



MLADOST IN ŽIVLJENJE V DRAGINJI

Nekaj poročila s SANSove seje dne 30. julija

Slovenski Ameriški Narodni Svet (SANS) je imel v načrtu obdržati to jesen ali koncem poletja svojo konvencijo, ki naj bi se jo sklicalo v Cleveland. Eksekutiva pa je imela mandat datum in kraj tudi spremeniti. To je storila na svoji seji v soboto 30. julija v Chicagu. Konvencijo je odložila na prihodnjo pomlad.

Udeleženci seje

Seje so se udeležili častni predsednik Etbin Kristan, predsednik Sansa ter njegove eksekutive Fred A. Vider, tajnik Mirko G. Kuhel, blagajnik Milan Medvešek, ki je ob enem zapisnikar, II. podpredsednik Martin Cetinski iz Detroita, in pa člani odbora Frank Japich, Frank Alesh, oba iz Chicaga, Vatro Grill in Ivan Boštjančič iz Clevelanda in Matt Cvetich iz Pittsburgha, Pa. Navzoč je bil tudi Sansov poslovodja Frank Smith.

Odsoten je bil I. glavni podpredsednik Anton Krapenc.

Odložitev konvencije

Glede priprav na konvencijo v tem letu je bilo glavno vprašanje, v koliko bi mogla biti uspešna. Splošno mnenje je razpravi je bilo, da v teh okoliščinah bi bila morda zgolj formalna, take pa se ne potrebuje. Preko zime se naj izvede za SANS kampanjo in šele nato se naj skliče konvencijo — in to z boljše aranžmno, kot so bile dosedanje priprave. Pravzaprav jih letos sploh bilo ni, radi pričakovanja, da bo zbor odložen.

Relifna podzvetja

Govorilo se je precej o relifnih akcijah, katerim je SANS poslednja leta največ posvečen in v njih najbolj aktiven. Na političnem polju pa je pomagal v predsedniških volitvah progressivni stranki s svojimi indorsiranj in z oglašanjem. To bo menda tudi glavni vzrok, čemu ga je Tom Clark zapisal na črno listo ne da bi ga zasljal in ugotovil iz pričanja Sansovih odbornikov, da ni bilo v tej organizaciji nikakih subverznih aktivnosti, pač pa vse v pomoč tej deželi in v podporo vnanji politiki pokojnega Roosevelta vse-skozi od Sansove ustanovitve in do konca njegovih dni in je vsa taka ostala tudi po njegovi smrti. Spremenil se torej ni SANS, pač pa je zvezna vlada zašla v reakcijo in tako torej Sansova politika ne more biti več v soglasju s tako vnanjo politiko, ki se je od Rooseveltove povsem preobrnila.

Ali vam je naročnina potekla...?

Tekoča številka Proletarca je

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Ako je številka tik VASEGA imena na NASLOVU na PRVI strani nižja, to pomeni, da vam je naročnina potekla za toliko tednov kolikor je številka v vašem oklepaju nižja od gornje. Prosimo, obnovite jo!

Prihranite nam s tem pri delu in na poštnini!

NOVA PRIZADEVANJA ZA USTANOVITEV "ZEDINJENIH DRŽAV EVROPE"

Pred mnogimi leti so si socialisti v Evropi zamislili ves kontinent organizirati na temelju socializma v zvezno republiko. S svojo propagando v takratnih časih niso mogli nikamor kot do svojih pristašev, ki pa jih je bilo premalo za kaj drugega kot vršiti opozicijske naloge proti vladujočim ter voditi propagando za preobrate.

Toda od ideje za ustanovitev Zedinjenih držav Evrope niso socialisti nikoli odnehali. A njihova internacionala je doživela po prvi svetovni vojni silovit poraz in po zavladanju nacizma v Nemčiji pa je popolnoma razpadla.

Tedaj so pričeli z idejo za ustanovitev združenih držav Evrope drugi ljudje, idealisti, ki so dobili veliko zaslombe a po nekaj letih spoznali, da kar tišči na vseh koncih in krajih narazen, ni mogoče združiti skupaj.

Sedaj snujejo "Združene države Evrope" konservativci — ne zaradi združenje po kakih socialističnih načelih, ampak proti "boljševiški" nevarnosti.

