

A Tale of Two Judges

A contrast between two judges provides "food for thought." In New York, Federal Judge Medina, despite extreme provocation from lawyers for 11 top Communists, patiently gave the "Reds" a fair trial. A jury convicted them of "conspiring to overthrow the government by violence."

An anti-Communist organization decided to pay tribute to Medina by inviting him to be its guest of honor at a dinner. The judge declined, on the ground that he "would appear to be taking sides in a matter tried before me and now pending on appeal." Medina said he wanted to avoid the slightest reflection on the "integrity of the courts."

On the same day, at Cleveland, Federal Judge Jones talked to a group of newly naturalized citizens. Instead of trying to inspire them with the history and ideals of our country, he gave them a bitter tirade against labor unions and against the "right to strike."

Could a union or its members get as fair a trial in Jones' court as even Communists could get in Medina's? If more judges were like Jones, and fewer like Medina, how long would the American people keep their faith in the impartiality of the courts? — Labor.

The Soviet's Ruble Revaluation

We are not much impressed by either Moscow's or Washington's interpretation of the significance of the ruble's revaluation. It is not as sensational a proof of growing financial strength as the Soviet government would have us believe; but neither can it be written off as a purely propaganda effort. The statement of the Soviet Council of Ministers announced that henceforth the ruble would have a fixed exchange value of 25 instead of 19 cents, and declared that "the purchasing power of the ruble has become higher than its official exchange rate." Actually the ruble was overvalued at the former rate and will be still more overvalued at the new. For even though its gold content will theoretically make it equivalent to 25 cents, it does not have anything like that amount of purchasing power. Prices in Russia remain extremely high. Allowing for cuts announced simultaneously with the revaluation, Will Lissner of the New York Times finds that butter costs \$4.58 a pound in Moscow, tea \$16.32 a pound, eggs \$5.10 a dozen, and men's shoes (calf) \$85 a pair. Obviously no one will willingly exchange dollars for rubles in these circumstances, and if the Soviet government were to permit the test of convertibility, foreign owners of rubles would certainly hasten to turn them into gold. On the other hand, it is noteworthy that since the currency reform of December, 1947, the Soviet government has three times been able to reduce prices of a wide range of commodities. This suggests a steady rise in the supply of consumer goods in relation to the supply of money and an improvement in the Russian standard of living, low as it undoubtedly still is compared with that in most Western countries. The fact that it is moving up rather than down may well impress workers in Asia and even perhaps in France and Italy, where the post-war trend of real wages has been downward. — The Nation.

REFLECTIONS

By Raymond S. Hofess

Both great organizations of American workers are now demanding upward revision of the Social Security standards. So is the Socialist Party.

It is, therefore, as an advocate of a higher level of security — which means more spending of Federal dollars at a time when the national debt is at its all-time peak with the nation operating on a gigantic budget that still leaves a deficit of \$5 billions in a single year — that this column now calls attention to a danger in what both unions and the Socialist Party is advocating.

Socialists can agree with the opposition of big and little business interests and the middleclass barons that cling to the capitalist economy who cry that capitalism itself is endangered by accepting a greater burden than capitalism can stand.

If the word "capitalism" is here given monotonous repetition, it is because that is precisely what this column is talking about. And so we admit that our "free" capitalist economy is doomed if the aged and the unemployed — both of which are increasing in number — are to be given the high living standards which both unionists and socialists want every American to have.

However there are at least two points upon which socialists stand alone.

First is that socialists don't want the capitalist economy to continue, while most of the leadership of our unions do.

Second is that socialists have a program for another kind of economy to take the place of the capitalist private-profit system, and union leadership doesn't.

Socialists are sorry that the above points of differences exist between them and Organized Labor. But there is nothing to be gained by failing to recognize and admit a fact.

Socialists also are badly scared by the prospect of what will happen if the capitalist system collapses and the working people of the nation are not equipped with a plan for socializing and democratically-operating the means of production and distribution.

Not being committed to the capitalist way of life, socialists very properly recognize a difference be-

tween the capitalist economy and the nation itself.

Capitalism can't function in a democratic society unless the ownership of the nation's resources are vested in private hands and unless the private owners are able to exploit those resources and the nation's workers for their own profit.

The growth of unemployment is positive proof that the owners are NOT able to exploit a large and growing portion of the people. And the demand for high levels of social security which both unionists and socialists are making is a direct attack upon the profits which make a capitalist system possible in a "free" society.

But however the economy may be undermined and weakened, the NATION still stands as is—with all its land, its minerals and metals, its machines, its railroads and trucks and able working people.

The system may die, but the nation will live on—if the people organize to manage it.

From Frying Pan to the Fire

Thirty-three members of the CIO Oil Workers Local 210, Hammond, Ind., feel so strongly about Robert N. Denham that they signed a letter to President Truman warning him to oust the NLRB general counsel—or else.

"Mr. President," they wrote, "if you do not take steps to remove this blot on the name of Democracy from office, we, the undersigned, employees of Socony-Vacuum Oil Co., of East Chicago, Ind., voicing the opinion of our brother workers, resolve to vote straight Republican in 1950 and 1952."

Two of the signers incidentally, live on Truman St., Hammond, Ind.—CIO News, March 6, 1950.

My Heart Leaps

By WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

My heart leaps up when I behold
A rainbow in the sky:
So it was when my life began;
So it is now I am a man;
So be it when I shall grow old,
Or let me die!
The Child is father to the Man;
And I could wish my days to be
Bound each to each by natural
piety.

'Pill Trust'

Two of the largest drug manufacturing companies in the country were charged by the Department of Justice with attempting to gain a monopoly over the manufacture of hard gelatine capsules. These are the little pellets in which many medicines are swallowed, especially those with an unpleasant taste.

Control of the machines which make the capsules has permitted the two companies, Parke, Davis & Company and Eli Lilly & Company, to produce 90 per cent of all sold in the country, the government charges. It asks that the machines, and "know-how" for their use, be made available to other drug companies, to prevent further price-fixing and other "restrictive" practices.

Too Many Potatoes? That's a 'Problem' To U. S. Capitalism

WASHINGTON—Potatoes have become a serious national problem; not because we have too few, but because we have too many. That is, we have too many to sell the American people at the present high prices.

In the recent weeks orders have been given to dump (that is to destroy or use for animal feed) tons upon tons of spuds, and plans have been made to support the price of the 1950 potato crop at \$1.01 per hundred lbs.

In the past few weeks hungry people have been unable to buy these potatoes or to get adequate supplies of surplus potatoes through relief distribution.

And, last week, New Orleans potato men announced that they were buying spuds in Canada for sale in the USA because they were cheaper even after paying the freight.

All this may add support to the Brannan Plan, which provides that such perishable crops as potatoes should be sold in the market for what they will bring, and for the government to pay a subsidy directly to the farmer if the market price is below the parity price established by the Department of Agriculture.

