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—and—
EAST LIVERPOOL TRADES & LABOR COUNCIL

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DON'T MAKE V-DAY A SPREE DAY!

HOW DO you plan to celebrate V-Day when Germany surrenders?

There are two ways to do it. One is to drop everything, rush out and have yourself a rip-roaring time until you pass out or drop from sheer fatigue.

The other way is to do your rejoicing in a sane, sensible manner—in an attitude of thanksgiving for what has been done, and of prayer for the speedy and successful completion of what still lies ahead.

If you are a professional celebrator, you may choose the first way.

But if you have felt the impact of war at first hand; if a son or a father or a husband or a brother has fallen in service; if a loved one is in the Pacific, still carrying on against the undefeated Jap—then the chances are that you are not going to be in the mood for much hat-tearing or back-whamming.

Victory over Germany will mean only one thing—that we have won the first round of a hard fight, and that a knock-down, drag-out battle still remains. The middle of a fight is no time for a nationwide carousal or for conduct that brings violence, accidents and destruction of property.

The National Safety Council offers a V-Day suggestion that makes sense. It is: "Don't Make V-Day a Spree Day!"

TRUE PEACE—AND FALSE

THE DUMBARTON OAKS conference is being held in line with certain bad precedents that were established at Teheran, with a maximum of secrecy and an exaggerated display of armed forces. This should not, however, prevent the American people from considering very seriously the alternative types of settlement which the happy approaching end of the war in Europe places before the world.

There could be a true peace, based on the principle of equal rights and equal obligations for all nations, large and small, on respect for the principles of the Atlantic Charter, for self-determination, for equality of economic opportunity. Such a peace would be positive rather than punitive in character and would aim at an elimination of the basic causes of war. It would include provisions for all-around limitation of armament, with sanctions in the form of air policing against a revival of German or Japanese militarism.

It would stress functional, rather than repressive measures, with impartially administered relief measures for the countries that will be most shattered after the end of war, evolving into a program of large-scale common economic enterprises, designed to raise the standard of living everywhere.

FULL EMPLOYMENT

IT SEEMS to us, if we have any appreciation of the problem, that unemployment can only be banished from this land when there is the will and determination on the part of everyone so to banish it. In other words, we must look not only to governments and parliaments and legislatures and all public agencies, but to every form of activity that creates employment and to every citizen of good will and understanding who desires to create employment.

There is in Great Britain at this moment a movement that very greatly merits our attention and emulation. In small communities in the United Kingdom they are not waiting for action from London, but are planning now and moving now to find a job for every person within the community who will need a job when the war is over.

No, it is not on the blackboards of economics that these problems will be solved—they must be grappled with and solved by the combined efforts of the Canadian people.

NEEDLESS ACCIDENT TOLL

ACCIDENTS—3 out of 4 of them preventable—cost the nation \$4,900,000,000 and 380,000,000 man-days of work in 1943, the National Safety Council reveals in the 1944 edition of its statistical yearbook, "Accident Facts."

On-the-job accidents killed 18,000 workers—500 less than in 1942—injured 1,850,000 (100,000 more than in 1942) and resulted in a loss of time sufficient to have built 21,000 heavy bombers or 39 battleships.

All-accident death totals in 1943 (including occupational) were 97,500 killed and 10,100,000 injured.

TIME LABOR BOARD ACTED

ALTHOUGH a year has passed since Western Union absorbed Postal Telegraph, nearly all the 44,300 employees are working under AFL maintenance of membership agreements while 1,000 ex-Postal employees are still covered by a CIO closed shop agreement. Until National Labor Relations Board election clears up this chaotic situation, telegraph workers are confronted with what is perhaps the most complex labor problem which has ever been faced in any industry.

With conflicting labor agreements covering employees in the same offices, doing similar work, with different wage scales, different methods of computing seniority, different hours of work and different vacation and pension provisions, Western Union employees under AFL agreements have been urging the NLRB to order a national election at the earliest possible moment to put an end to the thousands of problems arising out of the merger of the two telegraph companies.

The CIO favors only city-wide and district-wide elections.

The labor board has had the case before it since April, when hearings on the AFL petition for an election closed after 64 days. The examiner made his recommendations in July for division-wide elections covering seven units. In the meantime, with an average of but one ex-Postal worker out of every 10 Western Union employees involved in the integration of Postal offices into the Western Union system, an apparently endless series of disputes over seniority, wages and hours is threatening the smooth operations of the vital communications industry.