Predvsem pa proti slovanskemu bloku, ki je po mnenju anglosaksov preveč pod kontrolno Moskve in počne z njim kar hoče. Izkazalo se je, da kar se Jugoslavije tiče, to ne drži, čeprav je skoz in skoz slovanska in Kominform ji celo očita, da je vrh tega še skrajno nacionalistična, torej celo bolj kot pa je Rusija ter ostale slovanske dežele.

Proti nevarnosti "panslavizma" je začel pred nekaj leti Winston Churchill kampanjo za ustanovitev evropske unije, ki naj bi vključevala vse demokratične države na zapadu in pozneje je še dodal, naj bi se pritegnilo tudi zapadno Nemčijo v to zvezo. In potihem goji željo, naj bi prišla tudi Španija zraven, nagleda na njen fašizem.

V namen ustanovitve take evropske unije so se prišli v začetku avgusta v Strasbourgu v Franciji zbor, na katerem so zastopane vlade trinajstih držav. Te so Anglija, Francija, Belgija, Nizozemska, Švedska, Norveška, Danska, Portugalska, Irska, Grčija in Turčija.

Na tem zboru v Strasbourgu za ustanovitev evropske unije se je zbralo okrog tisoč zastopnikov in njihovih svetovalec, poleg vnanjih ministrov ali pa njihovih namestnikov iz vseh priglasičenih držav.

A že na prvi resni seji so se pokazala nesoglasja. Nekateri zastopniki so hoteli, da se takoj preglašajo principu demokracije in pa človeških pravic za temelj te zveze.

Toda v priglasičenih deželah so tudi take vlade, ki ne verjamejo ne v demokracijo, ne v človeška prava.

Razlike med njimi so tudi v socialnem oziru. Ene imajo še staromodni fevdalizem, nekatere so moderno kapitalistične, nekaj pa jih je, ki so na poti socializacije.

Nesreča za Churchillovo akcijo je, da si je je zamislil iz sovražstva do Sovjetske zveze in pa zato, ker želi nad svetom anglosaško nadvlado. Ako bi hotel uspeli, bi moral te predsodke vreti na stran ter delati za Zed. države Evrope tako, da bi gradil vzajemnost med njimi, ekonomsko enotnost in s tem blagostanje za vse.

"Čemu govoriti o krizi, ako je ni?"

"Ako bomo o 'recesiji' ali krizi le preveč govorili, pa bo zares nastala!" Tako pravijo člani vlade v Washingtonu. Enako razni drugi zagovorniki razmer kar krine so in pa obstoječega gospodarskega reda. Ali bolje, "nereča".

Celo liberalni tednik "Labor" v Washington, D. C., ki je politično glasilo raznih unij železničarjev ter se ponaša, da ima izmed vseh delavskih glasil največje cirkulacijo (izhaja v nad milijon izvodih), v editorialu pravi: unij ter druge stvari, da ako bomo črnogledi ter le čakali kdaj nas udari kriza, pa si jo bomo res priklicali, toda po svoji krivdi!

Listi imovitih slojev pa zatrjujejo, da brezposelnosti prav za prav ni, ker takih delavcev, ki "niso hoteli delati" smo vedno imeli. Ob enem poudarjajo, da je sedanja "recesija" zdrav ekonomski pojav. Tolmačijo, da je bila potrebna, ker so unije s svojimi "bosai" (ala John L. Lewis) postajale preveč "arrogantne" in da zahtevajo bolj in bolj vse

sorte nemogoče stvari — npr. "večje penzije kot so sedaj njihove plače" in potem še razne druge "ugodnosti zastoj" — namreč na stroške delodajalcev. Najzanimivejši je tisti argument, teh ljudi, ki pravijo, da je zdravo imeti "nekaj recesije" in ki smatrajo, da kolikor je sedaj brezdelnih, "ni to noben problem".

Zanje res ni, ker jih nič ne skrbi, kje bo denar, da plačajo stanarino, si kupijo še en avto, ali gredo na počitnice kamorkoli po svetu si počel.

Je pa problem za onih štiri in četiri milijona delavcev, ki bi radi službo, pa si jo zamažijo ležejo.

Census biro zvezne vlade je nedavno poročal, da je na brezposelnosti zavarovalnici že 4,095,000 delavcev. To je bilo v juliju. Ugotavljajo, da je to v zadnjih sedem in pol leta najvišje število.

Silno je prizadeto v tej "recesiji" michigansko bakeno okrožje, kjer je brezposelnost narasla 1515 odstotkov. Tako poroča glavno glasilo CIO, "CIO News" v številki s dne 8. avgusta.

