arles A. Spragus - Editor ard Publisher THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING $C O$ Charles a Sprague, Prea. © Steldon F. Sacketh, secy



Flynn on the Business Setback:
Two days ago The Statesman reviewed the theories of
pavid Cushman Coyle, who would use taxation as tool to levef off wealth and the national budget as gyrossope to boost
the national nncome to 100 bilion dollars. Todzy we present
the theories of John T. Flynn, whose writings on busigess
 apologist for the ancien regime in Wall street. In fact some
of his articies, like his case history of the Van Sweringens,
have been devastating. But his recommendations, which ap.
pear in an article "This Setback in Businèss" in January tarpers, are radically different from those of Coyle.
Flymn says that the recovery has been sustained by govGe up the slack when governuent spending tapered off. For He future he foresees: "If privite fiancing should not ree
隹e and the government should withdraw frcim the field,
pen the whole system would sink down in a comprehensive credit as a prophet; megnitude" predicted a business reverse of mag bituce some months ago.
The real difficulty, a shrough continued deficits. He is hostile cost of inflation trade agnements, "fair trade" bills, price fixing, suabsidizing
scarcity and artificial boosting of farm prices. The issue now, scarcity and artiticial boosting of farm prices. The issue now,
is his opinion, is whether we shall try to maintain the price
structure, which means inflation and continued deficits even larger than before; or "we must decide to move down
to a lower price level." If we evade the decision, "time's deciFlynn would have the government reverse its course epeal the Robinson-Patman a
abolish the commodity surplus co
ing; discontinue marketing agre
controls, investigate the structure of monopoly controls in ai men; destroy every in labor and contractors of NRA mand mater trol; overhaul the tax system to take the burden off "act-
ive purchasing power"; modify the undistributed profits
tax and "the unbelievably dishonest and stupidl and paralyz-
ing social security tax to create a vast reserve" He ing and "the unbelievably dishonest and stap." He would re
ing socirity tax to create a vast reserve." He win
strain specuiation in securities to prevent market disturban ces; confine government inflationary activity to low-cos
heusing upon some sane and realizable basis. He would ter minate lending to railroads and bankrupt corporations, let
ting them go through the wringer and then be revived on realistic basis. He concludes:
"And behind all and over. all there should be an end of the
hatr-mad cults oo abundaneer The day or the promisers the de-
stroyers of poverty and the makers of abundance, repubilican
and democrat

We must now face,"
Flyn recognizes this as a supreme test of statesman-
ship: "My guess is that the statesman who seeks the approval
of his contemporaries at this juncture is a forl. There is but one verdict now worth having-the verdiet of history."
What a contrast between the buoyant, optimistic Coyle whe would tax ourselves rieh; and the skeptical Flynn who
sees the country skidding into the gulch. There's no doubt which wonld get the votes in the elections. But in our judg-
ment Flynn keeps closer to the realities of economics. Flynn's program of price deflation, if orderly would
not mean disaster, but the reverse. We can maintain prosperity on any price plateau if the relations are in balance capital for investment. That will come when investors get a
ittie daylight. Indispensable is more encouragement from
Washington as to the security of legitimate investment; and Washington as to the security of legitimate investment; and
probably less political astigmatism in New York. If confi-
dence is restored and return made to the system of competition in industry and agriculture and labor relations
then price readjustments would be natural and business That program seems very far from attainment. People are still eager to get a free ride on government; and think
by passing laws and curtailing production and taxing some-
one else they can ride a magic carpet into the abundant life. A beautiful dream; but we urge people to inspect

## Portland Newspaper Strike

Printers on the three Portland newspapers rejected
offer of $\$ 9.00$ days and $\$ 9.50$ nights for a seven-and-a-ha offer of $\$ 9.00$ days and $\$ 9.50$ nights for a seven-and-a-half
hour shift, also an offer for arbitration and called a strike
which has shut down the Portland papers. This adds to Portland's labor turmoil, and will grievously affect the no
mal life of the city.
Most people, workers as well as employers, would que Most people, workers as well as employers, would ques-
tion the wisdom of walking out on steady jobs with a $\$ 9.00$
pay check for each day's work, in times like the present. Un. ion leaders wanted to bring Portland up to the Seattle leve of $\$ 9$ for a seven-hour day. history labor has obtained from
time to time our indestrias in pay rates and reduction in hours of work per day, interrupted occasionally by depressions; bu otherwise steadily upward. This has been made possible
through technological improvements and mass production
Just now government is stepping in to take larger shares of Just now government is stepping in to take larger shares of
the income of a business. This lowers the ceiling for wage increases.
Union leaders have felt impelled to produce wage gains
at regular intervals for fear the members would lose loyatty at regular intervals for fear the members would lose loyalt
to the union. As industry matures and prosperity holds a
low levels these increases low levels these increases cannot be expected, and the mem-
bers should not expect their leaders to prodac them. If they bers should not expect their leaders to prodac them, If they
are forced, the weaker shops are put out of business to the injury of its workers.
The Portland strike
is not embroidered with Wagner act or nationed pattern.
tions board design nor with AFL-CIO cross-stitch. It is sim
tion ply a case where the workers wanted mors than the em ployers were willing to pay; and both sides rrefer to quit ra-
ther than to try to work. It becomes now a test of endur-

 Would do the hog-roll if some one told them

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Twenty Years Ago
Pi. Janury $\overline{16,} 1018$,




On the Record
By DOROTHY THOMPSON

| persistent attempt on the the Government to present, position to today's tenden cies as emanatIng from \& handful of greedy rich men representing ilege w 111 tail. The President's speech on Satur- day is a not her such attempt. Again, the "Head of the Nation" | prebt, and a large non-productive class of inspector-bureaucrati, so that the burden of maintalining and fincreasing the goods and serlices, which, produced and con- sumed, are the natlonal income, tall on fewer and fewer shoulders. <br> The enormous growth of a class parasite on the government, plus protessional job-holders having a professionalest in the per vested intere of the polleles Dy. which t |
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| restore and uphold the integrity of the morals of democraey"- |  |
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