JUST A GENTLE REMINDER

THE NATIONAL War Fund needs no introduction to the members of our International Union. They are fully aware of the reasons why, once each year, the local agency of the National War Fund in every community conducts a fund-raising campaign. They know for what purposes the money they contribute to the local War Chest or Community Chest is used. They have seen for themselves the fine things organizations like the USO, to mention but one, are doing for our servicemen in this country, and they have heard from servicemen themselves what good work is being done overseas by these same organizations—all made possible by contributions to the local agency of the National War Fund. They know also how essential to the war program is the foreign relief work made possible by their contributions.

But even though our members are aware of all that the National War Fund is enabled to do because of the money they give to it, they may not be aware that the NWF fund-raising season is again upon us. This is just a reminder, then, that War Chest drives are now under way in many communities, and will soon get under way in many others, and the time has come to make that annual contribution again.

P. S. "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver."

THE NATIONAL GAME

IF THE United States has one game that is truly national, it is baseball. This is the hundredth year it has been played under accepted rules. The British say it is an adaptation of Rounders. One hundred per cent Americans know it is an evolution of One Old Cat, and will stoutly deny any foreign taint. Certainly, in no other country has such a game ever been played with the same skill and intensity as baseball is played in this country.

Professional baseball as now organized has lived through two wars. Many of its best players have been drafted, or have volunteered, as they did twenty-seven years ago. All those playing now have been exempted from service for one reason or another. Fans who remember the pre-war style of play in the two major leagues do not rate too highly the skill that has been exhibited the last two years. But the game still attracts more customers through a four-and-a-half-month season than any other professional sport.

This heavy attendance at baseball games, coinciding with the most desperate war in history, may be puzzling and disheartening to our soldiers, sailors and marines overseas; but if they think it through they probably will agree that it is impossible for everyone to work every hour of every day at his war job and that some relaxation on the home front is as desirable as it is in a combat area.

YOUR VOTE

IN RECENT weeks we have heard the two leading candidates for the Presidency called everything but gentlemen. We have seen the daily papers resort to one of the dirtiest, most underhanded campaigns in the history of this nation. Their stories and insinuations have been little short of libelous.

Speakers on both sides have been anything but considerate of the fact that seeds of doubt and suspicion planted now may bear bitter fruit in the days to come.

It is up to the little fellow, therefore, to go to the polls only after having made a thorough and impartial study of the records of the two men and their parties and vote for the one which he thinks comes closest to representing his interests and his future welfare.

But, regardless of what your decision might be, don't neglect that right and privilege. Your vote means more today than ever before in the history of this nation. Use it.

IN THE COMMONWEAL

LABOR VIEWS is dedicated to service in the interest of good relations between those who work and those who employ. We shall always be constructive in our criticism and aggressive in our campaigns.

Foremost in our program is our aim for better relations between employee and employer. We hope, through thought-provoking editorials and factual news reporting, to bring about a better understanding between labor and management; to help the others viewpoint and problem; to dispel distrust of one for the other; to prove the interdependence of the two, and to destroy the influence of those who, in ignorance or for political or other expediency, seek to align one against the other.

FACING THE FACTS

With PHILIP PEARL

All this talk of a "hard" peace or a "soft" peace for Germany must be alarming to any common-sense American. What is needed is not a "hard" peace or a "soft" peace but an intelligent peace—a peace which will stick this time and not constitute a springboard for another war in the next generation.

One peace plan, reputedly emanating from high sources in Washington, calls for the dismemberment of Germany into three sections—one to be policed by Russia, one by Great Britain and one by us—and the destruction or deportation of Germany's industrial machines.

Whoever thought that up must have been reading Samuel Butler's book about the never-never land where the people destroyed all machines, even watches, because they feared that otherwise the machine age would destroy them.

But intelligent people who have learned how to control machinery and to control themselves have no fear of being able to control others. And that's just what we have to do with Germany.

ORDER AND LIBERTY

Thomas Mann, the great German writer now living in this country, called the turn on his compatriots when he wrote in the "Magic Mountain" some twenty years ago that the Germans "love order better than liberty."

If we can extirpate the Nazis and Nazism, if we can restore order to Germany, if we can set up an economy in that country which will provide a decent living for the German people, then the Germans may learn to love and appreciate liberty as the source of order and stability and they may learn to hate war as much as we do.

The only reason the Nazis were able to gain the ascendancy in Germany was because that country fell into complete disorder after the last war, because the German people saw no hope or opportunity in the future and because they were desperate.