V industrialnem mestu Muskegon, Mich., s okrog 100,000 prebivalcev, je še nad 12,000 brezposelnih, nadaljni tisoč delavcev pa so le delno zaposleni.

Kaj njim in drugim stotisočim brezposelnih pomaga tolažba, da ne govoriti o recesiji ali krizi, pa je ne bo! S tolažbami ne morejo kupiti ničesar, ne plačati stanarine. Brezposelnostna podpora pa je v tej druginji le majhna pomoč in še to dobivajo le nekaj tednov — kakih pet mesecev in potem kaj?

Nevarnost za plemenske izgrede se veča

V nekem kraju v Floridi so se dogodili tolikšni plemenski izgrede, da lokalna policija ter šerifova oblast ni mogla biti kos položaju ter je pozvala državno milico na pomoč.

Črnci pa so vztrajni in mladi zamorci so fini bokserji, starejši imajo "krivce" in "britve" in se branijo, a včasih v svojem navdušenju po enakopravnosti tudi sami povzročijo izgrede proti njim valed izzivanja. V par mesetih v tem poletju so si hoteli izvojevati pravico biti v istih kopalnicah kakor belci, dasi imajo svoja, samo zanje določena. A ker zahtevajo plemensko enakopravnost, so se segregaciji uprli ter navalili v kopalnice belcev.

Tako so nastali pretepi med belimi in črnimi v vodi in na obrežju v St. Louisu ter več drugih krajih.

V Chicagu na južni strani si je kupil en črnc hišo v predelu, kjer žive samo belopoltni ljudje, in se v svojo družino naselil vanjo. V ponedeljek 26. julija je na to zamorčovo hišo navalila belopoltna množica kakih 1500 ljudi (policija pravi, da jih je bilo samo osem sto, pobila vsa okna, metala v njo v petroleju namočene goreče cunje skozi razbita okna, a policaji so jih sproti metali ven.

Nad 350 policajev je prihitelo na mesto izgrede in poveljeval jim je sam policijski načelnik Prendergast. Ta zamorska družina, proti kateri se je pričel napad, se je uselila v hišo na 7153 St. Lawrence Ave. v Chicagu. Ker se je policija bala naraščanja belopoltnih množic, je zaprla v okolici vse ulice, da ni mogel nihče več na kraj izgrediv. Radio postaje v Chicagu pa so dobile navodilo o tem ničesar omeniti, da se ne bi plemenskih mrženj še bolj podžgalo. Listi v Chicagu so tudi dobili priporočilo, da naj ta incident zamolče, ali pa ga omenijo po tem ko bodo izgrede ponehali, na nesenzacionalen način. Tako so Čikažani o njem čitali šele dva dni pozneje, dočim so radio-poročevalci in časopisi po ostalih mestih o tem govorili že v ponedeljek večer in nadaljevali z opisom v torek zjutraj.

Nevarnost je, da bo takih izgrediv čedalje več ne samo zato ker zamorci zahtevajo pravico uselitve kamorkoli, ampak tudi valed tekme za službe. Črnci jih namreč valed manjše zahtevnosti lahko sprejmejo ceneje kot pa belopoltni delavci. To je velik problem tudi za unije.

Sovraštvo je slabost majhnih duš. — Balzak.

Mir je mogoč, ako ga hočejo vsi narodi, vse dežele, vse svet.

KOMENTARJI

Zbira in presoja urednik

Herbert Hoover je bil dne 10. avgusta v dnevnem tisku, na banketih in v radiu proslavljan kot da je največja veličina v tej deželi. Omenjeni datum je bil njegov 75. rojstni dan. On je edini izmed bivših predsednikov Zed. držav, ki še živi. V govorancah in v člankih so ga označevali za največjega državnika naše dobe, za ekonomista, za konstruktivnega Američana, za značajneža, ki mu ni primere itd. Vse drugače pa so govorili o njemu v dobi, ko je bil on še predsednik Zed. držav in so po smetiščih gradili s praznimi škatljami, razbitimi sodi ter iz vreč in papirja "vasi", ki smo jim rekli "Hooverville". Težko je bilo takrat. In ako ne bi bilo Roosevelta, kdove kakšen bi bil konec krize in panike, ki je valovala po deželi! Tako pa se je "vse dobro izteklo" — in posebno za Hooverja ter njegove ljudi.

