracking skulls to bust the strike, it is a very good time to go vegetarian—or at least to insist that your meat does not come from any of the struck companies.

PEOPLE DO IT

BY HENRY JONES
Rep. A. G. Klein (Dem., N.Y.) has proposed a \$3.00 bill to honor FDR. We'll support the amendment to make that unit of mazzuma the minimum hourly wage. According to the Roosevelt mythos, that would be a most appropriate use.

PEOPLE? There's two of us born every second, 122 every minute, 175,000 of us born every day. After death and taxes it has been leaving mankind as a whole an annual increase of one per cent a year. With the G.I.'s back in the U.S. we are doing twice that well, hitting an annual increase of 20 per cent, last year with 1,000,000 births. Previous high was only three million back in 1943, but productivity has increased since then.

There's probably over 200,000,000 proud papas in this world. But just what they are proud of you're not so sure. To these kids turned out at a rate of 122 per minute they are leaving, none too bright prospects. Are they leaving it to these kids to fix up a world that they weren't men enough to fix up themselves?

IN THE PAPERS you've read off and on about those lazy British miners who wouldn't dig enough coal to save the Empire or whatever the coal was to be used for. Now we learn that Britain is paying the penalty for underpaying its miners in years gone by. Because wages were so low, it did not pay to mechanize underground transportation and cut out the labor used for other purposes than the direct mining of coal underground or on the surface. The result is that in British mines only 26% are engaged in actual mining of coal, while in U.S. mines the figure is 72%.

Every time you insist upon getting more for your work, you are making it possible for some inventor's or engineer's dream to be worked out, because you have made it worth while replacing more costly labor. Machinery is used to save wages; not to save labor. If workers got all they reduced it would be practicable to use all machinery that could save labor—but not until then. The exploitation of labor hinders economic progress; it does not help it.

The big organizations that the capitalists build are not for the improvement of the industrial process but to sabotage it. Veblen proved that theoretically years ago. Now the 20th Century Fund in a study of cartels comes to the same conclusion. Their new study on Cartels or Competition points out that by limiting production, favoring high cost producers, they impede technical progress, deter investment, accentuate the boom and bust cycle, prevent use of new techniques, and restrict consumption—all of which adds to the threat of depression, all of which harms the collective well-being. Yet some still have the gall to tell us: What's good for business is good for everybody.

While Goldsborough was injunctioning the railroad brotherhoods in Washington, in Cleveland an AFL Building Service workers picket line was picketing one of the properties of the BLE, the swank Park Lane Villa. Alvanley Johnston, head of BLE said he was opposed to a contract that would let the union "run the business their own way and violate the Taft-Hartley Act." Maybe it's just as good that that labor banking business did take a flop! (From Industrial Worker.)

Both Are Right

Senator "Bob" Taft and Harold Stassen continue to slug each other. Stassen says Taft is a reactionary, and Taft replies that Stassen is a political faker. Both gentlemen are right.

The outlook for "dark horses" in the Republican Convention continues to brighten. It isn't likely however, that Stassen will benefit. His attacks on Dewey and Taft have been so rabid that those gentlemen will probably insist on butchering him at the proper time.

That should open the way for Speaker "Joe" Martin or Senator Vandenberg.

Thirty cents out of every income tax dollar you pay goes to support our military machine.

Anti-Strike Orders and Freedom

People who justify court injunctions and presidential edicts as instruments for halting strikes with the explanation that "society just can't afford to permit a minority to freeze or starve society" won't get an argument from us. For the sake of a better understanding of the larger issues involved in strikes, we'll concede the point of necessity—and cheerfully.

But that doesn't alter the fact that men are no longer free when they dare not refuse to work for the profit of private owners.

What is proved by the apologists of government by decree is that capitalism can't function if workers are free.

We may as well face that fact and decide what we are going to do about it. Are we going to scrap freedom and save the private-profit system? Or will we scrap capitalism and establish an economy under which a free people can live?

We are putting it up to you, Mr. and Mrs. America, on the basis of patriotism and with the backing of the good old Declaration of Independence. Here's what the "Immortal Document" says on the matter:

... whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends (life, liberty and pursuit of happiness) it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness.

