











## What About 60,000,000 Jobs?

We have not heard the slogan, "60 Million Jobs," for some time. Why?

We are bringing the matter up now, not to revive what always was nothing more than a snide campaign slogan, nor to insist that 60,000,000 people must be employed full time to produce the decent living standards that everybody wants.

On the contrary, we by-pass the words to get at the spirit of the matter. What "60 Million Jobs" meant was work for all who want to work and a good life for all who can work.

Is there anybody who still believes that the capitalist "free" enterprise system can give that to people? If so, why? The profit economy never gave work and security to anybody in the past and there is less reason to expect it now.

Why do we say this? The answer is that machines have become more efficient as a result of the war. The answer is that those machines are doing the work that men once did. The answer is that the jobs will go to the machines and not to the men—if "free" competitive enterprise is retained as the "way of life."

When and if strikes end and workers settle down on the job and the capitalist economy gets going—

What do you think Ford and Chrysler and General Motors will use to produce automobiles, men or machines? How long do you think General Motors would last if they used men and Ford used machines?

Forget it; it can't be done under the competitive capitalist system. It may be that everybody will have a job for a short time. But the backlog soon will be overcome. And then what?

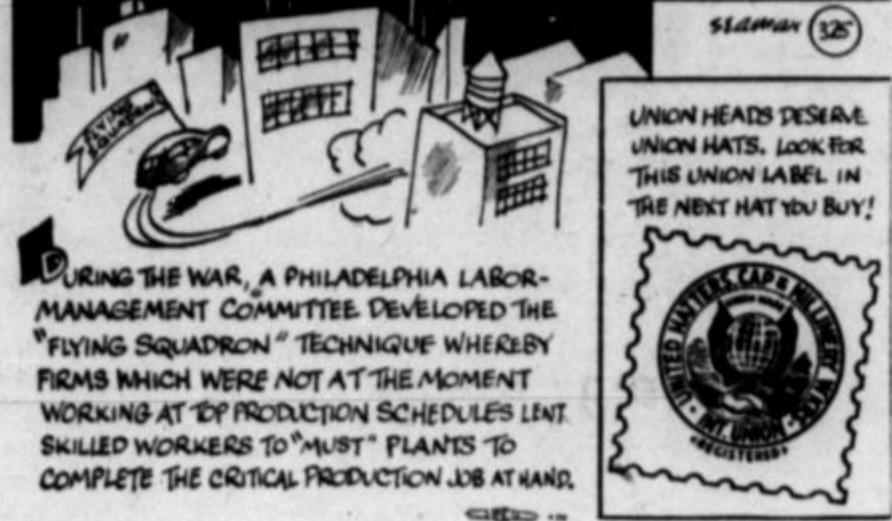
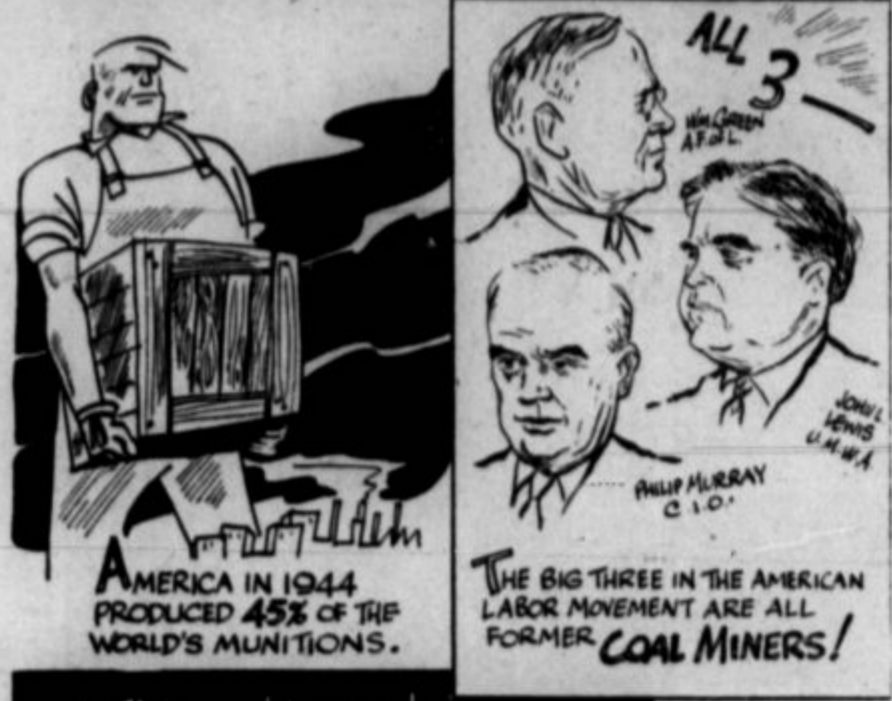
Competition will supply the answer. The most efficient will grab the market. Machines that don't eat or strike will keep the jobs that must be done. Another period of mass unemployment will be on the way.

