

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe" From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

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"America's Needs and Resources"

Liberals and conservatives need no longer leap at each other's throats as far as the future of the United States is concerned. That is one point where spokesmen from both sides of the fence agree.

This new trend is seen by Russell Porter of the New York Times as "a partial restoration of the national unity with which the war against Fascism was fought." Theoretical socialists and arch-reactionaries still play their all-or-nothing game, but the recently intensified communist offensive against the American conception of democratic living is bringing about a concerted defense of American freedoms.

Liberal George Soule writes in the September 20 "Nation" that "The right way to deal with (America's) anxiety about the economic future... is not to pretend that everything will come out all right but to formulate and carry through a program based on a careful and balanced survey of facts."

A. A. Berle, jr., writing in the September "Survey Graphic," agrees with Soule that an outstanding survey is the new book, "America's Needs and Resources" by Dr. J. Frederic Dewhurst and associates of the Twentieth Century Fund. The book is the result of a four-year research program which ended with the conclusion that the United States now has the productive capacity and resources to provide a decent standard of living for all its citizens.

No realist has ever imagined that the nation's development has reached the plateau of progress. There are too many Americans still undernourished, uneducated; too many without adequate medical care, without future security; too many workers whose jobs will ebb away when the present high tide of inflated prosperity flows out. There is the terrible housing situation; the politically degenerate South; the waste of natural resources; the blotchy record of agricultural progress.

Liberals and conservatives agree that much remains to be done. Traditionally, they have disagreed violently as to the means for achieving the common ends.

Dewhurst's monumental study may show them the way toward cooperative efforts for the benefit of the whole nation. "America's Needs and Resources" undertakes to estimate the economic state of the nation, the size of population and the demand for goods in 1950 and 1960. It does not prove that production and wealth will increase; it does show that growth is possible. It outlines the tremendous jobs that remain to be done, the expenditures required, the necessity for free trade to provide adequate raw materials, and so on.

The book does not offer definite solutions, but it does present facts and figures which help define the problem: The expansion of production to meet America's need in terms of America's resources.

The liberal point of view, Berle says, begins with the emphasis on people—individuals with certain needs and rights. The public thinks in terms of practical results like food and housing, not in terms of doctrinaire political principles. Joe Doakes does not care whether private enterprise or the government provide him with cheaper electric power; his primary concern is what affects him. The public is "afraid of concentrated power, either in the hands of a centralized bureaucracy, or a centralized corporate monopoly," the liberal writer states.

The important thing, he believes, is that the supply of capital for production insuring a continuously working economic system with boom-and-bust fluctuations must never be closed. Whether the capital is provided by the government or by private enterprise is a secondary consideration. Berle would begin with private enterprise, but believes that the government must take over if business bogs down when capital is withdrawn by scared holders.

"Planning," he says, does not mean socialism, and the cost of blueprinting programs now would be much less than keeping thousands of idle workers on relief while plans are made to employ them. Dams, valley authority projects, etc., are not "made work," he emphasizes; they are public assets, necessary and profitable.

Porter thinks Berle's article calls for more government intervention than most business men would appreciate. But the "Times" writer shows that on many points Berle and the conservatives such as the National Association of Manufacturers agree. NAM's recent two-volume report, "The American Individual Enterprise System: Its Nature, Evolution and Future," proposes for economic liberalism "of the kind enunciated in the Roosevelt-Churchill Atlantic Charter." The NAM book, like Berle, opposes private monopolistic as well as government control of economy. NAM even agrees with Berle that the government may legitimately, by public demand, interfere with business.

This is a condition to which business men must adjust themselves, the NAM study proposes. To prevent mass unemployment and the resulting insecurity business should begin social planning now, before it becomes necessary for the government to take a hand, the NAM book urges.

"From all this," Porter concludes, "it would seem that both intellectuals and business men have learned... a healthy respect for the determination of the American people to protect its freedom and security against all attacks from Left or Right."

Problems in Labor's House

AFL leaders realize the truth of the parable about the Arab who let his camel stick its nose in the tent. Soon the whole body of the camel was inside and the Arab, presumably, was on the outside. It is nearly that way with John L. Lewis. After his fistfight with Bill Hutcheson of the carpenters' union, John L. broke away to found the CIO. He broke with President Roosevelt after the 1936 election, swung his strength to Wilkie in 1940 (but not the CIO votes), resigned as president of CIO, later pulled out his UMW and still later led them back to AFL which elected him a vice president.

Bitter opposition to Lewis developed because he alone refused to sign the non-communist affidavit for NLRB. While this controversy is resolved in large part by NLRB action, signing still seems to be necessary by the AFL executive council to permit the AFL federal unions to qualify before NLRB. So a move is under way to wipe out the 13 vice presidents to get rid of Lewis.

There is a lot of high and low politics in a big labor convention just as there is with other big organizations. Bill Green stays on as president because no one is strong enough to collect votes to succeed him, there are so many factions and jealousies in union leadership. But Green is getting old, Joe Padway who has supplied a lot of the brains for the AFL is dead, and there may be some upsets at the present San Francisco convention.

It is time for organized labor to get some fresh leadership and promote some internal reforms which are badly needed in the government of unions.

The Corvallis Gazette-Times, noting that voters in its home city voted in favor of the sales tax, hails them as "the sanest and best informed electorate in the state." But not so same and well informed as Pilot Rock citizens who turned in a vote of 131 for to 74 against the tax. The count of precincts over the state which gave a majority to the ST ran to a very small number, however.

IT SEEMS TO ME (Continued from page one) seemed obsessed with the danger from fires and need of gas masks.



"I have done everything possible about the high cost of living—I've placed the blame squarely on my political opponent!"

Salem Churches

- 400 N. 19th between Center and Chemeketa. Rev. James H. Taylor, pastor. Sunday school 9:45 a.m. Morning service 11 o'clock. Church choir singing. Sermon subject: "The Christian's Biography." 6:30 p.m. Foursquare Crusaders. Rev. McIntosh speaking. Evening service 7:45 o'clock. The McIntosh Gospel singers, begin two weeks of meetings. Sermon subject: "Where Do We Go From Here?" Special meetings every night except Monday and Saturday. An old time camp meeting in The Foursquare Church.

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- Valley Churches ROSDALE FRIENDS CHURCH Six and one half miles south of Salem. Oscar N. Brown, pastor. Sunday school 10 a.m. David Hampton, adult superintendent. Mrs. Floyd Bates, junior superintendent. Morning service 11 o'clock. Evening service 6:30 o'clock. Christian endeavor. Sermon subject, "Increase and Abound." Prayer meeting and Bible study on Thursday at 7:30 p.m.

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Presbyterians To Hear Baird

Dr. Jesse H. Baird, one of the great preachers and leaders of the Presbyterian church, will occupy the pulpit of First Presbyterian church Sunday morning, Dr. Baird is president of San Francisco Theological seminary and will speak on "Men to Match Our Times."

Youth Leader to Speak on Sunday At Local Church

Herbert Anderson, director of the Youth Center and Youth for Christ, will be the guest speaker at the Christian Missionary Alliance church, North 5th at Gaines, Sunday night, after speaking at the Youth for Christ in Portland Saturday night. The Rev. Herman J. Bohl is local pastor.

When mature trees are cut from a forest the remaining trees often grow two or three times as fast as they did before logging.