

**HAS AMERICA NO ANSWER FOR THIS GERMAN THREAT?**

While men talk about disarmament and fill the newspaper columns with learned discussions as to the wisdom of curtailing our naval program by international agreement, hour by hour the day of our real disarmament approaches, and approaches so stealthily the great public is in entire ignorance of the fact.

In the next war leaders will laugh at battleships and artillery when they launch their assaults of poison gas and invisible destruction. The machinery of warfare has passed into the hands of chemists, and the soothsayers, in predicting results, will look not to stars or entrails, but into the test tubes of the laboratory.

An inkling of the truth may be obtained from a cable dispatch, written by Wythe Williams, which appeared in the Washington Herald of January 10. We quote from it:

"There is evidence in Paris, where a large force of dye experts now are gathered to help the reparations commission, that the German dye attack is to be centered most vigorously upon the United States market. France has a tariff law that enables her to build up her dye industry unmolested. England has a new law, operative Jan. 15, that excludes dyes such as she produces and admits those she does not produce, but which her consumers need. Japan is taking steps to protect her chemical industry. The United States is the only important nation actually at the mercy of German chemists. For the moment America is protected by the War Trade Board, but this barrier will fall when she ends the technical state of war with Germany.

German dye manufacturers, realizing this, are causing the reparations commission much trouble by refusing to produce, except under pressure, the dyes most needed in the United States. They are willing to offer large quantities of dyes in competition with the output of the new American dye industry, but still are making excuses for failure to produce noncompetitive dyes. Thus they hope to encourage consumers to demand an open market. Also, in this manner, with the exception of her 50 years' world monopoly of dye manufacture against five years of American experience, Germany hopes to throttle the American industry and leave America helpless in this respect should there be another war.

"German production of dyes is so closely allied with her production of munitions that a separation is impossible. Destruction of one would mean the destruction of both. Students of the German proposals now in Paris consider that America is the last hope the German manufacturers have, and they will not give up as long as America does not protect its dye industry by a law similar to that of Great Britain. They see, further, that real chemical disarmament can be accomplished only by breaking Germany's monopoly of the dye industry and encouraging the building up of a similar industry in all the countries of the entente, and especially in the United States."

It is the absolute truth that the "United States is the only important nation actually at the mercy of the German chemists."

The War Trade Board, which now protects the American dye industry, will go out of existence March 4 unless funds to finance its activities are provided, and it will go out of existence anyhow so soon as peace is concluded. The dye industry, therefore, is nearing hour by hour the day when it will be at the mercy of the Germans. That will not be long. Private industry does not possess the power of taxation and cannot long stand up under heavy financial losses. If there is no inhibitory legislation, enough dyes can be dumped on our shores within a few months to swamp the market.

It is difficult to speak with moderation of those Senators who have resorted to the filibuster and every other technical device of legislators to delay and prevent enactment of the dye bill. Be their motives what they may, the fact remains that their course is exactly the course that is most acceptable to the Germans. There is no one thing Berlin more desires than the failure of the Longworth bill. Men who shape their course in Congress so as to support a policy obviously beneficial to our enemies and destructive

to the United States necessarily are objects of suspicion. Men are judged not by their motives, but by the things they do, and when the things they do are fatal to the future well-being of their country, they must expect criticism. This is more than ever true when they obstruct the majority and employ their technical power of delay to prevent an enactment favored not only by the House of Representatives and recommended by the President, but also favored by a large majority of the Senate itself.

There is history back of this entire situation. The statesmen who went to Paris to write the peace treaty were well aware that a mere physical disarmament of Germany would be a grotesque provision against the later attack by that nation. They favored not merely the destruction of the German navy and the disbandment of the German army, but they also expected to compel the Germans to disclose their chemical secrets, vital in warfare, and the dismantlement of huge chemical works was contemplated. This essential and wise course was prevented by President Wilson, who advanced the idea that the Allies and the United States could adequately protect themselves by building up their own chemical industries, shutting out the German product. He favored compelling the Germans to disclose their chemical secrets, which they have not done, but he wanted each individual nation to protect itself.

That is what all of the chief Allies and neutral nations have done—all except the United States. Over in England the Government listened to all the arguments against protection of the British dye industry and then promptly enacted, last month, the most drastic sort of legislation to assure absolutely that the German chemical industry would not ruin that of Great Britain. She carried out the understanding that had been reached in Paris. It is more than passing strange however, that every effort to carry out the same understanding in the United States has been prevented by filibusters or threats of filibusters in the Senate. It is amazing, but it is true.

It is a fact that the Germans have not yet yielded up their war method of extracting nitrogen from the air. The methods we have are obsolete, and we know it. But the final Haber process we have not got. It will be got, in one way or another, but it has not yet been got.

If gentlemen wish to continue the argument on the dye bill, let them do so, but not with the gates open. The barriers must at least be kept up until a definite decision has been reached. This can be done by passage of a joint resolution extending the authority of the War Trade Board and providing funds wherewith to support it. The Longworth bill itself ought to be passed. It is the sensible and proper course. But, failing that, the next best course is emergency protection of the chemical industry pending a final decision by the next Congress on a definite national policy.