What can men do when machines take their jobs? That question has brought dismay to millions in the past. But there is an answer for it.

The answer is that men can OWN the machines. That's it; those machines can be made the property of everybody, the slaves of everybody. Intelligent men can let the machines do the work of 60,000,000 humans and use the products of machinery for their own happiness—when machines cease to be the property of a profit-seeking few.

Yes, we can make 60,000,000 jobs. We can make ten times that number of jobs—for machines to work at. But that will mean calamity for millions of workers unless society solves the problem of machinery in the Socialist way.—Reading Labor Advocate.

## THE MARCH OF LABOR



## Ambassadors of Peace

At a time when the country is threatened with a dangerous trend toward inflation and the world picture is troubled by controversy over Iranian oil, it is interesting to observe that unofficial ambassadors of goodwill are going about on peaceful missions. Their goings and comings are inconspicuous in contrast to the movements of world statesmen, for their names rarely appear in the daily press.

These ambassadors of peace are the representatives of cooperatives of many lands. Their mission is to establish a program for world trade on a friendly, voluntary non-profit basis. They represent no kings, no potentates, no tycoons, merely groups of cooperatively minded people who are committed to the idea that the principles of democracy can be applied to economic as well as political affairs and that this kind of economic democracy can be extended to include cooperative trade among people of different races, different colors and different creeds.

Cooperation on the part of the peoples of individual countries has been going on for more than a century. Just prior to the war, the leaven of cooperation was working in the social systems of 40 nations. Common people everywhere were finding a solution to economic injustices while their rulers in many cases were hopelessly enmeshed in a net of political intrigue and unworkable statesmanship.

The prewar world saw cooperation being established on a national scale. Moreover, it continued during the war, in enemy as well as in friendly nations, among the underground in conquered lands, in bleak countries and in sunny ones, from Greenland's shores to China's teeming millions. It was reported that two camel-loaded caravans meeting in the vastness of the Gobi desert rejoiced when each saw that the other was the bearer of co-op goods. The word "co-op" then and now is a symbol of friendliness.

Now that the war is over the practice of cooperation in the field of economics is moving from the national to the international field, and while the people of cooperative community go about their affairs, they may yet achieve one more hope, that their ambassadors of friendly trade will prove more successful than their statesmen have been.—Cooperative Consumer.

## Miners, Carpenters, Electricians

Frequent criticism is heaped on the coal miners who want a decent wage for engaging in the most hazardous occupation listed in the catalog of human endeavor. This criticism stems from miners' demands for small wage increases which might help him reach out of his state of servility to one of respectability.

The miners of the PMWA today are demanding a wage which, when and if approved, would mean approximately \$1.28½ cents an hour for the time he puts in at the starting cage until he returns to the shaft to be hoisted on his way to his home.

is that too much money to pay for such a job? Your carpenter draws wages from 25 to 35 per cent more per hour, the electricians the same, the stone mason and bricklayer gets 35 to 40 per cent higher wages than the miner, yet not one of these craftsmen risks his life day after day as does the coal miner.

It is not the intention of the Progressive Mine Workers of America to tear down these high wage structures. It is rather the purpose of the PMWA to build UP to that level, and we should like to see the layman or the artisan in any other craft, who would trade places with the coal digger for the pittance he receives and for the risks he assumes daily.—The Progressive Miner.

