

### Timely Topics

By R. T. Moore

An interesting editorial in current issue of Fortune Magazine discusses the possibility of a fourth term for the President.

The writer reasons that unless unforeseen events completely reverse present political trends the Republican party is pretty sure to win decisive control of the Congress but the President would likely win his fourth term in office. The same general feeling throughout the electorate which elected him for the third term prevailed now is likely to send him to the White House for the fourth term. It is the belief that in spite of his obvious shortcomings as an executive, the President is the best man in sight for the job but needs the firm restraining hand of Congress to keep him from running wildly in many directions.

It is said that a strong faction of the Republican party is anxious to have the President returned for the fourth term so that he may stew in his own juice, so to speak. They believe that domestic affairs will be in such a frightful mess that it would break the heart of any other candidate to try and straighten them out. They feel that since the President is prone to yield to political pressure, public opinion will hedge him in and force him to take the, to him, distasteful corrective measures needed to restore order out of a coming chaos. This is a rather spiteful and somewhat narrow way of looking at things but it does have the advantage of combining the President's popularity with the good, hard common sense that emanates from a conservative Congress.

Whether this sentiment will prevail in the Republican party as a whole is, in my opinion, very doubtful. The party comes from its Mackinac Island conference with a constructive and foreign policy that will appeal to a large portion of the electorate. It is only in keeping with

the traditions of the party that they should choose a good candidate to carry their banner in the coming elections and should thrust aside any vindictiveness or ill will toward the President. After all, even the most rabid Republican must concede that F. D. R. is doing rather well as a military strategist even though he appears to be bungling the domestic situation. His is no easy job and he merits the loyal support of all Americans at this time.

Labor Day brings to the fore the question of whether the compulsory labor proposal of the WMC is to be needed or not.

Because of the propensity of the Administration to throw out trial balloons before launching any general policy, it is probable that this proposal is a feeler to test out public sentiment. If so, it has received a rather cold reception. Both Union labor and the National Association of Manufacturers are strongly opposed.

There appear to be two main reasons for this opposition to the proposal. First, that such a move is un-American and not suited to a Nation of rugged individualists like ourselves. We have an inborn antipathy for anything in the way of compulsion that restricts our freedom of action and freedom of speech. We resent any implication that we have to be compelled to support our Armed Forces at home. We dislike any and every form of regimentation.

Secondly, there is grave fear on the part of both unions and employers that Government has now entered too far into the economic life of the Nation. There is danger that this continued infiltration into business will result in destruction of both unions and corporations. In this event we would have a socialist state similar to that of Russia. Possibly that is what advocates of this compulsory labor proposal intend.

The whole idea of compulsion and rationing is very distasteful to me. I have faith enough in the spirit of the American people to believe fully that all but a very few of them will do the needful, once the situation is thoroughly explained to them. I believe in their capacity to adjust themselves to any situation which may arise because of reverses or essential needs on the military front. I believe they will support this war effort to the point of actual starvation if it appears necessary. I believe that the difficulties we are now experiencing are largely due to the fact that the public is not being told the exact truth.

I certainly hate to think that American people have become so degenerate as to need the lash of compulsion to induce them to perform what is their plain patriotic duty. I think the Administration has missed the boat when they launched campaigns of regimentation, even though it be with the best of intentions.

If we have nothing more to offer the world in the way of Democracy than merely the regimentation and restrictive control of the central government, we are fighting a lost cause. Herr Hitler organized a much better

system for that than we ever could. But the fact of the matter is that private enterprise and freedom of thought and action will emerge much better for the experience of the past decade or so. The war has taught us a much needed lesson and has proven beyond a shadow of a doubt that Fascism, Nazism or Communism, or any other form of autocratic government control, is not for us.

The present war boom is fraught with the gravest danger to our young people who are just starting out to earn their living.

Because of the ease with which large pay checks can now be acquired many of these young folks are getting the idea that industrial life is just one long parade along a flower-bedecked avenue. They are learning to believe that the physical and mental labor is not necessary in the providing of daily bread and that it is not smart to work too hard.

There is another fallacy that is wide-spread and has been for some time, that the world owes a person a living. Just why the world should owe anyone a living is not clear to me. But reasoning from this false premise one can get rather far afield in distorted thinking with resultant lowering of efficiency and general morale.

To subscribe to the theory that the world owes you a living is to deny the teachings of Christ that we are merely stewards of what we are permitted to possess and enjoy. It is to deny that we owe the duty to Society to contribute to the aggregate constructive effort to build up our Nation and to produce better things for our people.

There is a wide difference between the two conceptions. And our forefathers religiously followed the teachings of Christ as against the teachings of Marx or Nietzsche who held anti-Christian views and were influential in establishing the political thinking that has led to the dictatorships in Europe. We would be foolish, indeed, if, after these years of experience, we rejected the gold for the dross. Here is every indication that the trend of public thinking is back toward the Christian principles and that the crisis in our political life is well past.

It is the combined duty of parents, teachers, union labor leaders, and employers, to set Young America right in this matter. They must be taught that there is no easy way to success and that it is they who owe the world their living and their striving and not the world which owes them. Only those who put forth effort in full measure will harvest the complete contentment and satisfaction that brightens old age. This was true two thousand years ago, it is true today, it will be true two thousand years hence. This is a serious matter and should not be lost sight of in these days of all-out war activity.