The absolutely essential character of the dye industry in relation to national defense is not a question of conjecture or of theory. It has been demonstrated with mathematical accuracy, and it can be so demonstrated at any time, before any committee or any jury. Indeed, it is admitted even by the opponents of the Longworth bill. They claim, however, that the industry can be protected adequately by tariffs. The facts are all against them. Tariffs are for honest men in pure commerce. Control of the American dye market by the Germans is not inherently a commercial undertaking at all. Germany can afford to give away dyes in America if by so doing she can destroy the American dye industry. Dyes, with her, is preparedness for war. Dyes, with us, can be nothing else.

We would be safer without a gun factory in the nation, a powder plant or a warship than without a chemical industry and a chemical personnel equal to any others on earth.

North Kansas City.—Construction well under way of \$8,000,000 corn products plant covering 75 acres; 7 1-2 miles switch tracks completed.

Jefferson City.—Convict labor to manufacture guide posts for State's unmarked roads, make car license plates and provide material for improving highways.

**CAN WORKERS CO-OPERATIVE FACTORIES SUCCEED?**

Can workers' co-operatives succeed as sound business ventures? This is a question which presses for answer as reports of the organization by various unions and groups of workers of co-operative factories increase.

Within the past year there have been started by the workers factories for the manufacture of underwear, hosiery and overalls, a cigar factory, a piano factory, shoe factories and clothing shops.

The trade unions called upon to supply the funds to finance these co-operative producers' factories face at the present a new danger.

A well-thought-out plan on the part of the big aggregations of business has apparently been launched to "smash the unions." A thing called the "American plan," which is another name for the non-union shop, has come to the front with a vengeance. Representatives of these organizations frankly assert that they are out to destroy unionism.

How will the new producers' co-operative organizations which are springing up in many places fare under these conditions, considering that they have fared badly in the past a comparatively free field?

The union will suffer the first attack. Its resources will need to be conserved. Its treasury should not be depleted. For its own safety, as a matter of expediency and wisdom, the money of the working people in the trade union treasury should not be hazarded in co-operative producers' enterprises at this particular period in the world's history.

If the workers' savings cannot be safely invested in producers' enterprises, where is it safe?

The worker is going to spend his money in some channel or other. The most of it will go for the necessities of life. He has the choice of going out alone and buying these things at retail from the private merchant, or he can put the money that he is going to spend anyway, along with the money of his neighbors, and with them spend it in the wholesale market. The latter is the co-operative way.

In doing this he need not experiment or wonder what is going to happen. The consumers' co-operative movement is growing in the membership of its societies and in the amount of business done, in 24 countries of the world, with a sweep that seems almost fantastic. The form of organization is closest to the worker. In this movement his money is invested in what he most needs, and what he has to buy from somebody.

The majority of industries, which are operated either by capitalists or by co-operative producers, fail; this is their common destiny. The majority of productive industries operated by societies of co-operative consumers succeed; their failure is of rare occurrence. This is a momentous fact in the economic world.

Now for three-quarters of a century the British consumers' co-operative movement has been engaging more and more in production. At present it is carrying on some 65 different industries. Some of these are on a large scale. Their eight flour mills at Manchester are the greatest flour mills in England. Their shoe factory, biscuit works, soap factories and textile mills, farms, tea and grain plantations, are on a large scale. Failure has taken place in none of them. They are all a part of the Co-operative Wholesale society, which has behind it 4,000,000 families of consumers, patronizing their own distributive industry to the amount of over a billion dollars a year.

These industries succeed because they are following the one line of action which is scientific—production for the known want or organized consumers, under the ownership and control of the organized consumers, with the motive of production for service, not for profit, as the underlying principle.

There has not been started in Europe or America during this present industrial era any producers' co-operative enterprise which the powers of capitalistic industry could not crush out at its will, just by shutting off the supply of raw material. The raw materials and the natural resources of the world, including coal and transportation, are today in the control of the capitalists.

In connection with the raw material is the matter of credit. The credits of industry are controlled by five capitalistic banking syndicates, according to the report of the Pujos congressional committee which investigated banking. They can shut off the credit of any producers' group in slack times or between the periods of production and the collection upon sales, and squeeze it out of business.

But consumers' co-operation is much less vulnerable. With the profits or surplus savings derived from its assured sales, it can accumulate a sufficient reserve to meet the boycott, if necessary, by starting its own productive enterprises.

The product of every shop, except that owned and run by the co-operative consumers or the socialized government shop, must be thrown into the market to find problematical purchasers. The selling business is as difficult a specialty as the producing business. Any one who has watched these developments has seen the innocent selling organizations of a producers' co-operative factory go out into the world of competitive business and make a pathetic showing.

Any organized craft of workers may adopt certain of the principles of consumers' co-operation.

The hat makers or clothing makers may organize as a consumers' co-operative society. They consume hats. They may open a store where the products of the capitalistic shops in which they work are sold. They will buy these products for their own store in the capitalistic market, and sell to themselves. And non-members will also buy in their store. Their distributive business grows.