Radio Moskva je dne 11. avgusta označil Titovo vlado za "sovražnico Sovjetske zveze". Tudi to je sprememba. Kake poklone sta si delala Moskva in Beograd! Sedaj pa je tak boj med njima! In to v škodo ne samo Jugoslaviji temveč vsem deželam sovjetske sfere. Ljudje so pač ljudje in se menda rajše kregajo kot pa da bi si zidali bodočnost na temelju vzajemnosti.

Elpidio Quirino je dobil v ameriškem tisku veliko pozornosti valed svojega načrta za zgraditev "zveze dežel na Pacifiku". Začela sta jo kovati s Čiang Kajškom — v nadi, da jima bo to podvzpetje Truman odobrilo in potem pa bodo vladujoči politiki "protikomunističnega pakta" na Pacifiku zajemali dolarje za boj proti "komunizmu" iz ameriških žepov. A zdi se, da je Trumanovi administraciji severoatlantski pakt v tak namen dovolj. Elpidio Quirino, ki je na obisku v Zed. držav, je predsednik (diktator) Filipinske republike.

Slovaški kmetje bi se za svojega župnika stekli ne samo z vragom ampak tudi z vso čehoslovaško žandarmerijo. Kajti župnik je zastopnik božji — on

Državni departament je s svojo "belo knjigo" — zelo obsežen dokument — priznal, da je bila politika Rooseveltove in potem Trumanove administracije na Kitajskem zgrešena in vsa podpora — dana Čiang Kajškovi nacionalistični vladi, vržena v vodo. Znašala je več milijard dolarjev in tudi mnogo življenj. A propadli diktator Čiang Kaišek se ne more sprijazniti z resnico, da je doigran, in še vedno sanja, da mu bodo Zed. države — pod pretvezo borbe proti komunizmu, pomagale z nadaljnimi vrečami zlata in srebra. A kakor ni uspevala v tej misli njegova žena, tako tudi on ne bo, čeprav se je proglasil za borca proti "komunizmu".

Dalai Lama, poglavar verske države Tibet v Aziji, je angleški znanstveni misiji odklonil dovoljenje za povpet na goro Everest, ki je najvišja na svetu — 29,140 čevljev nad morjem — iz razloga, da so "zvezde proti Dalai Lama je star šele 12 let, a že poseduje vso modrost, ker je božje navdahnjen. Po veri Tibetčanov je on svetnik in vse kar stori je "kakor pribito". Tako so se angleški raziskovalci spet zaman trudili, da bi splezali na to goro v Tibetu ter jo proučevali. Mnogo ljudi pred njim izmed ekspedicij iz raznih dežel — je to poskusilo — a se marsikdo izmed njih iz višin ni več vrnil. Mladi Dalai Lama to ve in zato še vedno smatra, da so "zvezde proti" poskusom splezati na to goro, napram kateri sta slovenski Triglav in koloradski Pikes Peak kakor pritlikovca. Vendar pa so taka raziskovanja potrebna — neglede v kolikšno nevarnost se raziskovalci podajo in neozirajo se ako je to zvezdam prav ali ne.

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(Konec na 5. strani.)

Nekaj o naših stvareh

V prejšnji številki smo pojasnili, da Proletarca prihodnja dva tedna Adria ne bo mogla tiskati, ker je naš stavec na počitnicah. Izostali bosta torej številki z dne 24. in 31. avgusta.

Možno bi nam bilo dobiti stavca, ki zna slovensko, iz kake druge tiskarne, kar smo svoječasnno že storili, toda plačati moramo za tako dele dvojni čas, tako visokih stroškov pa ne zmoremo. Torej bomo storili tako kot to delajo mnogi drugi listi, med njimi par slovenskih, ki v poletju nekaj časa prenehajo zaradi počitnic. Pri nas v uradu jih tudi v tem poletju ne bomo imeli — pač pa skušali v tem času opraviti zaostalo delo, ki se je nakupičilo posebno vled sprememb v upravnistvu in vled tega v uredništvo, v slednjem največ radi korespondence, ki čaka odgovorov.

Na zadnji konferenci krajevne organizacije Prosvetne maticice, ki se je vršila 29. maja letos v Waukeganu, je bilo sklenjeno, da se prične v korist Proletarca in drugih naših aktivnosti s kako stvarjo — s prodajo številka za nagrade npr., ki se jih bi oddalo na prihodnji konferenci.