We refuse to accept the contention of Ben Hecht, a writer whom we otherwise admire, that all Germans are murderers, that the blood lust runs deep in the German soul and that the only way to make the world safe is to kill off every German, man, woman and child.

That sort of overstatement plays right into the hands of the Nazi propagandists and enables them to rally the German people into last-ditch resistance for fear of complete annihilation if they revolt against Hitler and force a quick surrender.

Naturally, the Nazis responsible for plunging the world into war and for the terrible atrocities which have been visited upon helpless minorities must be punished for their crimes. But the great masses of the German people, who already have suffered much, cannot be placed in the same category with their Nazi oppressors.

AN INTELLIGENT PEACE

From the beginning, the American Federation of Labor has advocated an intelligent peace. We do not believe that German industry should be destroyed. We believe that the source of war production once and forever and harnessed to the job of rebuilding the vast reaches of Europe which the Nazis have laid waste. That is the constructive solution.

Nor do we believe in human reparations. Proposals for exporting millions of German workers for service in slave labor battalions in Russia or in other European countries smack of the very Nazi methods which all free people have bitterly condemned.

Certainly Germany should be made to pay reparations. But these payments should be made in goods which Germany can produce, not in human life or human misery.

It is a fact that German soldiers taken prisoner in France have threatened to kill themselves when warned that they might be sent to Russia. If that is the attitude of hard-boiled soldiers, what reaction can be expected from the civilian population?

History has taught us that two wrongs do not make a right and that force and oppression, regardless of the source, lead only to wars. Let us not forget these lessons in the heat of anger when the peace terms are written.

We insist and demand that our enemies surrender unconditionally. But surely we cannot expect quick surrender if we proclaim our intention to slaughter and starve the people of enemy nations. They might just as well die fighting.

So let's cut out the silly talk of "hard" and "soft" peace and use the intelligence God gave us to work out a fair and just and constructive solution which will prevent future war and promote world prosperity.

The Dr. Jekylls Of California

There will be a lot of wind expended from the following lungs of politicians between now and the November elections. Not a single one of these candidates for office will fail to brand Germany's Hitler as the most atrocious monster of all time. They will yell for the benefit of their listeners that we must "Fight for freedom and crush tyranny whenever and wherever this serpent raises its head."

There are many would-be Hitlers already in our Congressional halls and in our State legislatures who, while they continue to shout for liberty and justice, themselves seek to impose upon the trade union movement of our nation laws that are closely akin to those enacted in Germany in the preliminary march of Hitler to power. One of the first acts of Herr Hitler was to outlaw labor unions in Germany. He subsequently outlawed labor unions in every country his brutal hordes invaded. In fourteen of our sovereign states small legislative Hitlers have been found to introduce laws that have for their purpose the outlawing of labor unions in the United States of America.

Now legislative "Dr. Jekylls and Mr. Hydes" have imbibed this same poisonous concoction in California and seek to shackle the trade union movement there by adding to the Constitution of the Golden State a new Section, part of which is as follows:

"Sec. 1A: Every person has the right to work and to seek, obtain, and hold employment without interference with or impairment or abridgement of said right because he does or does not belong to or pay money to a labor organization."

That is nearly in substance what Mr. Hitler ordered in Germany when he realized that all power over the people was vested in him alone. With the destruction of the labor movement as an organization, then immediately certain inalienable rights were taken from other groups in Germany: The Jews were bound to the ghetto and the Christian bible was burned. The Hitlers in the California legislature are thinking in terms of the Hitler in Germany in their efforts to have this un-American amendment added to the Constitution of that great liberal state.

With 11,000,000 men and women serving in our armed forces, thousands of them sacrificing their lives for, among other causes, the right of labor unions to exist in Germany, and in France and other conquered countries, then the little Hitlers in Congress and our state legislatures must be driven out of office with a lash of opposition votes in the coming November elections.

Those who vote for the return of such Dr. Jekylls and Mr. Hydes to office ought to be ashamed to buy a War Stamp or a War Bond. We should not be Dr. Jekylls in this country by loaning our money to the government to abolish slavery in Europe, and Mr. Hydes at the same time by giving our ballots to those politicians who represent a putrid Hitlerian idea to establish slavery here in the mines, mills and factories by making labor unions impotent.

Can You Afford To Be Hurt?

Can you afford to be hurt?

The cost of on-the-job accidents is measured in time lost from the job—doctor bills—and possibly serious disability that cut down future earning power. Last year 2,335,600 men and women were injured in industrial accidents. Another 18,400 workers were killed.

