

The Sentinel

A GOOD PAPER IN A GOOD TOWN

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Timely Topics

By R. T. Moore

The ghost of Samuel Gompers, the George Washington of organized labor, has come forth to haunt Mr. Hillman's National Citizens Political Action Committee. Mr. Gompers steadfastly kept his unions out of politics. His belief was that the intrusion of politics would tend to disrupt a labor movement composed of voters of all political faiths. Mr. Hillman, on the other hand, appears to believe that because a large majority of union members favor a fourth term for Mr. Roosevelt the minority members, even though of the opposite view, should accede to the will of the majority and support the fourth term campaign. He seems to construe the voting right as similar to other functions of democratic government wherein the majority prevails. Now comes evidence of disagreement with and disavowal of Mr. Hillman's policies by CIO locals.

Freedom to vote as the conscience dictates is one of the cardinal attributes of democracy. Without it, national unity would disintegrate, our economic strength would be dissipated, and our body politic destroyed in a political Armageddon between rival pressure groups, each seeking to annihilate the others in a mad scramble for power.

The sanctity of the ballot maintains the delicate balance of power so necessary to our economic forces and to direct their use for the continuing public benefit rather than permitting them to destroy themselves in one great outburst of power. It is the compass, the radio beam, that keeps government true to a course of service and impartial justice. It is as intimately close to the heart of the people as communion with their God and the practice of their religion. Compromise it and you destroy the very soul of democracy. Yet Mr. Hillman seems bent on doing just that in his mistaken belief that he is promoting the good of organized labor thereby.

It is readily conceded that the fourth term strength lies mainly in the populous centers where labor is controlled by the large unions. Mr. Roosevelt has succeeded in capturing the imagination and loyal support of millions of these people, aided by the clever propaganda of leftist elements who see in his re-election their own retention of power. But the large unions also have many who do not accept Mr. Roosevelt on faith. These insist that he should not be immune to political analysis and candid appraisal merely because he says he favors organized labor. They demand proof that Mr. Roosevelt does indeed hold the key to a labor Utopia. They refuse to support him blindly.

The numbers of union members of this frame of mind are variously estimated at from 20 per cent to 30 per cent. But mere numbers are not as significant as the fact that there are union members with the fortitude to speak right out in meeting even though their views are unpopular with the majority. And where there's a smoke, there's a fire.

The situation is viewed with secret satisfaction by conservative friends of union labor. They see in it the evidence of revolt against regimentation within union ranks and an indication that individual union members will deal harshly with autocratic labor leaders who betray their stewardship of fair administration and impartial justice. Whether or not you think this too optimistic a view and that labor unions are too firmly in the hands of professional leaders to be readily extricated by the individual members, it does seem true that the seed has been sown and that the judgment of Samuel Gompers will have been vindicated.

A declaration of principles for constitutional government made by a group of reputable citizens in the state of Florida has attracted wide attention in the business world. These principles embody states right, freedom from fear and compulsion, limited federal taxes, promotion of individual initiative, free enterprise, and withdrawal of government from

TWENTY YEARS A GO

(Taken from The Sentinel of Friday, August 29, 1924)
 Geo. W. Bryant announces that the Coast Auto Lines will make a special round trip fare to Bandon and return of \$1.50 on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. . . . The pageant Klakama will be given at Bandon Saturday evening and the Woodmen, of the World celebration on Labor Day is the other attraction for which a special rate is made by the stage company.

The following is the list of 22 teachers who have been secured to teach in the high school and grades this year: L. A. Parr, J. F. Cramer, Ruth Nissen, Esther M. Roeder, Caroline G. Wilson, Gertrude Ellis, Bertha Atkinson, Mary Druley, Keith Leslie, Rosa E. Glossop, Freda Cummings, Lena Crump, Louise Mathey, LaVerge Lamb, Anna Lewis, Laune Miller, Mary Hellwell, Bertha Ditto, Belva Gage, Anne Hendrickson, Vina Cronk, Martha Seebaum.

At his old stand at the east end of First street bridge, corner of Henry street, J. E. Quick is fitting up apartments for six families. . . . The sixteen furnished apartments in the new Nosler concrete building on the corner east of the post office are already all occupied.