Tudi to bo izvršeno kot je bilo sklenjeno.

Ideja, ki jo je sprožila Jennie Miller, je jako dobra. Bilo je priporočeno, da naj kaj storimo v tem oziru tudi na široko zasnovani potezi — npr. da bi oddali avto. Vzelo bo seveda časa ter veliko dela, ako hočemo napraviti finančni uspeh. Z dobro voljo se bo vse naredilo.

V tej številki je izkaz prispevkov listu v podporo, izkaz poslanih naročin v minulnem mesecu in pa oba upravniška članka. Dalje poročilo o nedavni seji Sansove eksekutive, ki se pričinja na 1. strani. Poročilo je osebno mnenje pisca in ima nanj vsakdo pravico komentirati ali odgovarjati.

Torej ako boste Proletarca prihodnja dva tedna pograščali, pomislite, koliko bolj bi ga še, če bi prenehali. Nič več se ne bi posrečilo nadomestiti ga z novim listom. Torej delujmo za ta list in pomagajmo mu kriti stroške, ki jih moramo samo s čimveč naročninami ter z doneski v tiskovni sklad.

The American Way

This week's decision by Federal District Judge Elwyn R. Shaw, that the Federal Rent Control Act of 1949 is unconstitutional, leaves us cold. We have long since ceased to believe that anything that is necessary to the welfare of the capitalist private-profit economy is decided on the basis of constitutionality. And rent controls meets the specification of necessity.

If we are cynical, we believe that our cynicism is shared by many Americans. Ever since the days when the late Franklin D. Roosevelt set out to pack the supreme court with judges who would see and interpret the Constitution in a manner that fit with his purposes a growing number of people must have come to believe that the constitution, like the scriptures which even the Devil can quote for his own purposes, could be made to accomplish any desired end.

That is not necessarily the way we would like to have it. But it is the way we believe it has come to be under "the American way" of our times.

Franklin Roosevelt started his career in the White House by setting up his "Blue Eagle" codes of fair competition under a national Industrial Recovery Act which, being a lawyer, he must have known were not constitutional and which were later declared to be in violation of the basic law of the land.

As for rent controls, they will continue in some form or another so long as the safety of our capitalist economy requires them. After all, it is the machine that matters.

In the same spirit of cold blooded pragmatism the nation is now herded along a road that may lead to war. Millions of American soldiers are to be garrisoned in other nations and billions upon billions of dollars are to be spent to send supplies and arms to foreign lands.

All this may or may not be constitutional. But it is necessary to find markets for American goods now and to build the power, prestige and world organization which are necessary to the future functioning of the capitalist private-profit economy.

That's what determines decisions and molds morals. Nor are we complaining about it. Long ago the Socialist pioneers announced that laws and morals are determined by the manner in which a generation makes its living. In the final analysis nothing is sacred — not the freedom of individuals, the security of an effete middle class or, least of all, the traditions of an out-moded economic era — that conflicts with the interests of a dominant class.

Perhaps that is as it should be. If so, that is another reason why all people who love truth, justice and freedom for their own sakes should join with Socialists in a movement to replace the present class economy with a system of cooperation.—Reading Labor Advocate.

New Biography of Eugene V. Debs



The newest biography of the apostle of industrial unionism and organized labor political action pictures Eugene V. Debs as a man and leader in straightforward fashion. Ray Ginger's biography, curiously titled "The Bending Cross" (Rutgers University Press, New Brunswick, N. J., 1949 \$5), grinds no partisan or factional ax.

Ginger sets down the facts as he read them in contemporary papers and on the lips of survivors of the Debs era. He takes pains to check on what he learned and the result is a factual account of the great Indiana labor organizer and radical's career, which is cumulatively thrilling in spite of its matter-of-fact style.

Debs' imprisonment for opposing World War I was only the most spectacular point in his long life. He started as the sparkplug of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen. Realizing how craft unionism betrayed the workers through destroying unity of action against the employers, Debs organized the American Railway Union, first and only important attempt to set up an industrial union of railwaymen. It won the fiercely fought Great Northern strike of 1894 but lost the Pullman strike the same year, when President Grover Cleveland sent the Army out against the strikers and a Federal judge sent Debs to Woodstock Jail.

