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ARTHUR EDWARD POWELL
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EDITORIALS

ANOTHER POWER AUTHORITY?

It has been proposed that the Federal government create another power authority, similar to the Tennessee Valley Authority which is now developing Muscle Shoals. The proposed bureau would be called the Wabash Valley Authority, and would develop power on the Wabash and White rivers in Indiana. Expenditure of public funds to the extent of \$50,000,000 would be authorized.

Now representatives of labor, including John L. Lewis of the United Mine Workers, William Green of the American Federation, and A. F. Whitney of the Railway Brotherhoods, have filed a vigorous protest to the proposal. Their statement, issued in connection with the National Job Saving and Investment Protection Bureau for the Coal Industry, says:

"These dams would be constructed out of public funds and the electricity generated would supplant the electricity which is now generated in coal burning steam plants throughout the state of Indiana. If it were carried through, the project would shut down dozens of our Indiana coal mines and put thousands of our miners out of work. The funds to carry it through would be secured through taxation levied, in part, against the coal mines that would be destroyed."

There is growing criticism of the duplicating activities of the Federal government in the field of electrical development—and it is doubtful if the public would welcome still another authority of this kind. Putting private industry out of business, at the expense of workers and investors, cannot bring recovery—it can simply make depression worse.

"Those who contend that public regulation has failed—which it has not—certainly cannot expect better results from the more complex task of public operation."—Wendell L. Wilke, President, The Commonwealth and Southern Corporation.

THE TRANSPORTATION IDEAL

"What we want is a transportation system that will adequately perform the transportation service required at a given time, expand or contract to meet the varying needs of commerce, and also provide, in so far as possible, the stability which is required in the interests alike of shippers, investors, laborers and the taxpaying public," said Harold G. Moulton, President of the Brookings Institution, recently.

It is to be regretted that our present system hardly resembles this ideal. As many authorities have pointed out, there is a vast amount of waste in the operation of our various common carriers—a vast amount of duplication of facilities, for which the public, in the long run, must pay. The fault lies in our transportation policy.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has said that all carriers should pay comparable wages, render reliable service and bear equal tax burdens. Leading authorities believe they should likewise be regulated by one agency. Achieving these things would give us a fine start toward solving the growing transportation problem.

LIFE INSURANCE AND BUSINESS RECOVERY

In a recent magazine article, A. B. Wood, President of the Sun Life of Canada, points out that life insurance is destined to play an important and constructive part in every business recovery. Every increase in employment and every improvement in the financial situation of the average family opens a potential market for the sale of insurance. And, as times get better, men turn to insurance to protect their families against the exigencies of the fu-

ture, to educate their children, to provide against emergencies, and to make provision for financial independence in their old age.

During the depression, those with adequate insurance have, as a spokesman for the industry recently said, slept more easily because of their confidence that their policies would be paid, one hundred cents on the dollar, when they fell due. Life insurance does not offer gigantic profits—it is not designed to be a "get-rich-quick" nostrum. It is designed to provide the highest attainable degree of safety and security—and that, in these times, is what the average man wants above everything else.

The recovery we have experienced during the last year has been reflected in heavy gains in the sale of life insurance policies of all kinds. Gains have been especially noticeable in policies which contain investment, as well as protection, features. That fact assures greater national financial stability in the future.

THINGS ONE REMEMBERS

By E. M. Hofer

May Day Parade in New York—The workers look well fed and well dressed. They were well behaved, happy looking—singing and joking; but their slogans and banners were destructive. Down with this, that and the other!

Thousands of school boys and girls who had no conception of values, savings, employment, property rights as guaranteed by our constitution—led by theorists, dreamers and avowed destructionists—had been fed on the poison that the man who had saved and acquired property must have wrung it from a helpless people.

But consider the comedy of it—they were marching and denouncing capital and savings and constitutional rights by the grace of the very system they wished to destroy. Hundreds of policemen lined the streets to see that they were protected in the full exercise of their rights under our constitution, as well as to see that they did not violate the same constitutional rights of other citizens.

Again the humor of the situation was apparent when it was necessary to separate the socialist and communist parades to prevent clashes between them if they met.