Announcements have been received in Coquille of the marriage of Audrey T. Fredricks to Eloise, daughter of W. V. Hill, at Eugene last Saturday. Audrey, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Fredricks, is quite well known in this section.

business. It reads a good deal like the platform of the Republican party and yet its makers are probably all Democrats. It is suggested as proof that the overwhelming majority of Americans, regardless of political tags, want the same things economically.

Another conclusion to be drawn from the sentiments expressed in this Florida declaration is that the leftist New Deal is definitely out. For if this declaration accurately expresses the views of the southern democrats, and it is reasonable to assume that it does, the inevitable coalition of southern Democrats and Republicans in both houses of the Congress will dictate domestic policy no matter who is elected President.

The election of Mr. Roosevelt, therefore, would not necessarily result in a continuance of his policies since he would be forced to make his views conform to the wishes of the coalition. He would have to reform his cabinet, which he should have done long ago, remove objectionable federal personnel from office and adopt a more conservative course conflicting with campaign promises. The election of Mr. Dewey would require very little, if any, adjustment of his personal views since he had already adopted a program that harmonizes with the Florida declaration.

This declaration is only another link in the chain of evidence to show that the American people have pretty well made up their minds on domestic policies in the post-war. These policies will be at considerable variance with those of the present administration. Even if Mr. Roosevelt's great personal popularity should carry him into a fourth term, he will nevertheless be compelled to do an about-face and adopt many of the policies he has heretofore opposed. The mandate will be that the successful candidate will be expected to field at all times to the will of the people as revealed in the Congress. Conflict between the executive and legislative branches of government will not be tolerated, nor will political domination of the judiciary. The general course of government will be the same no matter which candidate is successful. The main difference will be that Mr. Roosevelt, the older man, would be adopting the prescribed course by compulsion while Mr. Dewey, being the younger, would do it because his heart is in it.

Insurance Specialist, F. R. Bull.

EARLY NEWS BY LOWELL THOMAS
 7:15 P. M.
 DON LEE-MUTUAL
 Standard of California

Coos county voted yesterday by a vote of practically two to one in favor of issuing \$280,000 in bonds to match state funds in building highways.

There was a lamentable lack of interest in so important a matter as the budgeting of funds for school purposes here Monday evening. Twenty qualified voters were present to cast their ballots, which is probably less than five per cent of the property owners who have the privilege of voting on such matters.

Reuben H. Mast, Jr., came in from Portland the first of the week to spend his vacation with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Mast. Reuben is now a full-fledged doctor with state certificate.

W. H. Wimer is getting the material on his lot, just east of the M. O. Hawkins residence on Spurgeon Hill for the seven-room bungalow H. E. Shelley & Son will start erecting for him Monday.

G. W. Taylor, who was down here a short time ago from Eugene, visiting his son, purchased the Dayne Hudson place on Fourth street, opposite the Christian church, and he and Mrs. Taylor expect to occupy it in the near future.

Mrs. C. L. Tuttle left Sunday morning for her home in Coalinga, Calif., but expected to be back here by the middle of September as she and Sam are returning then to make Coquille their home.

Distance Lends Oregon More And More Enchantment

Clarence Shoemaker, formerly the Sentinel pressman and who has been employed in the government printing office in Washington, D. C., for the past couple of years, and Mrs. Shoemaker write from back there as follows:

If we were without the Sentinel—well, it would be awful. We do enjoy it so very much and if we could only be home! That's all we can think of any more.

It's a shame to think how far away we had to go to find out what a wonderful place Oregon is. There is no place even comparable. It's so hot here now. We feel we will smother for sure. The humidity is so high.

Jeanie, [their daughter], is much better now since her operation. We sure have had our share of sickness out here. But we are all well now and Clarence is not yet in the service so I believe I have much to be thankful for.

Clarence still works 16 hours a day and is holding up fine. Please remember us to everyone at "home." Sincerely hope this finds everyone there well and in fine spirits.

VISIONS AND THE LEGION

Our fighters in the front lines and the fox-holes are fired by no such futile fanaticism as characterizes the Japs and the Nazis. Our men have a job to do—they're doing it because they want to finish it off and get home.

Neither emperor worship nor hero worship appears in their dreams of glory; they dream, in moments between pulverizing the enemy, of the jobs they'll come home to, the families they have or will have, and most often of the little shop or business they will start for themselves and be their "own boss."

Perhaps no one knows all this better than the men of the American Legion, for they once were soldiers themselves and now are the dads of the lads in the ranks. Thus the postwar program just announced by a Legion commission commands, as it should, the attention of all who sincerely have at heart the welfare not alone of the returning servicemen but also of the country they went forth to defend.