The crocodile tears of such reactionaries as Republican Senator McCarthy over the waste of good food should not obscure the fact that he and his colleagues are the people who refused to appropriate money to make it possible for the Department of Agriculture to ship the potatoes to the places where needy people can get them.

Ohioan Discovers 'Lost Liberty'

You know how that old conservative line goes: The New Deal and the Fair Deal have taken away the liberties of the American people.

But try to get a conservative to list those liberties which have been "lost" and all that results is a lot of flag waving but meaningless oratory.

Sen. Robert Taft (R. Ohio) has rummaged around and discovered the first, live liberty which the new deal has "snatched" from all of us.

It's the liberty to spend our money as we please. That's right. That's what the Senator says. He states: "The government is saying, in effect, you have not the liberty to spend the money which you have earned by the sweat of your brow but you must turn over one fourth of it to the government and let the government decide what the money shall be spent for."

Senator, you're not serious when you say that the New Deal invented taxation, are you? Any history book will tell you that the Roman Empire, which came before the New Deal by a few years, levied taxes.

Senator, you'd better go back to your economic woods and try again!

Unfortunate

I have an awful hard time catching people's names when I'm introduced," said a business man.

"So do I," said the other, "but I found a good way to get around that. Instead of asking to have the name repeated, I look intelligently and say, Pardon me. Do you spell your name with an i or an e? It works fine."

"I know," said the first business man. "I used to do that. But one day I was introduced to a new customer, and she never bought a thing."

"How'd that happen?"

"Well, when she was introduced, I didn't catch her name; so I asked her whether she spelled it with an e or an i."

"What was her name?"

"Hill."

Bad Medicine

The doctors in Houston have made the American Medical Association happier than an emperor whose subjects have presented him with a new diamond for his crown.

The Harris County Medical Society—one of the largest physicians' organizations in the United States—has voted its opposition to three bills pending in Congress.

It has urged Texas Congressmen to oppose:

- 1—Any extension of social security.
- 2—Any Federal aid for medical education.
- 3—Any Federal aid for medical care for school children.

Just how M.D.'s can do so much good in practicing their profession and so much harm in fighting good government as it relates to their calling is beyond the power of understanding.

—League Reporter.

The Resurrection of John L.

There are more angles to the recent victory won by John L. Lewis and his union of miners than can be covered in a single editorial. It is, of course, possible to point a derisive finger at these narrow-visioned individuals who gleefully, but prematurely proclaimed the demise of John L. Lewis as a leader of Labor. John is more alive now than he has been for a number of years.

There is also that wage rise that the miners will get. We'll probably take that matter up at some future time when increases in the price of coal make it plain that the owners aren't losing anything and that workers as a whole don't really gain when they fight for more dollars on a group basis but permit the capitalist economy to remain the way of life.

But what we consider important enough to stress at this time — chiefly because it is likely to be overlooked — is the significance of the operators' refusal to agree to a 200-working-day year for coal miners.

John L. would have made some other concessions to get that kind of guarantee. For what reason did the operators hedge? And what is the significance of their reason?

We submit that the operators didn't enter into a 200-day agreement because they didn't feel safe in doing so. They just didn't believe that they could find a market for all the coal that miners could produce by working 200 days. And they feared that, from here on out, strike or no strike, miners will be idle a large part of the time.

Well, what about the editorial writers and calamity howlers who made much of the money the miners were "losing" by striking? What do they say now, when the operators decide in advance that the losses will have to continue year after year? Are those anti-Lewisites ready to confess that they think it's very well for miners to be idle when the owners do the deciding and wrong only when miners time the lay-offs? — Reading Labor Advocate.

THE LAST WORD

By Duffy

There's a lot of fool-osophy in magazine cartoons and quips and some of it is rather good — at times. . . . At other times, some of it smells but at least it produces a chuckle for a moment.

I read just the other day of a young lady who in commenting on the new dress styles sported by the so-called upper crust that at least the woman who wears them if she's single, will either catch herself a man — or a cold.

I liked that cartoon of a smart bird giving his girl a string and then adding that perhaps a little later, he'd add the pearls.

Franklin P. Jones, whoever he might be, remarked recently the only reason some people never get out of the woods is that they refuse to give up golf.

Non-golfers I've known have the same trouble but for other reasons.

By the way, did you know that steel costs less than five cents a pound and that practically everything else we buy costs a lot more than that? The American Iron and Steel Institute says so in ad.

They compare prices, too, just to prove their point; sugar, 8 cents; milk 20 cents a quart; bread 13 cents a pound; pork and beef, you know how much that costs; and butter, at least 65 cents.

Luck and pluck are the twin combinations to success, one sage remarks—luck in finding someone to pluck.

Have you seen the picture Stromboli with Ingrid Bergman, directed by her Rossellini? It's bill as "raging island—raging passion?" So far we've read a dozen reviews of it—and they all are unanimous in their regard for the picture. The verdict: it stinks!

Chairman Wayne Coy of the Federal Communications Commission, has stated that "Radio broadcasting is potentially our most powerful medium of public education."

Did you know that: 95 per cent of all our homes are equipped with radios?

25 per cent of all our automobiles are equipped with radios?

Surveys show Americans spend more spare time listening to radios than for any other single activity?

A pessimist is one who buys two life-time pens. An optimist is a

Sam comes collecting taxes.

Labor's Political Poverty

See on this page a box which we clipped — believe it or not! — from the official CIO News. The story is that some CIO oil workers in Indiana have told Harry Truman that unless he gets rid of Robert N. Denham as NLRB general counsel, they are going to do something about it themselves.

And what are these union oil workers going to do? Why they're going to vote straight Republican in 1950 and 1952!

Good God! Is that still the choice that workers — even Union workers — are making! After all the years of struggle and sacrifice; after all the campaigning and organizing; after Political Action Committee and Taft-Hartley; after wars, depressions, public debts, deficit budgeting and inflationary prices — after all the struggle, sacrifice and frustration that has been Labor's lot in life, can union workers still think of nothing better than jumping back and forth between the Republican frying pan and the Democratic fire!

Such a threat will not worry those business interests that union workers accuse Robert Denham of favoring. Neither did the election of Harry S. Truman and a Democratic Congress prevent those same interests from rolling up the greatest profits and paying out the largest dividends in history.

But Truman and the Democrats and Taft and the Republicans are alike in that the main consideration of both is the preservation of an economy that simply can't function unless workers are exploited for the benefit of an owning class.

Now if Labor would threaten to vote Socialist — or even to form a political party of their own to oppose both old parties they would deserve and get a great deal more respectful consideration. And if, instead of merely threatening, they would act independently in politics, workers neither would consider jumping from one group of capitalist politicians to another nor flopping on the bandwagon of some future dictator who offers them bread in exchange for their freedom.