Neither of the groups would live in countries where socialism and communism now reign supreme, because they could not enjoy the liberties of self expression guaranteed them by the United States Constitution and the so-called capitalistic system.

In other words, the socialists and communists can't get along with each other, they like to make believe that they are oppressed in the country that harbors and protects them and they don't want to go live in the nations that they have adopted the views they advocate here, because in those nations they would be wiped out like flies if they raised their voices against the government policies.

It is high time that we emphasize the blessings that our constitution offers to United States citizens and advise those who do not like that brand of liberty to move to the happy hunting grounds where their ideals are not established.

Lava Beds Rare Field for Geologists

Modoc Lava Beds National Monument, Calif., July 25.—In addition to being a rare field for geologic research and historical study, the Modoc Lava beds form an interesting area for animal, bird and flower lovers. A recent partial survey revealed numerous animals and birds and many flowers.

While there is a marked absence of streams and bodies of water in the monument, this condition does not seem to interfere with bird and animal life in this region. Nearly 50 birds have been identified during the past month by Ranger C. Fisher who has also classified nearly 30 or reliable service and bear equal tax burdens. Leading authorities believe they should likewise be regulated by one agency. Achieving these things would give us a fine start toward solving the growing transportation problem.

A complete explanation of the method how the animals obtain water has not been offered, but it is thought birds find moisture available in the numerous caverns which dot the 45,000 acres of lava bed country. The largest of these caverns is known as Skull cave, with a roof rising nearly 100 feet above the floor. It has three levels, with the lowest containing a river of solution in which embedded bones of animals are visible, indicative of animal life centuries ago. The cave derives its name from the presence of scores of bighorn sheep and pronghorn antelope skulls. These animals are now extinct in this region.

Economic Highlights

Happenings That Affect the Dinner Pails, Dividend Checks and Tax Bills of Every Individual. National and International Problems Inseparable from Local Welfare.

The general public doesn't know it as yet, but a definite change is taking place in the attitude of the Administration toward industry. We are entering what might be termed the "Second phase of the New Deal."

The first phase was characterized by aggressive and often ruthless methods. Rules were laid down, orders given—and any individual or business which didn't like it was apt to be denounced for slackerism. Uproot of that was much hard-feeling, and increasing friction throughout the political and social order. It's a fact that sheer force alone can produce results for a time—but a day comes when it loses its potency.

Under the second phase, there will be less calling of names, less emotionalism. There will be more cooperation and dispassionate, logical discussion of issues and problems. The "Big Stick," to borrow a famous slogan from the term of Roosevelt the First, will be called into play less often. And, most important of all, there will be less experimentalism.

One interesting sign of the change is in the new status of the so-called Brain Trust. A few months ago no column could emanate from Washington without mention of one or another of the Brain-trusters. They were supposed to be as close to the President as his righthand, and it was rumored that he wouldn't so much as sign his name without asking their advice. That was unfair to the President who, whatever you think of his policies, has a mind of his own. The President called upon the Brain Trust when he wanted to talk about theories—the group is made up of intelligent young men, mostly from university professorships, who are accustomed to rarified intellectual air. The trouble is that few of them have had practical experience. They have taught, they have not operated businesses, and theory is one thing and actual experience another. If they had had their way, the country would have embarked upon the giddiest experiments imaginable, and confusion would have reigned supreme.

They aren't getting their way. You hear much less of them today than you used to—only Professor Tugwell, handsomest and smartest of the lot, is still good for headline notice. It was rumored that one of the Brain-trusters was going to be made head of the vastly important new Securities Commission—but when the appointment was made it went to a hard-headed business man who has spent most of his life in brokerage and knows the game, not from textbooks, but from actual play in it.

Still another sign of the Administration's shift to the right is the proposed new-setup for NRA. General Johnson has been the whole show so far, and his methods and speeches are examples of extreme "first phase" methods of getting things done by threats and appeals to mass-emotionalism. Now the chances are that the NRA will be administered in the future by a board made up of a number of men of "judicial temperament and economic background," as the U. S. News puts it. There will be more experience in the administration of the bureau—and considerably less theory.