Accidents cost workers 270,000,000 days of lost time—equivalent to a year's work for 900,000 workers.

They cost the nation \$2,000,000,000.

To be on the safe side, OWI urges workers to observe these precautions:

1. Check all equipment regularly, in line with instructions.
2. Take no chances.
3. Use the guards with which the machine is provided.
4. Use proper safety clothing and equipment for the job—helmet, respirators, shoes, and the like.
5. Keep workplace, materials, machines and tools orderly and in good repair. Good housekeeping reduces accidents.
6. Wear goggles if the job requires it.
7. Lift with your legs and arms—not your back.
8. Don't walk on or under loaded cranes or hoists.
9. Don't jump from ladders, platforms, or moving vehicles.
10. Cut out horseplay and practical jokes.
11. Wear the right clothes on the job.

Nelson Resigns As WPB Chairman

Washington, D. C.—President Roosevelt accepted the resignation of Donald M. Nelson as Chairman of the War Production Board and named Julius A. Krug, who has been serving as Acting Chairman, to replace him.

The President said he has asked Mr. Nelson for a new job which he described as "a high post of major importance" in connection with "laying the groundwork for post-war economic cooperation with other nations."

It was reported in informed circles that the President plans to make Mr. Nelson his personal "economic ambassador" with a roving assignment to find markets for American post-war products. Groundwork for this job was broken by Mr. Nelson's recent trips to Russia and China.

Next in line, it is understood, is a trip through Latin America during which Mr. Nelson will explore the possibilities of developing trade relations when peace comes with our good neighbors of the South.

According to these reports, Mr. Nelson will not head up a new agency but will serve as a member of the President's personal staff.

COMMENT ON WORLD EVENTS

Small nations have an outstanding champion in Walter Nash, president of the 1944 International Labor Conference, Deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand and former Minister of Finance of his country's Labor government.

At a time when the four big powers are being charged with seeking to dominate any future world organization that may be formed, leaving the small nations with virtually no voice in the making of decisions, Nash directs emphatic attention to the importance of the small powers in the preservation of the peace. His views are made public in Post-war Planning for Peace and Full Employment, an important pamphlet of the League for Industrial Democracy.

Close cooperation between the four powers, Nash contends, is in the nature of the case, "the first prerequisite of world security." But, he adds, "even the most complete understanding that may be reached between these powers will not in itself be sufficient to guarantee security permanently. The smaller powers... must also be given the opportunity, and be provided with the means of having their voices heard in decisions that are as vitally important to them as to their larger and more powerful partners amongst the United and Associated Nations."

"Although small countries may have little power to initiate international policies, experience has clearly shown that they possess considerable capacity to influence such policies, and their ability to obstruct, if their wishes and interests are ignored, must not be underestimated. Unless therefore steps are taken now to check the growth of sentiments of suspicion and resentment which naturally develop when small countries find themselves persistently kept at arms length, the execution later of plans that in themselves are clearly in the best interests of the world as a whole may be rendered difficult, if not impossible."

All nations, he writes, are expected to share in the sacrifices connected with the maintenance of peace. "All must be allowed to express themselves and to enjoy a measure of authority as well as responsibility in its achievement."

The New Zealand statesman contends that world security depends upon the development of economic security, justice and the spirit of democracy within each nation. "If the seeds of aggression are allowed to sprout within the economic and social fabric of any nation," he asserts, "that nation, in spite of any international police force... will sooner or later be a menace to the peace and security of any other nations."

He calls attention to the danger involved in declaring one's own people a race or nation inherently superior to other peoples. "If inside the United States of yours, in European countries or India or inside China, the idea is allowed to sprout and grow that they are a superior people, that they are chosen by some power beyond our ordinary understanding to dominate and control the world, there is no peace for the world."

He demands that social maladjustments, "the real source of imperialism and aggression," be ruthlessly stamped out. He maintains that unemployed labor, unused skill, undeveloped resources, idle factories and machines, cannot be tolerated by a nation at peace any more than by a nation at war and makes an eloquent plea that the nations with high living standards should assist those "obliged to live on much lower standards under the shadow of insecurity, unemployment, poverty, ill-health, disease and destitution."

WISDOM

Increased means and increased leisure are the two civilizers of man. Disraeli.

MARRIED WOMEN'S RIGHTS UPHOLD IN MASSACHUSETTS

Boston (ILNS).—The State Supreme Judicial Court has upheld the right of married women to hold municipal jobs, ruling unconstitutional the dismissal of 6 married women employed by the water and public welfare departments of Somerville.