— Reading Labor Advocate.

PEOPLE DO IT

By Henry Jones

SO FAR is a life-saving bomb, and so far about the only life-saving use for bombs. It's a small bomb to be dropped by wrecked planes or vessels, to explode at a critical under-water depth. Its explosion can be heard by the proper apparatus 2000 miles away, in Frisco, Sacramento or Hawaii, and by timing and triangulation, the exact location where it was dropped determined. Its name is sort for Sound Fixing and Ranging. Sounds like a good thing, and the press reports: Lack of funds so far has prevented installation of similar stations on the East Coast.

Next time you follow the papers for days to read some hectic account of planes scouting the ocean for a wreck, remember this is one of the various things we can't afford to do because it takes all we can spare to get ready to bump each other off instead. It may even get to where it takes so much for this purpose that we can't afford to live in the manner we're accustomed to.

For instance it seems we're headed to spend about \$25 billion more a year on H-bomb defense, and that's just a start at dispersing the big cities, coastal ones first. And then it costs a bit to throw so much stuff away. Just to be helpful, we submit this Recipe for a Fair Deal Handout:

Take 219 million dozen eggs, 23 million pounds of cheese, 89 million pounds of butter, all slightly stale, and 189 million pounds of dried milk, thinned out with as much water as New York City has to spare. Stir well. Add in the 25 billion bushels of potatoes that didn't get dumped and the 400 million surplus bushels of wheat. Bake in hot air, furnished free by Congress, and store in relief agencies to dole out in the next depression.

Eggs and cheese and butter and bombs are facts. To write words about them even in lawbooks does not change the facts as much as the consumption of one cheese omelet. Terms like overproduction and underconsumption and standards of living are even further away from such facts as those eggs that are beginning to develop an odor and that actual butter that probably is getting rancid. A. H. Korzybski, the semanticist who got a lot of people into the habit of distinguishing between a word and a fact, and looking for the thing that the word referred to, died last week without making nearly as much noise in this world as if he had killed a lot of people. If we survive the H-bombs, maybe we can keep out of some messes by making sure that our words refer to, and thus think

What's happened to Boston—scene of some of the American Revolution's most historic happenings? Are the people of other cities similarly losing interest in the Revolution which did so much to establish world democracy? If so, why? Are our schools falling down on teaching the inspiring story of our country?—Labor.

Read not books alone, but men, and amongst them chiefly thyself. —Quelley.

"Cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens. They are the most vigorous, the most independent, the most virtuous, and they are tied to their country, and wedded to its liberty and interests by the most lasting bonds."

Thomas Jefferson, 1786

Belgijski Leopold tlači svojo deželo v nepotrebne krize

En monarh v Evropi, ki je še zmožen mešati
štrne v mednarodni diplomaciji in v notranjih
intrigah. — Čemu ni Belgija rajše za republiko?

Kriza v Belgiji zaradi vprašanja, ali naj se Leopoldu dovoli priti nazaj na tron, se je po plebiscitu povečala. Celo vlada je morala pasti radi njega, dasi je bila pred volitvami vsa zanj, toda pogojno.

Liberalna stranka sedaj proti
povratku Leopolda

Belgijsko vlado sta do njenega nedavnega razpusta tvorile kršćansko socialna stranka (klerikalna), ki jo ima Vatikan na svojih nitih, in pa liberalna, ki je kapitalistična stranka, toda ni vezana na cerkev. V kabinetu so imeli enajst ministrov, liberalci osem.

Po volitvah so hoteli klerikalci takoj sklicanje skupne seje obeh zbornic (poslancev in senatorjev), ki naj bi izvršila od ljudstva ji dani "mandat" — namreč da Leopoldu uradno sporoči željo ljudstva, naj se vrne na tron.

Toda liberalna stranka se je tej potezi klerikalne večine v vladi uprla. Rekla je: Mi smo izjavili, da smo za povratek Leopolda le, ako na plebiscitu dobi večino v VSEH belgijskih provincih. Ni je dobil drugje kot med Valonci. Torej mi ne moremo biti za vaš predlog za skupno sejo, pripravljeni pa smo v to, da naj odloča o tem vprašanju vsaka zbornica zase.

Klerikalci so vedeli, da na ta način Leopold ne bo dobi nazaj, ker bi vrhinja zbornica (senat) ne bila v večini zanj, manjkalo bi mu le par glasov, pa je vztrajala v zahtevi za skupno sejo. Vedela je, da bi na nji nekaj liberalnih senatorjev glasovalo z njo in bi na ta način dobili večino, toda pri glasovanju o povratku Leopolda v vsaki zbornici posebej pa bi liberalna stranka uveljavila med svojimi poslanci načelo discipline — namreč da bi moral vsak njen poslanec glasovati tako kot bi mu-strankino vodstvo določilo.

Iznajni kralj brez prave
ljudske zaslombe

Belgijsko ljudstvo si je po vojni opomoglo hitreje kot katerikoli drugo na svetu izmed onih dežel, ki so bile direktno zapletene v drugi svetovni vojni požar. Blagostanje je prišlo tako hitro, da o kakem pomankanju ali o brezposelnosti ni govora. Zato tudi nima kake močne komunistične stranke, ker delavstvo sledi social-demokratski stranki. Tudi unije so pod njenim vodstvom. Edina zares sporna točka v sedanjih belgijskih politikah je torej Leopold. On hoče nazaj na tron, klerikalci z vso duhovščino ga v tem podpirajo, kardinal Van Roey v Malinesu je agitiral zanj in liberalna stranka pa že pod prejšnjim omenjenim pogojem — namreč ako dobi večino v vseh predelih belgijske monarhije.

Značaj volitev

Kot smo razložili že v prejšnji številki — te svojevrstne volitve

Ali vam je naročnina
potekla...?

Tekoča številka Proletarca
je

2207

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!

DEAN ACHESON SVARI KITAJSKO NE SE UMEŠAVATI V FRANCOSKI VIET NAM

Francoska Indo-Kitajska (sedaj Viet Nam) je velika dežela. Meri nad 284.000 kv. milj in ima okrog 30 milijonov prebivalcev. Torej je po obsegu približno trikrat tolikšna kot Jugoslavija. Francija je do druge svetovne vojne iz nje črpala rude, razne pridelke in pa vsa notranja trgovina je bila njena posest.

Ko je stopila v vojno na strani osiščta Japonska, je "osvobodila" poleg Filipinskih otokov tudi Indo-Kitajsko. Obe deželi sta postali "samostojni". V slučaju, da bi bile v minuli vojni Zed. države poražene, bi Indo-Kitajska, Filipini in vsa Kitajska ostale v japonski sferi vpliva in služile japonskemu imperializmu.