## Can U. S. and Russia Work for Peace?

Generally the annual meeting of the American Society of Newspaper Editors in Washington is not a thrilling affair. For one thing, too many of the owners, for the purpose of the meeting disguise themselves as "hard-working editors" and fetch to the gathering the atmosphere of the business office.

This year's gathering was somewhat different. Three "Red" editors flew from Moscow to Washington, and in short, snappy speeches, said a lot of things that were out of the ordinary. Of course, they defended Communism. That was to be expected. But they did it cleverly.

Perhaps the most impressive statement came from the bespectacled Major General Mikhail Galationov, military editor of "Pravda," one of the big organs of the Soviets.

He said he spoke as a "realist." That's a much-abused word and we're not dead sure we know what he meant. However, there was no doubt about what the general had in mind.

He said the United States and Russia were big enough to keep the world at peace and he urged that they adjust such differences as may exist between them and endeavor to render this monumental service to mankind.

Maybe it wouldn't work. Maybe it's only a dream. But it's worth trying. Something like that must that third World War we all fear. be worked out if we are to avoid —Labor.

## IN THE WIND

From THE NATION

WE ARE EAGERLY AWAITING the arrival of a volume called "Much in Little," a book about the United States navy. A letter announcing its publication advises us that the text is illustrated with eighty-eight "authentic pictures," beginning with Noah's Ark.

OUR WARLIKE CONTEMPORARIES: A slick-paper bulletin called "Better Castings," published by the Niagara Falls Smelting and Refining Corporation, features in its April issue an editorial entitled "Now Is the Time." It propounds: "World War No. 3 is already brewing. As I said four years ago we would probably end up fighting Russia, with Germany one of our allies... We must get tough now... Russia is largely bluff. She is not ready to fight a big war yet; neither are we, but our potential power both on sea and in productive ability is stronger, and she knows it. Now is the time to show our might."

A DENVER CORRESPONDENT reports that up until Monday, April 8, the Denver Post was still, according to the slogan placed on its back page many years ago by its founder Fred Bonfils, "dedicated in perpetuity to the service of the people that no good cause shall lack a champion and that evil shall not thrive unopposed." Those days, however, are gone. On April 9 that slogan was replaced with one which simply proclaims the Post the "Voice of the Rocky Mountain Empire."

THESE TROUBLED TIMES: Indiana's Lieutenant Governor Richard James took to the radio recently to urge that hereafter Hoosiers stand whenever the band plays "On the Banks of the Wabash" or "Back Home Again in Indiana." "These songs are second only to 'The Star-Spangled Banner' and 'America,'" declared Mr. James.

A NEWCOMER to the comic-magazine field is the Challenger, published by the Interfaith Committee of the Protestant Digest. Format and contents are just like those of the standard adventure-strip comic books, but the sequences are all pointed "to fight race prejudice, discrimination, and all other forms of fascism in North America."

AND THAT REMINDS US—we have at hand an application blank for membership in the American Automobile Association which includes the line: "Member of... race."

HEADLINE in an Indiana newspaper: "Coal Strike Squelched—Miners Resting Peacefully After Parley." But breathing heavily, we presume.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK: Representative Hugh DeLacy, of Washington, on the OPA bill as "amended" by the House: "The true title of this act should be the 'Let the People Eat Cake Act of 1946.'"

## Reports Show Living Costs Still Zooming

Government Puts Rise at 35%; It's Greater Than That, Labor Claims

Living costs are continuing to march upward. The Department of Labor reported that its "consumers' price index," which measures the rise in costs of many commodities, had risen to 30.2 per cent above pre-war levels.

However, the Department conceded the index doesn't reflect the full climb in costs, since such things as deterioration in quality of goods and disappearance of low-cost merchandise from store shelves aren't adequately shown in the index. The latter factors would add another 3 to 4 per cent, making the total officially-recorded advance 35 per cent, the report explained.

Labor research experts contend that even the 35 per cent figure grossly understates the true hike in living costs. Their own studies, they said, show the rise has been close to 50 per cent. Many items which have skyrocketed in costs aren't even included in the index, they added.