"These women," the court said, "were not removed for proper cause, because the (city) ordinance was invalid inasmuch as it deprives married women of the constitutional right to equal opportunity for the selection of public employment or service."

The court's decision, however, pointed out that the ruling did not conflict with a previous opinion which held that married women might be banned as school teachers.

"School committees have discretion in the case of teachers because married women in some public employment may be considered less qualified than unmarried women," the court said.

The 6 Somerville women were dismissed in May, 1938, and carried their fight through the courts for reinstatement with back pay.

The real test of the quality of the peace to come will be in the extent to which the entire world rids itself of the tyranny of militarist authoritarian systems based on a powerful mass party and the terror of a secret police.

THE CHERRY TREE

Where With Our Little Hatchet
We Tell the Truth About
Many Things, Sometimes Profoundly,
Sometimes Flippantly
and Sometimes Recklessly.

About 24 hours of re-enactment of Black Friday, 1929 would settle the whole issue.

If for that short space we could again go through just one day of conditions as they were—what a memory jolter that would be!

There were suicides in those days. Men shot themselves. Men jumped from high windows. Men jumped into rivers.

They did these final things because they just couldn't physically or mentally stand the strain of ruin, of hungry mouths, of uncertainty about whether there would ever be a tomorrow of hope.

Old men walked the streets, hunting for some little job of work to do—some little job that would get a quarter for them—just a quarter for a night's lodging in a dirty flop house.

Old and weary men hunted for crumbs and the gutter wasn't too dirty a place to reach if therein might lie a crust or an apple core.

But so many have forgotten. They have forgotten the shivering men selling apples and pencils on stormy street corners... the men back from Mons and Chateau Thierry, from lousy trenches and the Hindenburg line.

So many have forgotten what the banks did to them before they were all closed for a trip to the cleaning vats and a return to life with safety for the depositor and a grip pried loose from the necks of little men.

And, too, so many have forgotten the "Little group of wilful men" in the Senate who tripped and trapped Woodrow Wilson until he died broken and shorn of the victory he planned for the world and our own nation.

Today, as we fight another war to certain victory, after which we can, if we will, write a true peace to safeguard freedom, men forget these pieces of history and they heedlessly cry for a return to "normal"—as if we could return to anything.

We are on a road that has no turning back. It only goes toward the future.

The old cannot return, no matter what some of us want. Tomorrow will be different from that yesterday of pain and of plotting.

It must be our determination to let none stand in the way of building a better tomorrow—one in which men everywhere can live in peace, in freedom, in security and without any haunting fear of another terrible war.

We are not yet out of this war. We may have a fairly long road to travel and one crisscrossed with the blood of many men.

We must go that road in grim determination, but we cannot afford to wait until war ends before we set our minds firmly against any of the greediness and chicanery that will lead to another war or that will lead to street corner apple selling at home.

There surely is in our nation a capacity for holding on a true course, for guarding against greed and against men of smooth words who do not see the common good.

If we could have just that 24-hour stretch of re-enacted Black Friday our people, with fresh impressions in their minds, would have no wandering doubt about what to do or how to do it.

Greed and trickiness wouldn't have a chance. But men do forget. They have forgotten it is a natural thing, but just now an unfortunate thing.

Men forget easily the painful things. Nobody remembers the feel of last year's hurt, no matter how severe it may have been.

But do remember, Americans. Do remember where we stood in that fatal year.

Do remember where we were drifting. Do remember the hopelessness and the sorrow and the suffering of men and women and children.

Remember with a revived and true picture of those days.

Let us then highly resolve that it shall not happen to us again!—CMW.

WHAT NEXT?

Bedridden battle patients at an Army hospital in Battle Creek, Mich., now read books, magazines, etc., off the ceiling, with only a push of the finger. A new device resembling the still picture projector used in the home rests on the floor beside the bed. A cord with a push button on the end extends to the patients' hand. By pressing a button the patient turns on the light and reads page 1 as projected on the ceiling. The image is about 2 feet long and 18 inches wide. With the flip of a switch the patient turns the film to page 2, 3, etc., of reading matter photographed on 35-mm microfilm.

"LIVING MEMORIAL"

Louisville, Ky. (ILNS).—Paducah, Ky., purchased two blocks of property for a recreational center to be known as a "living memorial." Plans call for the entire two blocks to be surrounded by a concrete wall and to be furnished with grandstands to seat 2,000, baseball and softball fields, a cinder track and other sports equipment.