Po ameriški zmagi v Aziji je vlada Zed. držav izvršila svojo obljubo Filipinom, da so se oklicali za suvereno državo. Toda gospodarsko so še vedno pod ameriško kontrolo in ameriški kapital ima filipinska bogastva še v svoji posesti. Sedanja filipinska vlada je konservativna in štiti filipinske imoviteže ter takozvane ameriške interese. Levičarji, ki delujejo za odpravo tega sistema na Filipinih, so zatirani ter označeni za komuniste.

Veliko težje pa gre Franciji v Indo-Kitajski. V tej veliki francoski koloniji se je vojna v resnici pričela šele po kapitulaciji Japonske. Domačinom ni šlo v glavo čemu naj jih bi spet vladala Francija, ki so jo Nemci v vojni pretepli in okupirali, pa so svojo deželo proglasili za neodvisno. S pomočjo Anglije je pričela Francija pošiljati v Indokino vojaštvo, da jo znova osvoji za francoski imperializem. Toda upornih domačinov ni mogla premagati, razen v obrežnih krajih.

Francoska cenzura in dokaj spretna vnanja politika francoske vlade je skrbela, da se je o tej borbi v Indokini v svetovni javnosti le malo čulo. Dočim se je o nizozemski invaziji v Indonezijo pisalo na dolgo in široko in se o nji razpravljalo tudi v organizaciji združenih narodov, se je vojno v Indokini komaj omenjalo. Nizozemska se je končno pobotala z vladajočimi krogi Indonezije, tuji kapitali v nji je obvarovan in dežela je sedaj "dominijon", ki si je Nizozemska ohranila v Indoneziji svoje višje in pa saj nekaj politične nadoblasti.

Francija v Indokini hima te sreče. Po vzgledu Nizozemske se je začela pogajati z domačinskimi glavarji. Glavni med njimi je "cesar" Bao Dai. Sklenila je z njimi pogodbo, katera določa, da postane Indokina — ali kot se imenuje po novem Viet Nam, dominijon, seveda pod francosko ekonomsko in politično kontrolo. Tako bi bila stvar rešena — ako ne bi bilo "komunistov" v Indokini. Oni te pogodbe med Francijo in "cesarjem" Bao-Dai-om nečesto priznati in vodijo svojo vojno za popolno osvoboditev svoje dežele dalje. Vodja teh upornikov je Ho Či Minh. Šolal se je v komunističnih aktivnostih v Moskvi. Tam se je seznanil tudi z nekaterimi člani sedanje komunistične kitajske vlade. Njegov cilj je napraviti v Indokini enak preobrat kot je bil izvršen na Kitajskem. To je seveda v navskrižju s takozvano Trumanovo doktrino in tako je Francija v svoji vojni na Indokitajskem deležna tudi ameriške pomoči. Prayzaprav jo ima že od vsega začetka svoje invazije. Amerika ji je prepustila s posredovanjem Anglije velike zaloge municije, ki pa za voj-

(Konec na 2. strani)

Na Kitajskem je zlo glad, pri nas pa — kaj s preobilico živeža

Zvezni kongres se ukvarja z vprašanjem, kako protektirati naše farmarje pred preobilico pridelkov.

V "zadnji" depresiji, ker ljudje v mestih niso imeli denarja, da jih bi pokupili, smo farmarjem plačali, da svojih polj niso obdelovali. Vlada je kupila tudi brezštevilno "pujskov" ter jih uničila. Podoravali smo razna žita — sploh, šlo je milijone dolarjev v subvencijo farmarjem zato da niso ne sejali ne želi.

Tako smo ustvarjali mizerijo in pomankanje v morju koncilov in kraji, kajti bili smo v tako silovitem ekonomskem polomu kakor še v nobeni prejšnji krizi v tako kritični meri. In seveda, vsa pomoč je bila pušena s stališča sedanjega gospodarskega reda. Čimveč si imel in čimveč imovine je bilo v opasnosti, toliko večja je bila vladna pomoč.

Manj si bil reven, toliko manj si dobil. Rad bi bil delal, iskal si si službo, a industrija je bila omrtvela in končno, po mnogih mesecih krize, v kateri je marsikdo izgubil brez svoje krivde tudi vse prihranke (banke in drugi denarni zavodi so šle navzdol druga za drugo), delavec hišo, farmer svojo kmetijo in marsikdo svojo obrt, se je pričela pomočna akcija, ki pa je bila kot se omenjeno silno pristranska.

Sele ko je na tisoče in tisoče farmarjev je izgubilo svoja posestva, je prišla ostalim, ki so se še držali za bilko, na pomoč zvezna vlada s posojili, s regulacijami v obdelovanju in prideljevanju in z odkupom odvisnih pridelkov, ki so nato šli v uničenje.

Bankirji so dobili vladna posojila, kolikor jih je moglo še vzdržati do najkritičnejše točke. Eden izmed njih, bivši podpredsednik Zed. držav, ga je dobil v pomoč svoji banki \$50.000.000. Ni ga mogel vrniti. Banka je bila "reorganizirana" in še posluje. A posojilo ji je bilo brisano. Manj srečne pa so morale zapreti vrata in vlagatelji so dobili za vsak svoj prihranjeni dolar, ki so ga imeli v njih, kakih 10 do 60 odstotkov.

Sedanja "recesija" ne udarja bank, ker so prilično zavarovane in kontrolirane, prizadeti pa so delavci in farmarji. Prvi najbolj. Ker ko delavec izgubi zaslužek, mu zavarovalni sistem jamči le malenkostno brezposelnostno podporo, ki preneha po

(Konec na 2. strani)

KOMENTARJI

Zbira in presoja urednik

Kardinal Stritch v Chicagu je minulo nedeljo blagoslovil novo katoliško osnovno šolo. Poslopje je stalo četrst milijona dolarjev. Šolo vodijo benediktinci. V pridigi je kardinal Stritch dejal, da je to nova velika katoliška trdnjava, v kateri se bodo otroci vzgajali proti socialističnim doktrinom, ki danes ogrožajo svet. Težko, da je v pravem, ker samo šole v vojni proti socializmu ne zadostujejo. Treba je socialne pravičnosti — in ako je ni, se morajo tudi katoličani zateči k "socialističnim doktrinom" ter na radikalni način zahtevati svoje pravice.

V Italiji je verouk v šolah obvezen in posebno osnovne šole — čeprav jih vzdržuje država, so bolj pod cerkvenim kakor pa pod vladnim vodstvom. V vseh se otroci hočejo nečes uče verskih dogem, poslušnosti do Boga, do duhovščine in svetega očeta, a ko dorastejo in gredo v tovarne, ali v južni Italiji na polja, postanejo "levičarji", mnogi izmed njih tudi revolucionarji in marsikdo klerikalizmu skrajno sovražen. To je dokaz, da ne glede kako otroku kaj vtepaš v glavo, ko doraste, ga bo učila šola življenja in cerkev ter hierarhijo bo začel gledati v drugačni luči kot pa so ga učili v šoli.