The resignation of Mr. Sumner Welles as Under-Secretary of State marks the return of the Jeffersonian Democrats to power over the New Deal faction of the Party.

Although Mr. Welles was a lifelong friend of the President and a fellow student at Groton and Harvard and had the same political philosophy, he was sacrificed on the altar of the fourth term in order to appease the Jeffersonian stalwarts of the party. It would be interesting to know something of the faculties at both Groton and Harvard in view of the fact that their graduates seem to be strongly imbued with ideas of a centralized government. Because Mr. Welles is a man of means and technical training, it is to be hoped that he will consent to a post commensurate with his ability. He could be useful to the country if used in the proper place.

An immediate result of the ascendancy of Mr. Hull to complete dominance over policies of the State Department is the strong note sent to Argentina refusing them Lend-Lease aid on the grounds that they have not held up their end in protecting the Americas from encroachment by Nazism. Mr. Hull really socked the Argentines in the jaw and America is cheering him on. He is a tough customer in any kind of a feud and will whip the South American recalcitrants into line if it can be economically done.

The comparison of Mr. Hull with the President is an interesting study in contrasting characters. Both of them are good planners but poor executives. Mr. Hull is single-minded and intensely loyal to his convictions. The President is an opportunist and readily changes his convictions to fit the exigencies of the situation. Mr. Hull is straight-forward and blunt in his dealings with other people. The President is inclined to flatter and to circumvent. Mr. Hull will step right out and take the lead in carrying out any policy which he thinks is right. The President is inclined to wait and see whether the policy is to be popular before sticking his neck out as a leader.

But the President is the superior

### Out-of-Doors Stuff

by LANS LENEVE

Fishermen have been accused of stretching the truth so much concerning their catches that the whole fishing fraternity in general are regarded as down-right liars regarding their fishing tales. When a good catch of trout is made, or a large salmon taken, it is necessary to display the catch in order to be believed; otherwise a person is scoffed at when he tells of his prize catch. But regardless of the universal opinion that all fishermen are liars, we have found that the largest percentage of them are truthful regarding their catches; in fact, many of them being downright modest concerning them. And while a small percentage of them may boast the weight of their salmon a few pounds and the length of their trout catch a few inches, the majority of them are sincere, good fellows who refrain from stretching the truth.

Personally, we do not look upon all fishermen with suspicion regarding his tales of the big one that he caught, or the big one that got away, while at the same time we do not consider ourselves gullible.

It is usually the big one that gets away and that is but natural. The larger the fish the stronger it is. It puts more strain upon your tackle and is harder to handle, harder to play out and finally, harder to land. So therefore it is but natural that the big one is the one that usually gets away. And we sympathize with the angler who describes to us the battle with the big one that finally broke a leader, line, or bent a hook in escaping. We have had such experiences many times ourselves.

In stating that we believe a fisherman's tale of the one that got away and of his prize catch, etc., we do not mean that we swallow all the tales told us, for it is true amongst fishermen, as of any other profession that liars will be found in their ranks—but as already stated, the majority of anglers as a whole are honest, sincere fellows who are adverse to fibbing about their catches.

More hunters are taking to the marshes, to the hills and more anglers are taking to the streams each season. They have increased by the hundreds during the past five years. Streams are fished ten times as much now as they were a few years back. The CCC outfits have opened up roads into the hunting country and into the fishing country that has taken great toll from game and fish and more than natural propagation can catch up with within the next twenty years. Rare are the spots where a deer hunter may now go and not find other hunters. Rare are the streams indeed that do not bear the tracks upon their banks of many anglers.

We can directly charge the New Deal up with the final death blow to our game and fish, by the creation of the CCC outfits, for they retarded wild life fifty years at least.

In the past we have expressed our opinion of the work of CCC's much to the chagrin of New Deal lovers and have been "called" for our statements, but regardless of this fact, we are again "sounding off" and we assure you that we shall resent the intrusion of the New Deal despoilers until the end of our day—for it was they that converted the wilderness trails into roads and opened wide the door to isolated havens of our fish and wildlife. So to us they will always remain and be recalled as the despoilers of our wilderness retreats. Their work could have been praise worthy if directed along the proper channels and had they not been made a cat's paw of big timber interests and the Forestry Service. But they have left behind them a monument in our wilderness in the shape of wilderness roads—a monument drenched with the blood of our remaining wildlife, together with a far greater fire hazard than ever existed before. Which all may be chronicled as another downright boner to be found amongst the many that have been pulled by the New Deal.

diplomat and gets on with people in general very much better than Mr. Hull. Each supplies the character lack in the other and the two will make an excellent team if they pull together. But both of them like to play first fiddle in the orchestra and like to run the show themselves. The President will have to exercise all of his talents for tactfulness and diplomacy to keep peace with Mr. Hull. And if he does, the Nation will have strength in its foreign policy. But it will require a great deal more forbearance than the President has shown to date. Time will tell whether this rather unstable alliance will endure the tests of the coming eventful months. At any rate, Mr. Hull is boss for the moment.

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