## ADMITTED HE WASN'T PERFECT

"Sorry, Soldier, but I never got out with perfect strangers."

"That's okay, Babe. I ain't perfect!"

## Insuring Our Health

Everybody favors good health, but not enough people do anything about it.

With all its wealth and medical resources, the United States suffers a condition to exist in which millions of its people become physically impaired through preventable or curable illness.

The high percentage of 4-F draft rejections during the war served sharp notice of the cost of this condition to the nation, not to mention the incalculable suffering for the individuals involved.

The chief reason for this condition is the inability of low-income families to pay for adequate medical care. Figures of the American Medical Association shows that 75% of all American families need financial assistance to pay for any serious illness.

The remedy is as clear as the situation itself. It is to establish a comprehensive nationwide health insurance system, under which every American man, woman and child will be assured of proper medical care when he needs it.

The CIO is therefore wholeheartedly supporting the Wagner-Murray-Dingell bill for a real national health program.

This bill is now before the Senate Education and Labor Committee, whose members should be urged to report it out favorably without delay.—The CIO News.

## Fence Sitters

A large proportion of American workers are fence-sitters and are willing to let management and organized labor compete for their support. They are suspicious of management and distrustful of union leadership, particularly when the question of the payment of dues arises.

The charge is largely factual. The reason for the condition is that organized labor has grown so greatly over the last 10 years; and that the vast majority of union members are first generation members who often come into a union which has been organized long, long before they joined up.

Altogether too many union members, unfortunately, have no sound understanding of the American labor movement. They do not realize the suffering, the sweat, toil, tears and blood that was shed over three-quarters of a century while unionism slowly and painfully grew and expanded constructively.

They fail to realize the vast physical, intellectual and moral effort needed to make the labor movement what it is today. They do not possess a clear comprehension of the varied duties of their union officials who expend unlimited efforts in order to get results for the membership.

Were it not for the efforts of their union representatives and the loyal, intelligent and active union members who trustingly back up the efforts of their union representatives, the legion of critical wise-cracking fence-sitters would be singing a song of woe and cringing before the employers' lash which servile labor always feared until freedom-loving working men and women courageously banded together in unions for mutual protection and benefit.—Commercial Telegraphers Journal.

## The People Say

Congress consists of two legislative houses, the lower house and the Senate.

The house contains 435 members, and the senate 96 members. These 531 men and women are elected of the PEOPLE, by the PEOPLE, and for the PEOPLE of the United States.

Unfortunately too many of these 531 men and women ignore the PEOPLE and their wishes, as witness the House of Representatives recent action in trimming down the OPA.

Now the question is: What do the PEOPLE want regarding OPA? That is a simple question, deserving a simple answer, and the PEOPLE have answered the question simply, honestly, and with due concern to their welfare. Here is the answer, as it appears in the Congressional Record of recent date, the results of a poll conducted on the question:

The PEOPLE want OPA continued for one year. Vote 83 per cent to 17 per cent.

The PEOPLES also answered a number of other major national questions which are being debated and discussed and cussed and kicked about by our Congress.

The PEOPLE, by a vote of 59 per cent to 41 per cent, favor unemployment compensation of \$25 a week for 26 weeks.

The PEOPLE favor, by a 74 to 26 vote, a national minimum wage of 65 cents an hour.

The PEOPLE favor a prepaid medical care and health insurance plan by a vote of 56 to 44 per cent.

Well, Congress, why not wake up—and act!—The Progressive Miner.

## Italian Monarchy Doomed

We never had any doubt about the outcome of the June 2nd referendum which would decide whether Italy would retain the much discredited Monarch of the House of Savoy or prefer a Republican form of government. We did know that the combined votes of the Socialist Party and the other parties of the left would suffice to overcome the votes of the remnants of Fascism, the neo-fascist movement "L'Uomo Qualunque" of Guglielmo Giannini, the fossils of the so-called Liberal Party of Italy and all the reactionary and clerical elements, but now that even the Catholic "Christian Democratic Party" has by an overwhelming majority come out against the Monarchy at its last convention, the writing on the wall for King Victor Emmanuel and his would be heirs is clear.