Južna Italija je bigotsko katoliška. Antiklerikalcev je malo v nji. Oziroma — bilo jih je malo. Toda sedaj prihajajo iz nje poročila, kako se tlačani v južni Italiji upirajo fevdalnim veleposestnikom in se pri tem poslužujejo sile. V Kalabriji ima rimski princ Torlonia veleposlovstvo, ki obsega nad 35.000 akrov. To bi bila celo v Ameriki že ogromna "farma". Po vsi južni Italiji so taka veleposlastva, vsa so še vedno upravljana kakor v starih fevdalnih časih, in dninarji, ki jih obdelujejo, pa žive v nepopisnem uboštvo. Vsi ti zemljišni magnati so podporniki cerkve in vsi so prišastei sedanje vladujoče klerikalne stranke, ki ji načeljuje Alcide de Gasperi. Ko je prevzela vlado, je obljubila agrarne reforme, da bi potlačila razjarjene dninarje, ki so jih po njeni trditvi hujskali zoper posvetno in duhovsko oblast ter zoper privatno svojino "komunistični agitator-

ji". Toda ker agrarnih reform ni bilo, so ti zasluženi dninarji marsikje vzeli "pravico" v svoje roke, si razdelili zemljo in mislili, da ostane njihova. A prišla je nanje oborožena sila in spet so se morali zadovoljiti z obljubami. A princ Torlonia ni tako lahko izšel. Dninarji so mu sporočili, da so mostovi preko potokov na njegovi zemlji napol podrti, da je sploh vse posestvo zanemarjeno, da je treba gospodarska poslopja popraviti, oziroma zgraditi nova. Ako teh popravil ne bo on odredil, se jih bodo lotili sami in on pa bo moral plačati račun. Niti odgovoril ni na njihove zahteve. Tedaj so se dela sami lotili. Princ je zahteval od vlade, da naj početje njegovih dninarjev ustavi — in ko so prišli karabinerji tja, so jih nagnali. Pred cerkvi pa so uporni tlačani postavili velik napis, "mi delamo, princ bo plačal!" In res so na Torlonio pritisnili vladni in vatikanski krogi, da je najbolje ako plača, kajti čeprav se to izboljšave dninarji izvršili proti njegovi volji, potrebne so jim bile. In princ je plačal. Nekega dne bo tudi ob zemljo zaeno z drugimi fevdalci vred, kakor so bili fevdalni magnati v drugih deželah. Kajti tako gotovo kakor pride za nočjo dan, prav tako gotovo se bo prej ali slej izvršil socialni preobrat tudi v katoliški Italiji.

V Franciji je med delavstvom vedno več nejevolje radi draginje ter prenikljivih plač. Vlada, ki ji načeljuje katoliška stranka, hoče, da naj ostanejo plače tolikšne kot so, ker povzihanje meze bi pognalo inflacijo še bolj navzgor. Ob enem vlada izdaja dekrete za znižanje cen, ki ostanejo le na papirju. Vsled tega se stavke množe in v njih dobe največ odobravanje tisti govorniki, ki grajo za sedanjo mizerijo francoskega proletariata klerikalno stranko ter njeno vlado. Katoliški škofje v Franciji s svojim glavnim kardinalom vred so prislunili in se zbalji za prestidž svoje stranke in pa prodiranja komunističnega in drugega protiklerikalnega vpliva med ljudske mase. In kaj je storila hierarhija? Izdala je oklice na delodajalce, da naj upoštevajo upravičene zahteve delavcev

(Konec na 3. strani.)

Nekaj o naših stvareh

V kratkem objavimo popoln načrt za proslavitev 45-letnice Proletarca. Izšla bo slavnostna številka lista s prilogo. Naročniki bodo dobili pole za nabiranje pozdravnih oglasov in enako se bomo obrnili na društva, slovenske domove in na posameznike. Ako bomo vsi poprijeli, bomo dobili v sklad za ohranitev tega lista nad pet tisoč dolarjev.

Stopili bomo v zvezo z aktivnimi prijatelji lista v posameznih naselbinah in svrhu priredb za proslavitev 45-letnice Proletarca. Vsi ti načrti so že v delu in izvedeni bodo do konca leta.

Enako se mora zbrati vse gradivo za v koledar najpozneje do 15. oktobra in razposlan mora biti ne pozneje kot v drugi polovici novembra.

V nedeljo 16. aprila bo v Clevelandu v Slov. nar. domu na St. Clair Ave. koncert pevskega zbora "Zarja", na katerem bo gostovala znana pevka Josephine Klun iz Pittsburgha. Zbor "Zarja" je na našem kulturnem polju že veliko storil. Pomagal je s svojimi nastopi na nešteti prireditvah slovenskih podpornih društev in drugih organizacij, sodeloval v dobrodelnih akcijah in tudi temu listu je vedno nudil pomoč moralno in gnotno. Torej kdor le more naj pride v nedeljo 16. aprila na koncert "Zarje". Vsakdo se bo radoval užitka, ki ga bo deležen na tej prireditvi.

Prihodnja konferenca krajevne Prosvetne matice za severni Illinois in Wisconsin se bo vršila v Milwaukeeju v Arcadia parku v nedeljo 11. junija. Bo jako važna vsled poročil o stanju pri listu, o pripravih za proslavitev njegove 45-letnice, o aktivnostih na našem kulturnem polju itd.

Opozorjamo čitatelje na zgodovinski spis o društvu Slavija v Chicagu, ki je bila vodilni faktor v delu za ustanovitev napredne delavske podporne organizacije. Na prvi Konvenciji je imela osem delegatov, ostala društva pa dva. Dnevnice so bile po \$2.50. Že ta spis je vreden več kot pa je cena koledarju. Tudi vsa druga vsebina letošnjega koledarja je prvovrstna. Priporočite ga v naročitve tudi drugim.

Delavstvo na volitve nepripravljeno

Povsod v dvoranah unij, v njihovih glasilnih in v plačanih oglaših, ki jih priobčujejo v kapitalističnih listih, vidite klic — "REGISTRIRAJTE SE!" S tem politična akcija CIO, kot prav tako AFL, železničarske bratovščine itd., delajo v svoji volivni kampanji vtis, da ti ne treba drugega kot se "registrirati" in zmaga bo "naša". Dejstvo je, da zavedni delavci vedno skrbne na to, da so v volilnem imeniku pravilno registrirani. Toda koliko pa je takih delavcev?

Ali bolje — ako je politična akcija CIO ter AFL in dalje, politična akcija bratovščinj železničarjev, neodvisne unije UMWA itd., res delavska, čemu ljudi le klicati, da naj se registrirajo, ne pa jih ob enem navajati, kako naj glasujejo, za kakšen program in kaj naj organizirano delavstvo zahteva — potem je ves ta njihov trud v naprej proč vržen, kakor je bil pred dvemi leti in v vseh prejšnjih volitvah.