That turned Debs into a political actionist as well as an industrial unionist. He became the standing candidate of the Socialist party for President. He helped to organize the Industrial Workers of the World. He defended the worker victims of the judicial frame-up system, from Big Bill Haywood to Sacco and Vanzetti. He welcomed the Bolshevik overthrow of capitalism in Russia.

Up to his death in 1926 at the age of 71 Debs cooperated with the leading radicals of America and

fought the leading reactionaries. These characters appear in his biographer's pages clearly and without bias other than what research has developed about such men as Samuel Gompers, Victor Berger, Wm. Z. Foster, and the rest.

Debs' career curiously foreshadows the formation of the CIO industrially and recent years politically. Debs may be considered the gigantic forerunner of America as it may be within the next generation. Ginger's work is a valuable testimony to that conception.—Carl Haessler.

Membership, sales continue to grow in British co-ops

Figures announced by R. Southern, acting general secretary of the British Cooperative Union, show that the present membership of the movement is 10,167,700, an increase of 191,000, or 1.92 per cent over a year ago.

Cash trade for the past year amounted to 502 million pounds, an increase of 58 million, or 13.17 per cent.

English Cooperative Wholesale Society sales for 1948, set a new record of 252 million pounds, 13 per cent above 1947. The value of co-op manufactured goods totalled nearly 76 million pounds, an increase of 18.5 per cent; while the net surplus for the year amounted to more than seven million pounds, or nearly \$30,000,000.

Although these figures do not take into account price increases, they represent a real increase over the year 1947, and indicate that public support for the cooperative movement in Great Britain continues to increase.

One reason that talk is cheap is because there is such a great over-supply of it.

LITTLE LUTHER

By JOHN PAINE

"One of the most intelligent observations made in recent years was made recently at the University of Illinois, Luther," said Mr. Dilworth, the Dimity Diaper czar.

"I don't see anything so surprising about that, Pop," murmured Luther. "Why shouldn't one of the most intelligent observations made in recent years be made at the University of Illinois?"

"I can't think of any reason why it shouldn't my boy, and I don't see why you should want to start an argument about it. Must you argue about everything? Why don't you merely ask me what the statement was about?"

"Very well, Pop. Consider yourself merely asked."

"Thank you, my son. Mrs. Celia Burns Stendler, assistant professor of education at the university, said that children become snobbish and class-conscious while still in grade school. By the fourth grade they know the difference between rich and poor. She suggested that teachers and parents provide 'intelligent guidance based on a realistic concept of social and economic levels of American life.'"

"What else did she say, Pop?"

"I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE SHE SAID, you brat: Isn't what I quoted enough? Aren't you impressed? Don't you think teachers and parents should provide intelligent guidance based on a realistic concept of social and economic levels of American life so that children won't get snobbish or class-conscious in the fourth grade?"

"The professor has got something there, Pop."

"That's what I've been trying to tell you."

"But I don't know what it is, Pop."

"Luther, listen. What makes rich kids know poor kids are poor?"

"I suppose it's similar to what makes poor kids know rich kids are rich."

"Right! And, Luther, what is there about rich kids that makes them know they're rich?"

"Right, Pop! And what is there about poor kids that makes them know that they're poor?"

"Right, Luther! Now answer those questions!"

"Correct, Pop! The answer is money!"

"Wrong, Luther! The answer is guidance!"

"I say it's money, Pop."

"And I say it's guidance. The poor are getting entirely the wrong kind of guidance. They are not taught to enjoy being poor. Being poor is one of the greatest of privileges. Instead of envying the rich, the poor should be proud of their poverty."

"And what about the rich?"

"Never mind about the rich. The rich can take care of themselves. Don't trouble your head about the rich. Just worry about the poor."

"Why should I worry about the poor, Pop?"

"There are so many of 'em Luther. Have to watch 'em every minute. They need guidance. Without guidance, anything might happen."

Russia Dominates U.S.

"Never in the history of the world" says Archibald MacLeish, former Librarian of Congress and assistant Secretary of State, now proffing at Harvard, in an article in the August Atlantic Monthly, "was one people as completely dominated, intellectually and morally, by another people as the people of the United States by the people of Russia in the four years from 1946 through 1949."

"American foreign policy was a mirror image of Russian foreign policy; whatever the Russians did, we did in reverse. American domestic politics were conducted under a kind of upside-down Russian veto; no man could be elected to public office unless he was on record as detesting the Russians, and no proposal could be enacted unless it could be demonstrated that the Russians wouldn't like it."