In this connection, the "Boston Globe" of Monday, April 29, has the following to say on the momentous decision of the "Christian Democratic Party," of which the present Premier of Italy Alcide De Gasperi is the leader:

## Shadows on a Throne

"The three-to-one vote of Premier Alcide de Gasperi's Christian Democratic Party at its congress in Rome, favoring abolition of the Italian monarchy and the creation of an Italian Republic, would seem to doom the House of Savoy irreparably. With the Italian Socialists already united against the Throne, and Communists equally

emphatic, the addition of the great moderate Catholic center party—for that is what Alcide de Gasperi's Christian Democrats are—means that more than three-quarters of the Italian public, as presently organized, want to be rid of the House of Savoy, root and branch.

The Christian Democratic Party's vote was 739,000 to 254,000. That this sentiment will be reflected in the referendum next June is almost a foregone conclusion. Victor Emmanuel and his family are paying a stiff price for their twenty-year-long collaboration with Italian Fascism."—From La Parola.

## INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS STILL TAKE HIGH TOLL

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The Labor Department reported that accidents in manufacturing plants in the last 3 months of 1945 killed 550 workers and permanently disabled 5,200.

The total of accidents, reported from nearly 11,000 manufacturing establishments, was about 111,000, which was 17,000 less than in the third quarter and 42,000 less than in the 1944 quarter.

Deaths and permanent disabilities, however, were higher than in the 1945 third quarter. This, the department declared, could be attributed in part to reconversion, shifting of employes to new types of work and the return of veterans whose safety habits had not been reestablished.

## Some Odds and Ends

There's a new yarn about a General who had to take his staff to task for over-indulgence.

"Nobody minds a man having a morning eye-opener," he told them. "And it's okay to have a bracer around 10 o'clock and a couple of drinks before lunch. And I think a few beers on a hot afternoon keep a man healthy. Then comes the cocktail hour. Naturally, everybody drinks them. And you can't criticize a man for having wine with his dinner, a liqueur afterward, and several highballs during the evening. But his business of SIP, SIP, SIP all day has got to STOP!"—The Army Times.

A rude and vulgar man is one who stares at a girl's figure when she's doing her best to display it.—Wings Over Olmstead, Pa.

Maybe the no-strike-in-wartime policy had its weak points after all. Some people liked it so much they're trying to start another war in order to revive it.—John Paine for Federated Press.

Be kind to the birds, they are your friends. The dove brings peace, the stork brings tax exemptions.

Economic panic is predicted if price controls end too soon. In other words, keep OPA and avoid WPA.—The St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Ohio stands 35th in the Nation in its care of the mentally ill, according to figures secured from the Department of Mental Hygiene. Ohio trailed every industrial State, leading only 13 States south of the Mason-Dixon Line.

The shortage of men's apparel was discussed at the President's press conference last week. Reporters in the capital claim that it is almost impossible to find an un-

stuffed shirt in Washington.—Howard Brubaker in The New Yorker.

Radio has outpaced even newspapers as truly "big business." Federal Communications Commission reports that the four major networks sold \$128,533,216 worth of air time in 1945. For which listeners got the privilege of listening to a flood of soap operas and singing commercials. The listener, whose money pays for this advertising, just happens to be at the wrong end of the microphone.

DEFINITIONS  
Pay Raise: Inflationary device designed to ruin widows and orphans (financially, of course).

Price Increase: Statesmanlike device to get the wheels of industry rolling again, get hoarded goods off shelves, encourage timid capitalists to invest, and insure fat campaign contributions next Fall.

Increase in Productivity: Only way a worker can merit a raise.

Speedup: Nobody here by that name, bud, you must have the wrong number.—John Paine for Federated Press.

An easy solution to the black market and OPA enforcement was given the Senate Banking Committee April 25 by witness John C. Saccocio of Sehnetady, N. Y., a welder. "BUILD MORE JAILS!"

Judging from what we sometimes hear, that much-touted law about veterans should have been captioned the "GI Bill of Slights."—from the Memphis Commercial Appeal.

There is no policy like politeness. A good manner often succeeds where the best tongue has failed.—Magoon.

We should not enter upon war as to show that our only desire is peace.—Cicero.