"Delavstvo stajno zmigalo", so zaklicali l. 1948 v uradih teh

takozvanih delavskih političnih akcij. V resnici so zmagali privatni interesi kot še vselej, pa naj doli večino bodisi republikanska ali demokratska stranka. Če pa je kak kandidat v zvezno zbornico le nagnjen nekoliko "na levo od centra", halo, brž je označen za "sopotnika" in bog-nedaj, da bi mu politična akcija CIO ali AFL kaj pomagala.

"Registrirajte se" je zavajalno geslo. Saj vsak demokratski ali republikanski "prisink-kapitan" hoče pravo tako pridobiti vsakega, da se registrira. Običajno zmaga v glavnih volitvah njegovega kandidata, ki sicer ni njegov temveč ga postavi na listo mas, na ki delavca pozna samo v volilni kampanji. Obljubi vse — znižanje davkov, socialno zaščito, popolno zaposlenost, več služb, in v slučaju demokratskih kandidatov, obljublja pod prisego odpraviti Taftov-Hartleyjev protinunjski zakon.

Neni ne drugi ne mislijo resno. Niti ne politični odbori unij CIO ter AFL. In ne predsednik Truman v svojih neresnih obljubah, ki jih izpuštevajo kar tja-

vendan ne da bi kaj resnega storil in izvršitev svojih obetanj po volitvah.

V jeseni bodo volitve v kongres. Vse poslance v zvezno nižjo zbornico bo treba izvoliti in pa polovico senatorjev. Njihov termin traja štiri leta, toda polovici poteče rok vsaki dve leti. Zvezni senat je v naši republiki po zakonodajni moči in vplivu veliko važnejša zbornica, kot pa so takozvane višje zbornice v katerikoli drugi demokratski deželi na svetu.

Kaj dela politična plat unij, da se iznebi, oziroma da porazi reakcijo v kongresu? Nič, razen da kliče volilce, "registrirajte se!"

Ali skuša AFL, ali pa CIO, kje spraviti v ospredje v primarnih volitvah koga takega kandidata, na katerega se bi delavec lahko zanesel?

Ne! Vse nominacijsko delo opravi mašina in pa opozicija, če jo kaj ima. Politični odbori unij potem presojujejo delo teh nominancev in enega izmed njih končno "indorsirajo" ter ga volilcem, ki so člani unij, pri-

poroče, da naj glasujejo zanj, ker da le on je pravi "prijatelj delavstva".

Pri tem se dogaja, da ena unija proglasi demokratskega kandidata za "delavskega prijatelja", druga pa se pod enako znamko poteguje za kandidata republikanske stranke.

Ko so volitve končane — naravno — zmagajo "delavski prijatelji" v obeh strankah. Ko pa se kongres snide, vidite povsem drugo sliko, ki jo niti glasila še tako reakcionarnih unij ne morejo zamolčati.

In prav tako se unije pripravljajo na letošnje volitve v zvezni kongres. Nič se niso naučile izkušenj v prošlosti.

A tudi progresivna stranka ni na svoji nedavni konvenciji, ki se je vršila v Chicagu, iztuhala kak načrt, s katerim bi mogla v kampanjo za kongresne volitve uspešno poseči. Senator Taft ter njegov kolega Hartley torej nista, kar se organizirane delavstva tiče, prav nič v skrbeh.

A Tale of Two Judges

A contrast between two judges provides "food for thought." In New York, Federal Judge Medina, despite extreme provocation from lawyers for 11 top Communists, patiently gave the "Reds" a fair trial. A jury convicted them of "conspiring to overthrow the government by violence."

An anti-Communist organization decided to pay tribute to Medina by inviting him to be its guest of honor at a dinner. The judge declined, on the ground that he "would appear to be taking sides in a matter tried before me and now pending on appeal." Medina said he wanted to avoid the slightest reflection on the "integrity of the courts."

On the same day, at Cleveland, Federal Judge Jones talked to a group of newly naturalized citizens. Instead of trying to inspire them with the history and ideals of our country, he gave them a bitter tirade against labor unions and against the "right to strike."

Could a union or its members get as fair a trial in Jones' court as even Communists could get in Medina's? If more judges were like Jones, and fewer like Medina, how long would the American people keep their faith in the impartiality of the courts? — Labor.

The Soviet's Ruble Revaluation

We are not much impressed by either Moscow's or Washington's interpretation of the significance of the ruble's revaluation. It is not as sensational a proof of growing financial strength as the Soviet government would have us believe; but neither can it be written off as a purely propaganda effort. The statement of the Soviet Council of Ministers announced that henceforth the ruble would have a fixed exchange value of 25 instead of 19 cents, and declared that "the purchasing power of the ruble has become higher than its official exchange rate." Actually the ruble was overvalued at the former rate and will be still more overvalued at the new. For even though its gold content will theoretically make it equivalent to 25 cents, it does not have anything like that amount of purchasing power. Prices in Russia remain extremely high. Allowing for cuts announced simultaneously with the revaluation, Will Lissner of the New York Times finds that butter costs \$4.58 a pound in Moscow, tea \$16.32 a pound, eggs \$5.10 a dozen, and men's shoes (calf) \$85 a pair. Obviously no one will willingly exchange dollars for rubles in these circumstances, and if the Soviet government were to permit the test of convertibility, foreign owners of rubles would certainly hasten to turn them into gold. On the other hand, it is noteworthy that since the currency reform of December, 1947, the Soviet government has three times been able to reduce prices of a wide range of commodities. This suggests a steady rise in the supply of consumer goods in relation to the supply of money and an improvement in the Russian standard of living, low as it undoubtedly still is compared with that in most Western countries. The fact that it is moving up rather than down may well impress workers in Asia and even perhaps in France and Italy, where the post-war trend of real wages has been downward. — The Nation.

REFLECTIONS

By Raymond S. Hofses

Both great organizations of American workers are now demanding upward revision of the Social Security standards. So is the Socialist Party.

It is, therefore, as an advocate of a higher level of security — which means more spending of Federal dollars at a time when the national debt is at its all-time peak with the nation operating on a gigantic budget that still leaves a deficit of \$5 billions in a single year — that this column now calls attention to a danger in what both unions and the Socialist Party is advocating.

Socialists can agree with the opposition of big and little business interests and the middleclass baronies that cling to the capitalist economy who cry that capitalism itself is endangered by accepting a greater burden than capitalism can stand.

If the word "capitalism" is here given monotonous repetition, it is because that is precisely what this column is talking about. And so we admit that our "free" capitalist economy is doomed if the aged and the unemployed — both of which are increasing in number — are to be given the high living standards which both unionists and socialists want every American to have.