Although Canada produced nearly 48,000,000 pounds of honey in 1948, there is a decreasing demand because candy makers and bakers are now able to get sugar.

One out of every four American workers belongs to a union.

THE MARCH OF LABOR



'Unimportant' Item

It obviously was an "unimportant" little item when compared with world-shaking events.

The New York Times told the story on an inside page — in three inches of type placed alongside a big ad.

It was a simple story:

A young workman from New York was killed in Philadelphia while trying to save the lives of three fellow workers, who also died in the accident.

Three men were overcome by sewer gas while working in a 25-foot trench. They fell over into three feet of water.

Lawrence G. Williams, 28, rushed down a ladder in an attempt to save them — but he, too, was overcome by gas and fell into the water beside his three companions.

All of them were drowned.

Two firemen lost consciousness during an attempt to rescue the four workmen, but were revived.

That's all there is to the story, if you judge it as news items are usually judged. Just four more workers killed on the job.

But there was more to it than that — much more. The four who died must have had families and friends.

And, considering all of the modern equipment available, there must have been negligence "at the top." But the news stories didn't go into that.

This accident and many more like it provide rich material for those able editorial writers, who like to hold forth on labor's responsibilities to the public. They could write some excellent articles about the public's responsibility to workers — but most of them won't.

SURVEY BY COMMON COUNCIL REVEALS EUROPEAN CRITICISMS OF AMERICA

American complacency may well be punctured by a new book "European Beliefs Regarding the United States," a report of a survey by the Common Council for American Unity, under the direction of Henry Lee Munson.

Many Europeans believe that Americans are too materialistic; American national policy is primarily determined by big business; that the United States is plotting war against Russia; that our foreign policy is "too changeable" and that the Marshall Plan is "solely a political weapon against Russia."

While the new study, which reflects the conclusions of 1,702 qualified and representative observers of opinion abroad, including a number of editors of foreign language newspapers in this country, reveals much that is extremely favorable to the United States, widespread criticism is made of American "institutions" such as Hollywood. The movies, for example, may be our worst possible ambassador to Europe, as many observers believe that Hollywood is "convincing increasing numbers of Europeans that America consists of gangsters, sadists, pinup girls, cowboys and skyscrapers."

In our favor, however, and symbolic of ultimate victory in the Cold War are such facts as that three out of every four people in ERP countries believe "Russia is plotting to dominate Europe." American news is believed to be more reliable than Russian propaganda, the survey shows. But more than one-fifth of the people believe that the United States is plotting war against Russia, and an almost equal number believe Russia and the United States to be equally at fault.

Europe's faith in the Marshall Plan is confirmed in "European Beliefs Regarding the United States" which also shows that there is firm belief in the freedom of our elections and confidence that we protect the rights and freedoms of the

HELPED VETS BUY HOMES

— "More than 1,500,000 World War II veterans have bought homes with the help of loan guarantees in the G.I. Bill," the Veterans' Administration announced.

Colonel Invades Washington

By RAYMOND LONERG

According to the Washington "Star," "one of the most significant newspaper combinations in history" has been consummated in the nation's capital.

Colonel Robert R. McCormick, editor and publisher of the Chicago "Tribune," has purchased the Washington "Times-Herald," a property once owned by the colonel's cousin, "Cissy" Patterson. When she died, she turned the "Times-Herald" over to seven of the paper's chief executives.

That created a sensation in Washington, because the "Times-Herald" is probably worth at least \$7,000,000, and that means that even fortunate gentlemen were suddenly transformed from salaried employees to comfortably situated millionaires.

Eugene Meyer, multi-millionaire owner of the Washington "Post," and William Randolph Hearst, tried to buy the "Times-Herald," but apparently McCormick outbid them.

Too Much for One Man

Now the colonel controls the Chicago "Tribune" with a very large circulation in the Middle West, the "Times-Herald" in Washington and the "News" in New York, a tabloid, which is supposed to have a larger circulation than any other paper in this country.

In addition, McCormick owns at least one powerful radio station, is said to be negotiating for another in Washington and may have his fingers on stations in other centers.

Not only that, but he is pestering the Federal Communications Commission to increase his "power" so his stations can "blanket" the country.

It's another illustration of the growing menace of newspaper "chains" with their radio and television auxiliaries. Congress should forbid any newspaper to have any interest in a radio or a television station, but while that great reform has been persistently advocated for years it's not in sight just now.