The Legion advocates "employment fostered by a system of free enterprise embodying the greatest encouragement to individual initiative and to every sort of sound business leadership, along with an effective implementation of a national program of fair and impartial treatment for both management and labor."

Of unquestioned patriotism, from a background both military and parental, and with a quarter-century of experience behind it, the Legion speaks—and makes sense!

Insurance Specialist, F. R. Bull.

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Weekly Letter From Washington, D. C.

BY CONGRESSMAN HARRIS ELLSWORTH

Washington, D. C., August 28—We are arguing with the OPA and War Food Administration officials here about removing ration points on all lamb and from the higher grades of beef also.

Early this week I attended a conference with Marvin Jones, War Food Administrator, which was attended also by Congressmen from the states of Washington, Utah, Idaho and California. Jones and the WPA are sincerely endeavoring to do a good job but the problem, especially the meat problem, is big and complicated. As Food Administrator, Marvin Jones has the power to remove ration points from lamb and from beef, too. He may ultimately do it, but not, I fear until such action is too late to do the good that could be done if the points were taken off now.

Ration points are not needed now for the purchase of lower grade lamb. This means that you may buy any cut of lamb you desire without ration points but such lamb will be cut from a carcass that has been graded lower than the commercial and good and choice grades. Contrary to the idea held by many people the grade terms are applied only to the entire carcass and not to specific cuts of meat. The difference is that the leg of lamb you buy without expending ration points will not be quite so good as a leg of lamb purchased with points.

The House passed the Surplus Property bill this week. A similar bill is now under consideration in the Senate. The Senate bill has some major points of difference with the bill passed by the house—perhaps the most important point being that the House provides for administration by a single administrator while the Senate version calls for administration by a board or commission of eight.

When the Senate passes its bill the two bills will then be taken into a conference committee of House and Senate members. This conference committee will then endeavor to put the two bills together in a way that will be approved by both houses. Although this seems a slow and cumbersome way of doing it I think the procedure on such an important piece of legislation gives the maximum opportunity for careful final consideration and for the exchange of ideas.

Speaking of surplus property—material and equipment no longer needed for war—there is some available now. The Army has been releasing used trucks and a few jeeps which have been declared surplus and are being sold. To obtain a piece of such equipment the proper procedure is to address a letter to Mr. Ernest Olrich care of Procurement Division Treasury Department Washington D. C. outlining what you desire and you will then be told where such equipment is located and how to proceed in securing it.

Donald Nelson long time head of the War Production Board has now been handed the customary new deal elimination routine. He is being

sent abroad—to China. (Henry Wallace was a recent visitor to the Orient too). Washington newspapers here are given a big play to this story. It is referred to as the battle of Washington.

To my way of thinking the nauseating thing about this dismissal of Donald Nelson is that although he has done a fine patriotic job and has worked so hard and under such terrific pressure that he has nearly ruined his health—the thanks he gets from a "grateful" administration is that he is summarily kicked out.

The War Production Board under Donald Nelson's direction has handled a production job that has amazed the world and ruined our enemies. It is one war agency that has attended strictly to its business—the task of which it has been assigned. Under Donald Nelson it has had the confidence and respect of the people.

The War Production Board will now be run by 36-year old J. A. Krug who has been in the Navy the last three months. He is reputed to be the only 100 per cent new dealer in WPB and has had practically no business experience in the field of private enterprise. He worked for TVA.

SAUSAGE CRISIS DUE TO OPA PEPPER PRICE CEILING

The ceiling price on black pepper should be 8 1/2 cents, said OPA, although the average price for 120 years has been a dime. Pepper importers refused to sell. Federal Surplus Commodities corporation tried to requisition pepper for civilians, lost out in U. S. district court, which ruled that if the importers didn't want to sell their pepper at 6 1/2 cents, they didn't have to.

Thus, with six million pounds of pepper in U. S. stocks, the public finds itself almost pepperless. Hardest hit may be farmers who make their own sausage. Sausage seasoning manufacturers must have pepper, and at once—not in midwinter. They say that right now they couldn't supply the needs of one single county. Manufacturers are willing to pay 10 to 10 1/2 cents a pound for pepper, without increasing the cost of seasoning. OPA has promised to "give further consideration."

—Farm Journal and Farmer's Wife.

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