However there are at least two points upon which socialists stand alone.

First is that socialists don't want the capitalist economy to continue, while most of the leadership of our unions do.

Second is that socialists have a program for another kind of economy to take the place of the capitalist private-profit system, and union leadership doesn't.

Socialists are sorry that the above points of differences exist between them and Organized Labor. But there is nothing to be gained by failing to recognize and admit a fact.

Socialists also are badly scared by the prospect of what will happen if the capitalist system collapses and the working people of the nation are not equipped with a plan for socializing and democratically-operating the means of production and distribution.

Not being committed to the capitalist way of life, socialists very properly recognize a difference be-

tween the capitalist economy and the nation itself.

Capitalism can't function in a democratic society unless the ownership of the nation's resources are vested in private hands and unless the private owners are able to exploit those resources and the nation's workers for their own profit.

The growth of unemployment is positive proof that the owners are NOT able to exploit a large and growing portion of the people. And the demand for high levels of social security which both unionists and socialists are making is a direct attack upon the profits which make a capitalist system possible in a "free" society.

But however the economy may be undermined and weakened, the NATION still stands as is—with all its land, its minerals and metals, its machines, its railroads and trucks and able working people.

The system may die, but the nation will live on—if the people organize to manage it.

From Frying Pan to the Fire

Thirty-three members of the CIO Oil Workers Local 210, Hammond, Ind., feel so strongly about Robert N. Denham that they signed a letter to President Truman warning him to oust the NLRB general counsel—or else. "Mr. President," they wrote, "if you do not take steps to remove this blot on the name of Democracy from office, we, the undersigned, employees of Socony-Vacuum Oil Co., of East Chicago, Ind., voicing the opinion of our brother workers, resolve to vote straight Republican in 1950 and 1952."

Two of the signers incidentally, live on Truman St., Hammond, Ind.—CIO News, March 6, 1950.

My Heart Leaps

By WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

My heart leaps up when I behold A rainbow in the sky: So it was when my life began; So it is now I am a man; So be it when I shall grow old, Or let me die! The Child is father to the Man; And I could wish my days to be Bound each to each by natural piety.

'Pill Trust'

Two of the largest drug manufacturing companies in the country were charged by the Department of Justice with attempting to gain a monopoly over the manufacture of hard gelatine capsules. These are the little pellets in which many medicines are swallowed, especially those with an unpleasant taste.

Control of the machines which make the capsules has permitted the two companies, Parke, Davis & Company and Eli Lilly & Company, to produce 90 per cent of all sold in the country, the government charges. It asks that the machines, and "know-how" for their use, be made available to other drug companies to prevent further price-fixing and other "restrictive" practices.

Too Many Potatoes? That's a 'Problem' To U. S. Capitalism

WASHINGTON—Potatoes have become a serious national problem; not because we have too few, but because we have too many. That is, we have too many to sell the American people at the present high prices.

In the recent weeks orders have been given to dump (that is to destroy or use for animal feed) tons upon tons of spuds, and plans have been made to support the price of the 1950 potato crop at \$1.01 per hundred lbs.

In the past few weeks hungry people have been unable to buy these potatoes or to get adequate supplies of surplus potatoes through relief distribution.

And, last week, New Orleans potato men announced that they were buying spuds in Canada for sale in the USA because they were cheaper even after paying the freight.

All this may add support to the Brannan Plan, which provides that such perishable crops as potatoes should be sold in the market for what they will bring, and for the government to pay a subsidy directly to the farmer if the market price is below the parity price established by the Department of Agriculture.

The crocodile tears of such reactionaries as Republican Senator McCarthy over the waste of good food should not obscure the fact that he and his colleagues are the people who refused to appropriate money to make it possible for the Department of Agriculture to ship the potatoes to the places where needy people can get them.

Ohioan Discovers 'Lost Liberty'

You know how that old conservative line goes: The New Deal and the Fair Deal have taken away the liberties of the American people.

But try to get a conservative to list those liberties which have been "lost" and all that results is a lot of flag waving but meaningless oratory.

Sen. Robert Taft (R. Ohio) has rummaged around and discovered the first, live liberty which the new deal has "snatched" from all of us.

It's the liberty to spend our money as we please. That's right. That's what the Senator says. He states:

"The government is saying, in effect, you have not the liberty to spend the money which you have earned by the sweat of your brow but you must turn over one fourth of it to the government and let the government decide what the money shall be spent for."

Sensor, you're not serious when you say that the New Deal invented taxation, are you? Any history book will tell you that the Roman Empire, which came before the New Deal by a few years, levied taxes.

Sensor, you'd better go back to your economic woods and try again!

Unfortunate

I have an awful hard time catching people's names when I'm introduced," said a business man.

"So do I," said the other, "but I found a good way to get around that. Instead of asking to have the name repeated, I look intelligently and say, Pardon me. Do you spell your name with an i or an e? It works fine."

"I know," said the first business man. "I used to do that. But one day I was introduced to a new customer, and she never bought a thing."

"How'd that happen?"

"Well, when she was introduced, I didn't catch her name; so I asked her whether she spelled it with an e or an i."

"What was her name?"

"Hill."

Bad Medicine

The doctors in Houston have made the American Medical Association happier than an emperor whose subjects have presented him with a new diamond for his crown.

The Harris County (Houston) Medical Society—one of the largest physicians' organizations in the United States—has voted its opposition to three bills pending in Congress.

It has urged Texas Congressmen to oppose:

- 1—Any extension of social security.
- 2—Any Federal aid for medical education.
- 3—Any Federal aid for medical care for school children.

Just how M.D.'s can do so much good in practicing their profession and so much harm in fighting good government as it relates to their calling is beyond the power of understanding.

—League Reporter.

The Resurrection of John L.

There are more angles to the recent victory won by John L. Lewis and his union of miners than can be covered in a single editorial. It is, of course, possible to point a derisive finger at these narrow-visioned individuals who gleefully, but prematurely proclaimed the demise of John L. Lewis as a leader of Labor. John is more alive now than he has been for a number of years.

There is also that wage rise that the miners will get. We'll probably take that matter up at some future time when increases in the price of coal make it plain that the owners aren't losing anything and that workers as a whole don't really gain when they fight for more dollars on a group basis but permit the capitalist economy to remain the way of life.

But what we consider important enough to stress at this time — chiefly because it is likely to be overlooked — is the significance of the operators' refusal to agree to a 200-working-day year for coal miners.

John L. would have made some other concessions to get that kind of guarantee. For what reason did the operators hedge? And what is the significance of their reason?

We submit that the operators didn't enter into a 200-day agreement because they didn't feel safe in doing so. They just didn't believe that they could find a market for all the coal that miners could produce by working 200 days. And they feared that, from here on out, strike or no strike, miners will be idle a large part of the time.