The effect of this change will not be felt to any great extent for a few months—summer is upon us, and it is always the quiet time of the year in both business and government. But when fall rolls around there is hope that the relationship between government and business is going to look very different from that of last fall.

One difficulty in writing about the strikes is that by the time an article sees print the situation is likely to have undergone almost complete metamorphosis. For ex-

ample, on the day this is written it looks as if there will be a general strike on the Pacific Coast which will tie everything up solid.

However, whether there is a widespread general strike or not, labor troubles are going to a thorn in the country's side for a long time to come. Labor organizers believe they have the greatest chance in history to force the closed shop on all industry—and one or two defeats won't cause them to give up. Employers are equally adamant—they are willing to arbitrate such matters as wages, hours and working conditions, but are absolutely opposed to the closed shop. They will promise not to discriminate against union labor—but they refuse to employ only union men.

The attitude of the Federal government in recent labor disputes has been interesting. It has kept a neutral policy, is apparently torn between its friendliness for labor, and its dislike of anything that upsets industry at a time when stimulated business is an urgent need. However, it is a forgone conclusion that if matters get tense enough, the government will have to step in. State and local governments, in a nation wide strike, are impotent, and only the federal power is adequate to cope with the situation.

Earwig Poison

Formula Is Given

Through the United States department of agriculture, bureau of entomology, Chester Cole of 729 Welch street, Medford, has obtained the following formula for poison earwig bait:

- Bran, 12 pounds
- Sodium fluosilicate, 1 pound
- Fish oil, 1 quart

Mix the dry bran and sodium fluosilicate very thoroughly, add the fish oil, and mix thoroughly again. No water should be used.

The bait should be scattered thinly over the entire yard, and especially along board fences and trees, telephone poles wood piles and other places where earwigs are known to lurk in numbers. The quantity of bait given in the formula is sufficient for one application to an area of about 8,000 square feet. Do not sprinkle the lawn until the bait has been out at least two nights. The bait should be kept out of reach of children. Chickens must eat a large quantity before ill effect is noted.

Wool Men Report

Increased Tonnage

Favorable returns to growers on their last year's wool clip has brought in many new members and thus far this year 1,599,999 pounds of wool has been signed on new marketing agreements, according to a report by the Pacific Wool Growers Association to the Cooperative Division, Farm Credit Administration. Pacific Wool Growers markets cooperatively for an extensive membership in California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada and Idaho.

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In the Willamette Valley, Oregon last year the Pacific returned from 30 to 33 cents a pound to its members, net at their ranch, for the better medium grade wools. Short clothing-wools brought from 28 to 31 cents net. Dealers in this district last year paid from 12 cents in April to 25 cents in June.

Approximately the same percentage of benefit was obtained by members in other parts of the Pacific's territory. Pacific Wool Growers, which pioneered cooperative wool-marketing on the Pacific coast has been operating since 1921. Over the 13-year period association prices to members averaged 3-1-3 cents better than the average shearing time prices received by non-members. Allowing for at least three depression years, the gain during the normal years was more than the 3-1-3 cents.

Wells' Favorite

Story at Roxy

H. G. Wells, the great British writer whose brain conceived the

sensational story of "The Invisible Man." Universal's startling film which will thrill heatseakers next Sunday and Monday at the Roxy Theatre, is known as "the author who never wrote anything but a best seller."

Wells' list of literary triumphs includes "War of the World," "The Sleeper Awakes," "Food of the Gods," "A Modern Utopia," "Ann Veronica," "Tono Bungay," "Mer-Like Gods" and the famous "Outline of History."

His "The Invisible Man," from which R. C. Sheriff prepared the screenplay for the strangely fascinating picture, is one of his own favorite stories, and intrigued him with its possibilities as it intrigued those who are thronging to see its screen version.

Claude Rains, William Harrigan, Gloria Stuart, Dudley Digges, Una O'Connor, Henry Travers and an unusually large cast of brilliant stage and screen players portray the strange Wells characters in "The Invisible Man," which James Whale directed with exceptional finesse.

F. J. Huber

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