

UNION GIVES AN ACCOUNTING

Those interested in the development of trade unions as social institutions may well study the 12th annual financial report of the International Ladies Garment Workers. This great organization, with 325,000 members in the United States and Canada, regularly gives the figures on its receipts and expenditures to its members and to the public. There is complete recognition by the leaders that this union is a public institution with public responsibilities.

The Atom Bomb

The greatest show on earth is over. Or is it? After months of fanfare and trumpets, public relations efforts and public expenditures running into hundreds of millions, the fourth atom bomb in history was dropped over Bikini atoll. It will be months before the results of the test are all in, years before they are all released by the Navy. It is, therefore, out of a sense of obligation to our public that we present now our own findings based on radio reports from a yacht moored to a Long Island pier at which we were buying fresh lobsters. First, the test itself has probably done considerable damage to international good will by emphasizing that the atom bomb is part of our active war equipment and an integral part of our future military strategy.

We Helped Them But...

In the past the farmers have always come to Organized Labor for help in passing legislation vital to their welfare. They have never been refused. Labor organizations and Union members of law-making bodies, always have fought and voted for the best interests of agriculture. That is the record!

PASSING OF HILMANN

The death of Hillman may mark a turning point in American labor history. He was the outstanding representative of those who hold that the practical way to achieve progress is to find out how far you can go and still get along with the capitalist. From now on, may it be hoped, the practical way to achieve progress is to figure out how you can get along without the capitalist.

For progress, don't try more of the same.—Industrial Worker.

"FIRST ROUND" Our problem is now to increase purchasing power so that the people can consume what the war proved they are capable of producing. In no other way can full employment be assured and our free economy preserved. Labor's strike for higher wages is the first round in the postwar struggle to achieve full employment and maintain it.—Railway Clerk.

ODE TO A MINER A miner's life is bleak and grim; He seldom sees the sun. Danger lurks in every path Until his day is done. His only light, a little lamp Hanging by his side, And though his work is very hard He takes it in his stride. He labors hard from dawn 'till eve; It really is no lark. He wades through water, mud and rock In tunnels damp and dark. So as you sit beside your fire Whatever be your goal, Just think a little kindly of The man who mines your coal. By Catherine Colombo, Johnston City, Ill.

THE MARCH OF LABOR

Illustration of a man sitting at a desk with a typewriter, surrounded by text boxes. Text boxes include: 'MORE THAN 40% OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY RENTS OVER \$35 A MONTH OR PAY MORE THAN \$4000 FOR A NEW HOME.', 'JAPANESE UNIONISM, AFTER DECADES OF SUPPRESSION, HAS JUMPED IN MEMBERSHIP TO 887,000 - IN 1300 UNIONS.', 'UNION-MADE HATS ARE SOLD COAST-TO-COAST. WHEREVER YOU BUY, BE SURE YOUR NEW HAT HAS THIS LABEL.', and 'MAY 1946 SAW A RECORD OF 962 STRIKE NOTICES ON FILE WITH THE U.S. CONCILIATION SERVICE. THESE NOTICES EXPIRE IN SETTLEMENTS OR WALKOUTS IN 30 DAYS.'

IT'S A LIE!

By MARTY SOLOW Lie-of-the-week honors belong to columnist Frank Kent, political Bourbon (100% proof—against progress), who wrote that "the country has turned" on labor and labor leaders.

AFL's George Meany, in an emotionally charged piece called "We Back America," in the July issue of the American Federationist, accuses the World Federation of Trade Unions of being a "Soviet" ... Controlled Organization. Mr. Meany's score on this is no runs, no hits—all errors. For his information we cite the following facts:

Goodbye, Ilya Gregorevich

Ilya Ehrenburg has left our country for his own. His somewhat rhetorical and disingenuous letter of farewell, though it represents fairly enough the "realism" we have learned to accept as the official attitude of the U. S. S. R., hardly does justice to Ehrenburg himself — a more engaging and impressive figure than one would guess from the mixture of specific objections and general affection that constitutes his message to us.

EVEN PIES!

A little shoe-shine boy came into the office of the New Castle County Industrial Union Council in Wilmington, Delaware, and approached the chairman, Gilbert Lewis.

RESOLVE

By ELLA WHEELER WILCOX Have you missed in your aim? Well, the mark is still shining. Did you faint in the race? Well, take breath for the next. Did the clouds drive you back? But see yonder their lining. Were you tempted and fell? Let it serve for a text. As each year hurries by let it join that procession Of skeleton shapes that march down to the Past. While you take your place in the line of Progression, With your eyes on the heavens, your face to the blast. I tell you the future can hold no terrors For nay sad soul while the stars revolve. If he will stand firm on the grave of his errors, And instead of regretting, resolve, resolve.

THE STORY OF HIGH FINANCE

The men who were financiers slipped in \$10 each and bought a fine cow that gave ten gallons of milk every day. The milk was divided at night and each man received one gallon as his share. Soon the neighbors far and near heard about the wonderful cow and said to one another: "Think of getting a whole gallon of rich new milk every day! What a wonderful return on a \$10 investment. I wish I had a share in that cow!"

It Was About Time

One effect of the Vatican's Political excursions has been to spur the Protestant churches into united action without precedent in this country. A deep and growing sense of outrage has mounted among our citizenry over the campaign sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and other Catholic groups in favor of the fascist Franco. The blatant interference of the Pope in the recent European elections has roused Americans, who don't like to be told by any church how to vote and who cherish that basic tenet of democracy—separation of church and state.

Miscellany—

The 14th anniversary of the semi-Fascist dictatorship of Dr. Antonio Salazar was celebrated by the publication of a White Book extolling his foreign policy. "Portugal maintained her neutrality to serve the interests of her old ally, England, and the United States," it was said, sin verguenza.

Some Odds and Ends

The Government tax people report the intake from beer is slumping. So is the intake of beer.—The St. Louis Post-Dispatch. "Shall we make honesty illegal?" shouts a Congressman. Well, that's one way of making it attractive.—The Omaha World-Herald.

SIDNEY HILLMAN A FIGHTER TO THE END

Sidney Hillman has fallen in battle. Up to his last breath, he had been fighting the good fight for a large and more secure life for masses of men and women everywhere. He died as he had lived, fighting. For 36 years Sidney Hillman has been a standard-bearer for American and world progressive forces. He fought and helped destroy the iniquitous sweatshop in his youth, he fought reaction in season and out, and made the largest single contribution to the political awakening of labor in this country.

POOR BUT HONEST

According to James A. Farley, former Democratic national chairman, politicians are mostly honest men.—News item. An honest chap, the politician, We have it on his own admission, The vigilant and selfless nurse Of public weal and public purse. He will not straddle, will not hedge He'd die before he'd break a pledge. With billions nowadays expendable, We trust him, knowing he's dependable.

"MIRACLE DRUG" ON WAY

More streptomycin, a "miracle" drug which is said to take up the fight against disease where penicillin leaves off, will soon be available for the treatment of specific maladies, according to Dr. Chester S. Keller, chairman of the National Research Council's committee on chemical therapeutics.

WILL FEED 20 MILLION

Each million tons of wheat which we ship to the starving people of the world means that 20 million people will have bread. J. Edgar Hoover warned that the army of professional criminals in the USA is approaching 6,000,000. A serious crime is committed every 20 seconds. In 1945, crimes increased 12.4 percent and are now increasing even faster.