Well, what about the editorial writers and calamity howlers who made much of the money the miners were "losing" by striking? What do they say now, when the operators decide in advance that the losses will have to continue year after year? Are those anti-Lewisites ready to confess that they think it's very well for miners to be idle when the owners do the deciding and wrong only when miners time the lay-offs? — Reading Labor Advocate.

THE LAST WORD

By Duffy

There's a lot of fool-osophy in magazine cartoons and quips and some of it is rather good — at times. . . . At other times, some of it smells but at least it produces a chuckle for a moment.

I read just the other day of a young lady who in commenting on the new dress styles sported by the so-called upper crust that at least the woman who wears them if she's single, will either catch herself a man — or a cold.

I liked that cartoon of a smart bird giving his girl a string and then adding that perhaps a little later, he'd add the pearls.

Franklin P. Jones, whoever he might be, remarked recently the only reason some people never get out of the woods is that they refuse to give up golf.

Non-golfers I've known have the same trouble but for other reasons.

By the way, did you know that steel costs less than five cents a pound and that practically everything else we buy costs a lot more than that? The American Iron and Steel Institute says so in ad.

They compare prices, too, just to prove their point; sugar, 8 cents; milk 20 cents a quart; bread 13 cents a pound; pork and beef, you know how much that costs; and butter, at least 65 cents.

Luck and pluck are the twin combinations to success, one sage remarks—luck in finding someone to pluck.

Have you seen the picture Stromboli with Ingrid Bergman, directed by her Rosellini? It's bill as "raging island—raging passion?" So far we've read a dozen reviews of it—and they all are unanimous in their regard for the picture. The verdict: it stinks!

Chairman Wayne Coy of the Federal Communications Commission, has stated that "Radio broadcasting is potentially our most powerful medium of public education."

Did you know that: 95 per cent of all our homes are equipped with radios?

25 per cent of all our automobiles are equipped with radios?

Surveys show Americans spend more spare time listening to radios than for any other single activity?

A pessimist is one who buys two life-time pens. An optimist is a

Labor's Political Poverty

See on this page a box which we clipped — believe it or not! — from the official CIO News. The story is that some CIO oil workers in Indiana have told Harry Truman that unless he gets rid of Robert N. Denham as NLRB general counsel, they are going to do something about it themselves.

And what are these union oil workers going to do? Why they're going to vote straight Republican in 1950 and 1952!

Good God! Is that still the choice that workers — even Union workers — are making! After all the years of struggle and sacrifice; after all the campaigning and organizing; after Political Action Committee and Taft-Hartley; after wars, depressions, public debts, deficit budgeting and inflationary prices — after all the struggle, sacrifice and frustration that has been Labor's lot in life, can union workers still think of nothing better than jumping back and forth between the Republican frying pan and the Democratic fire!

Such a threat will not worry those business interests that union workers accuse Robert Denham of favoring. Neither did the election of Harry S. Truman and a Democratic Congress prevent those same interests from rolling up the greatest profits and paying out the largest dividends in history.

But Truman and the Democrats and Taft and the Republicans are alike in that the main consideration of both is the preservation of an economy that simply can't function unless workers are exploited for the benefit of an owning class.

Now if Labor would threaten to vote Socialist — or even to form a political party of their own to oppose both old parties they would deserve and get a great deal more respectful consideration. And if, instead of merely threatening, they would act independently in politics, workers neither would consider jumping from one group of capitalist politicians to another now or flopping on the bandwagon of some future dictator who offers them bread in exchange for their freedom.

— Reading Labor Advocate.

PEOPLE DO IT

By Henry Jones

SO FAR is a life-saving bomb, and so far about the only life-saving use for bombs. It's a small bomb to be dropped by wrecked planes or vessels, to explode at a critical under-water depth. Its explosion can be heard by the proper apparatus 2000 miles away. In Frisco, Sacramento or Hawaii, and by timing and triangulation, the exact location where it was dropped determined. Its name is sort for Sound Fixing and Ranging. Sounds like a good thing, and the press reports: Lack of funds so far has prevented installation of similar stations on the East Coast."

Next time you follow the papers for days to read some hectic account of planes scouting the ocean for a wreck, remember this is one of the various things we can't afford to do because it takes all we can spare to get ready to bump each other off instead. It may even get to where it takes so much for this purpose that we can't afford to live in the manner we're accustomed to.

Finance it seems we're headed to spend about \$25 billion more a year on H-bomb defense, and that's just a start at dispersing the big cities, coastal ones first. And then it costs a bit to throw so much stuff away. Just to be helpful, we submit this Recipe for a Fair Deal Handout:

Take 219 million dozen eggs, 23 million pounds of cheese, 89 million pounds of butter, all slightly stale, and 189 million pounds of dried milk, thinned out with as much water as New York City has to spare. Stir well. Add in the 25 billion bushels of potatoes that didn't get dumped and the 400 million surplus bushels of wheat. Bake in hot air, furnished free by Congress, and store in relief agencies to dole out in the next depression.

Eggs and cheese and butter and bombs are facts. To write words about them even in lawbooks does not change the facts as much as the consumption of one cheese omelet. Terms like overproduction and underconsumption and standards of living are even further away from such facts as those eggs that are beginning to develop an odor and that actual butter that probably is getting rancid. A. H. Korzybski, the semanticist who got a lot of people into the habit of distinguishing between a word and a fact, and looking for the thing that the word referred to, died last week without making nearly as much noise in this world as if he had killed a lot of people.

If we survive the H-bombs, maybe we can keep out of some messes by making sure that our words refer to, and thus think

How About You?

Should radio comedians be allowed to laugh loudly into the microphone at their own jokes, or to have "stooges" do the laughing for them? Two congressmen, Phillips of California and Gore of Tennessee, are getting "fed up" with it, and at a Congressional hearing asked Wayne Coy, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, to do something about it.

Coy indicated he doesn't exactly like the loud and artificial radio "ha-ha's" himself, but said there are a lot of different kinds of Americans, and maybe some of them enjoy listening to manufactured laughter.

How about you?

What Is Wrong?

For countless years, Boston has annually held meetings in historic Faneuil Hall, the "Cradle of American Liberty," to honor the birthdays of Washington and Lincoln. Last year, only 34 people showed up. This year it was "called off" by Mayor Hynes, on the ground of "lack of public interest."

What's happened to Boston—scene of some of the American Revolution's most historic happenings? Are the people of other cities similarly losing interest in the Revolution which did so much to establish world democracy? If so, why? Are our schools falling down on teaching the inspiring story of our country? — Labor.

Read not books alone, but men, and amongst them chiefly thyself. —Quarles.

"Cultivators of the earth are the most valuable citizens. They are the most vigorous, the most independent, the most virtuous, and they are tied to their country, and wedded to its liberty and interests by the most lasting bonds."

Thomas Jefferson, 1786