The consumers' society which runs the store may then start a small factory to produce for it when its sales have reached a volume to justify such a step. As the sales increase, the factory output may be increased. But the reverse of this is dangerous. Fac-

# Yes Sir-ee!

We made this cigarette to meet your taste!

# Camel

## CIGARETTES



**CAMELS** have wonderful full-bodied mellowness and a flavor as refreshing as it is new.

Camels quality and Camels expert blend of choice Turkish and choice Domestic tobaccos win you on merits. Camels blend never tires your taste. And, Camels leave no unpleasant cigarettory aftertaste nor unpleasant cigarettory odor!

What Camels quality and expert blend can mean to your satisfaction you should find out at once! It will prove our say-so when you compare Camels with any cigarette in the world at any price!

Camels are sold everywhere in scientifically sealed packages of 20 cigarettes for 20 cents; or ten packages (200 cigarettes) in a glassine-paper-covered carton. We strongly recommend this carton for the home or office supply or when you travel.

**R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO CO.**  
Winston-Salem, N. C.

output in excess of guaranteed sales is the capitalistic method and the method of the producers' co-operative factory. By maintaining a distributive business with a membership of consumers, the product of the factory which the consumers own is disposed of by the scientific co-operative method.

The program is slow and requires serious work on the part of the members of the co-operative society. It is not so easy or so spectacular as to take a lot of the workers' money and put it at once into a big manufacturing plant. But it is the safer and surer way to work today in the midst of competitive capitalism.

Such a society with its retail stores and its factories must connect if possible with other co-operative societies to become a part of a federation in which other avenues of distribution of its product may be found. But there is one hard thing for the non-co-operative trade unionist to grasp—that is, that in all of this organization the interest of the worker as a consumer must dominate the interest of the worker as a producer. He must grasp this because this is the only method at the present time that can work in competition with capitalistic industry.

**M. U. HAS NEW AGRICULTURAL EDITOR**

A. A. Jeffrey of Columbia, for many years a contributor to the editor of farm papers, has been appointed agricultural editor at the University of Missouri. He will have charge of the

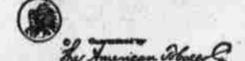
publications of the College of Agriculture. Mr. Jeffrey, who is a graduate of Cornell College, in Iowa, has been a farmer, a country newspaper man, and associate editor of the Missouri Ruralist. As agricultural editor at

Missouri he succeeds O. W. Weaver, who has become publisher of the Missouri (Mo.) Journal.

## LUCKY STRIKE

### cigarette

It's toasted



**IT'S CHAMP WITH K O WHO GETS COIN**



The champion who knocks 'em all out is the fighter who "gets his price" for doing the job. Benny Leonard, lightweight champion, knocks 'em out as fast as they come. His knockout of Richie Mitchell in the sixth round at New York recently—after himself having been dropped in the first round—marks him as the champion he is. Leonard has won six of his last seven fights by K. O.

## California Plan of Marketing Appeals to Farmers




Commodity marketing as successfully launched in California, bids fair to spread into national practice, as shown by recent action of the American Farm Bureau Federation. The plan can and does apply to all farm commodities. It is a state or national pooling of all products to be sold by expert marketing men appointed by the farmers themselves. Wheat growers, corn growers, wool growers, cotton growers, livestock men, farm produce men, etc., are to be so organized, under the Farm Bureau present plan, furnishing the assurance of the highest possible market to all of its members, no matter what their crop may be. Photos show—upper left: Crowds in western Kansas at mass meeting on commodity organization during one of the recent Farm Bureau drives; right: C. H. Gustafson, chairman of the grain marketing committee of the Farm Bureau Federation, who reports Feb. 14 at a Kansas City meeting on the "California Plan" to his grain growers. Lower left: Activities in the southwest, where the winter onion growers are already highly organized and are getting highest price for their burrows and pearl onions.

EAT MORE BREAD

**McKinney's**  
SELLS LESS

BETTER COFFEE

## Bread and Coffee

If these two items are not the best your meal is disappointing.

ASK FOR

**SQUARE DEAL BREAD 2 LOAVES 15c**

**BUTTER TOP—The bread with the distinguished flavor 10c**

**COFFEE**

Extra fancy **PEABERRY-SANTOS** a fine sweet drinking coffee, 1 lb. 25c, 3 lbs. **70c**

**COFFEE**

35c lb., 3 lbs. \$1.00

**GUATAMALA**—If you do not believe you can buy a high grade **COFFEE** for this price try our **SPECIAL GUATAMALA**—there's something about this Guatamala you'll like. 1 lb. 35c, 3 lbs. **\$1.00**

Remember the price of these three coffees—25c, 35c and 45c. Try either of them, use it and if not pleased with them we will refund your money in full.

**COFFEE**

**McKINNEY'S BEST**—This is a blend of finest **SUMATRA, GUATAMALA** and **BOGOTA** making this the best blend possible, these are the best coffees imported into United States—1 lb. 45c, 3 lbs. **\$1.25**