Emil Schram is president of the New York Stock Exchange. Brokers pay him about \$50,000 a year to be their "voice" and the newspapers give him plenty of space. Mr. Schram's latest is a scheme to revise Uncle Sam's tax laws. He would cut the tax on capital gains from 25 per cent to 10 per cent and allow taxpayers a credit of 10 per cent on all dividends received. Of course, that would boost business on the Stock Exchange and would save hundreds of millions every year for the very wealthy.

Sales Tax Figures are Disturbing

The million voteless people of Washington are bracing themselves for the sales tax, which the "Rich Man's Lobby" recently forced through Congress, and which goes into effect next week. This is a reminder of some disturbing facts, illustrated by the situation in the rich state of Iowa.

Twenty years ago, 80 per cent of all the revenues collected by the government of that state came from taxes on property. Ten years ago, the property tax share had fallen to 62 per cent. Today, property pays only 50 per cent, and the other half comes almost entirely from various forms of sales tax.

Any kind of sales tax, of course, hits the poor and people of moderate incomes. That's why the rich lobby for it.—Labor.

REFLECTIONS

By Raymond S. Hofses

THE QUESTION IS, states columnist George Sokolsky, "How much can the United States go on giving to Great Britain and what will happen to that country if we should stop aiding her." And he replies that "the obvious answer is too tragic."

Sokolsky's gripe is against the socialization of the British economy in general and that nation's recent barter trade agreements in particular. But the question he poses is important enough to be considered.

Now how much CAN the United States afford to give to Britain—and to the rest of that section of Europe that our policymakers have some hope of keeping from collapsing in Joe Stalin's arms?

The answer is tragic all right. But it is more tragic for American capitalism than for Britain if we turn it around and ask, "HOW CAN THE UNITED STATES DO OTHERWISE?"

I AM NOT going to answer Sokolsky in precise figures. Even Harry S. Truman can't do that, and frankly sets his \$1,450,000,000 handout-of-arms program as a mere beginning. But what I know, and what Truman knows and what everybody else, including Sokolsky, should know is that this capitalist country of ours IS going to keep right on giving.

The alternative is economic collapse here at home. By handing things freely to Europe, of which Britain is a part, we may be dooming our own economy to ultimate bankruptcy; for even a nation as rich as ours can't have nothing coming in forever. But to stop now, with unemployment stalking the nation, would be to get the most sudden and complete economic collapse in history.

America just has to bank the game of class profit if it wants that game to continue. And if it should stop without the democratic socialist plan of production for use to take its place, then what we know as freedom here would have to give way to human controls as far reaching and, if need be, as viciously enforced as anything that has happened in the fascist and communist nations.

SOKOLSKY AND OTHERS may condemn and backbite Britain. But

they can't accomplish anything by their gripes — except the collection of fairly nice checks for themselves.

OF COURSE, BRITAIN is having a hard time getting its people on a high living standard and its economy in a position that will make that country a competitor with wealthy America. But there are reasons — none of which prove the joint that capitalism's hatchet men would like to make, that intelligent and self-respecting people just CAN'T work and produce a high living for themselves unless they permit the tools of production to be owned by blooded and economic royalists.

Britain is the victim of one of capitalism's wars. Even under normal conditions Britain was much, much farther removed from self-sufficiency than is the United States. Britain's resources are old and, in the very nature of things, difficult to exploit. Her coal mines, for instance, aside from being less-mechanically equipped, are much deeper than ours and at points far out under the English channel. Sure the man-hour output in British mines cannot equal that of American mines; they never could. But equally as sure is the fact that there is no real need for British miners to pay tribute to shareholders. They CAN mine coal without being robbed.

Balina Tournament

On Sunday, August 28, 1949, the Slovene Center Social Club in Chicago is sponsoring a Balina tournament at the Center Alleys, 2301 S. Lawndale Ave. We invite all balina players, both men and women to enter. The entrance fee is \$1.50 per 3 person team. Entrances close at 9 a.m. Sunday and playing is to start at 10 a.m. After the tournament there will be a Social for all to participate in. Waukegan balina players will again participate.

We also want all of you to know that the Center Social Club is sponsoring a dance Saturday Oct. 29, 1949, at the Lawndale Masonic Temple, 2300 S. Millard Ave.

Frank Groser, Sec.