Well, what is John L. Lewis waiting for? What are the 21 rail union executives who want the railroads nationalized (temporarily or permanently) waiting for? What are YOU waiting for if you believe that it is necessary that liberty be limited by judges and executives in order that all of us can live?

We Socialists stopped waiting long ago. We're ready to go ahead with the task of laying the foundation for a new Government. But we can't go alone. We need the sanction and the mandate of the American people—the people who can not escape choosing between the freedom of democratic Socialism and whatever measure of slavery must be fastened upon Americans to preserve the profit economy and class society called "capitalism." —Reading Labor Advocate.

Spain

The new wave of fascist terror sweeping Spain reveals Franco determined to liquidate the opposition before September, when the General Assembly of the United Nations meets in Paris. It is expected that the Assembly will then resume its debate on Spain, if only to give various Latin American countries an opportunity to explain their behavior in sending ambassadors to Madrid in defiance of the United Nations resolution of December, 1946. The fact that the debate will take place in the country next door, and for that reason will be particularly stormy, makes Franco anxious to get rid of troublesome elements at any cost. Last week, the Spanish Republican governments in exile requested the United Nations to take notice of one recent episode in the Caudillo's program of preparation. In a letter to Secretary General Trygve Lie, the Republican government points to the scandalous violation of the terms of the Franco amnesty involved in the death sentence recently imposed on Josep Boronat Recansens, a member of the moderate Catalan Democratic Party who went back to Spain after being cleared by the Spanish Consul in Perpignan, Senor Recansens established himself in Barcelona only to be convicted a few months later, not of a new offense, but of "crimes committed during the civil war." This case should put an end to any illusions about Franco's intentions and also to the current irresponsible practice of American and British consulates which urge Spanish Republicans applying for any kind of visa to take advantage of the new amnesty law and return to Spain.—The Nation.

Thousands Face Starvation In Midst of U. S. Prosperity

Though the nation is now at the peak of prosperity, many thousands of Americans are "at the brink of starvation." That disclosure highlighted an appalling report issued recently by Oscar R. Ewing, chief of the Federal Security Agency.

Those on relief and social security rolls are suffering the most because the benefits they receive are far too small to pay even for food at present-day prices, Ewing declared.

Average pension payments under the Social Security Act, he said, amount to only \$39 a month.

"The plight of many of our aged who are no longer able to make ends meet is pitiful in the extreme," Ewing explained.

"Also, reports coming to our agency indicate that thousands of dependent children are undernourished to an extent bordering on starvation. Many lack shoes and clothing needed to enable them to attend school."

Letters have been pouring into agency from widows and others on security rolls, all carrying a "note of desperation," he said. These tell "a heart-rending story of the struggle to pay for the barest necessities," he declared.

He described the situation as a "crisis" and voiced an appeal to Congress to liberalize social security legislation, so as to relieve the suffering.

"We spend too much, think too much, talk too much and depend too much on our material strength, and meanwhile, at our national peril, we are ignoring our human resources," Ewing warned.

Few of us can stand prosperity. Another man's, I mean.—Mark Twain.

Veterans Hold 44% Of All Federal Jobs

WASHINGTON—State-by-State employment figures released by the U.S. Civil Service Commission show that, as of December 31, 1947, 44 per cent of the Federal employees in the continental United States were veterans.

In three States—Maine, Oklahoma and Rhode Island—more than half of the Federal employees were veterans. Other states with much higher proportions of veterans than the national average are California, Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia and Washington.

The Disappointed

By ELLA WHEELER WILCOX

There are songs enough for the hero
Who dwells on the heights of fame;
Sing of the disappointed—
For those who have missed their aim.

Sing for the breathless runner,
The eager, anxious soul,
Who falls with his strength exhausted,
Almost in sight of the goal;
For the hearts that break in silence,
With a sorrow all unknown,

For those who need companions,
Yet walk their ways alone,
There are songs enough for the lovers
Who share love's tender pain,
Sing for the one whose passion
Is given all in vain.

And I know the solar system
Must somewhere keep in space
A prize for that spent runner
Who barely lost the race.

For the plan would be imperfect
Unless it held some sphere
That paid for the toil and talent
And love that are wasted here.