

The American

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ARTHUR EDWARD POWELL
 Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL

Agitators, like parrots, repeat themselves. Their current popular phrase is: "The inexhaustible wealth of this great country is controlled by 2 per cent of the population." Notice they now say "controlled"—not "owned."

Accepting that figure, we find that 2,450,000 people exercise the control. That is one controller for every 50 people, and the 50 include men, women, children, producers and non-producers.

In the A.E.F. there were 2,000,000 soldiers. There were only 100 officers at headquarters who made the decisions. No one ever thought of polling the corporals, sergeants and other minor controllers before the decisions were made.

The important thing is not who controls the wealth but who benefits from it. More than 3,500,000 farmers own their farms; upward of 43,000,000 persons have life insurance policies; more than 14,000,000 families own homes; somebody owns 29,000,000 automobiles and millions of radios, refrigerators and the like.

Who got the income from the wealth controlled by the 2 per cent? The Department of Commerce says the total national income in 1934 was \$48,500,000,000. Of that, 39.5 per cent, or \$19,157,500,000 went to persons whose income was less than \$5,000. Those with incomes from \$5,000 to \$10,000 got 9.4 per cent while less than 1 per cent went to those making over \$100,000. Incidentally, the 39.5 per cent paid practically no income taxes while the taxes on the others ranged as high as 79 per cent.

Maybe the agitators would like to split up the \$48,500,000,000 so every man, woman and child would get \$381 a year. That would be an exact, even distribution. But it would rob every man of the incentive to get ahead, and somehow we can't conceive of an ambitionless nation living through the ages.

RESERVES AGAINST DEPRESSION

During the five years of depression, says the United States News, American business dipped into its reserves to the tune of \$26,500,000,000.

That was the volume of its spending OVER AND ABOVE its income during the period. Most of it was spent in 1931 and 1932, when conditions were at their worst. The tapering off started in 1934.

The money was accumulated during years of good business, when substantial profits were earned, when there was no unemployment problem, and when depression was a word associated with 1907. All through those good years, business executives wisely built up a "rainy-day" reserve. They realized that prosperity, permanent as it seemed then, might not go on forever, that another depression might come, and that business overhead might some day be greater than its receipts.

The twenty-six billion dollars of reserves thus kept factories open that otherwise would have closed. It kept men at work, that would otherwise have been discharged, to swell the vast rolls of the unemployed. It paid dividends that saved thousands of people of whom a large proportion were widows and minor children, from utter poverty and distress. In many cases, only the existence of reserves enabled corporations to meet fixed charges, such as bond interest, and so saved them from bankruptcy.

It is the building up of such reserves that Federal legislation now threatens, through proposed taxation to force industry to dispose of surplus earnings at once, or give a big percentage of them over to the tax collector. In the light of the experience of the last five years, it seems inconceivable that such a bill should be suggested—and even more inconceivable that the American people should countenance it.

TRAINING FOR THE JOB
 Men and women don't become doctors by chance. They spend years of their lives getting the necessary knowledge. And then, after passing

Local Happenings

The WRC will hold their birthday party at the hall Saturday May 1.

Mr. John Powell, accompanied by his sister, Dorothy Powell, motored to Gold Beach last Friday. Mrs. Powell, who had been visiting her parents there for several weeks returned with them Sunday evening.

The Oregon Radio Amateur Association will hold their convention in Ashland next year.

Mrs. Minnie Buckles received a letter from Mrs. Yaki at Chowchilla Monday. Mrs. Yaki sends her best regards to all her friends and says she would enjoy seeing them all. They are well and working hard.

Mr. Frank Ward from Keno was a weekend guest at Mrs. Neal's home. Mr. Ward and Mr. Peck fished at Hilton Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Martin and son and Mrs. Manning of Rogue River were callers at the Theodora Glass home Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Crowson of Ashland were Sunday dinner guests at the Sanford J. Richardson home.

A twelve piece orchestra is expected to assist in the Bible School music at the Christian Church next Sunday and every Sunday. Attendance in the school is increasing steadily. All who have no other Sunday school "home" are invited.

Easter Sunday there were forty students in the high school class of the Christian Church which is taught by Mrs. Lois Young. The usual attendance is around thirty. All young people are made welcome.

As local chairman of National Music Week, Mrs. Lois Young is urging churches, schools, granges and all organizations to make a special effort musically, during the coming week of May 1-9. The whole nation will be putting forth extra ordinary efforts in the participation and enjoyment of music next week. Each person is requested to do his share in this worthwhile project.

examination upon examination, they are allowed to prescribe for mankind's physical ailments.

The construction of bridges is entrusted only to engineers who can erect bridges that won't collapse. Scientific advance is not achieved by novices playing with test tubes. In private business, the man at the top works himself there. He, too, has spent years studying for his job.

The average politician is just a man elected to office. No special knowledge is required of him.

In some quarters there are a minority who thoughtlessly recommend that we let government run all our businesses. Read what Mathew Woll, a vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, had to say about that in the magazine Annals of the American Academy:

"Corporations are controlled by men. The machinery out of which corporations make their products and profits is controlled by men. One of the great issues of the future is going to revolve around this question: Which set of men shall exercise the judgment upon which control and regulatory measures shall be based? Shall it be the political or industrial set that will govern the operation of industry? Labor holds that the competence lies within industry and that political and political methods may possess such competence only by chance."

We wouldn't let a politician remove our appendix or treat our heart. Is the average present-day complex business so simple that we can entrust it to just anybody? Or should we give the job to the man who is trained for it?



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Mrs. Cantor received a letter from Orville in Detroit stating that he was having a wonderful trip and expected to be home in about three weeks.

The Carnation Club will meet with Mrs. Fernald today.

Mr. Walker of the Columbia Utility Telephone Company of Eagle Point was a business caller at the Central Point telephone office Wednesday.

Jimmy Green visited at the Dunlap home in Gold Hill recently.

The Past Matrons of Nevada Chapter will entertain the Past Matrons of Keamea Chapter of Medford at the Masonic hall, May 8th.

Mrs. Marie Lange and Hildegard Pierce and little daughter, Marie Hildegard accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Emil Lange on a business trip to Butte Falls Sunday.

Mr. Tom Shaver is in the Ross Barber Shop during Mr. Ross's absence with an attack of the rheumatism.

Mr. and Mrs. Maal from Crescent City who have been visiting relatives in Ashland called on Mervyn Gleason Tuesday.

FOR SALE—19 Durant pick-up light delivery truck in good condition—\$75. 351 Avery Street, Ashland. P. O. Box 302.

Entertained at Dinner
 Mr. and Mrs. Stout and Mr. Johnson of Calgary, Canada who are returning home after spending the winter in Los Angeles Mr. and Mrs. Donald Faber and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Faber were dinner guests Monday at the E. C. Faber home. Mr. Johnson is the father of Mrs. Donald Faber.

Joined with Wimer Sunday
 The Christian Endeavor of the Federated Church joined the Wimer young folks for Endeavor services Sunday and took full charge of the Church Services. About twenty-five of the young folks from here attended.

Local Broadcast will Be Given Saturday
 Mr. A. H. Banwell will give a Central Point broadcast Saturday noon at 12:16 for the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. Let us all listen in.

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The Al G. Barnes Circus, the world's largest traveling on trains of double length steel railroad cars, elephants, horses and menagerie animals will exhibit in Medford, May 6 at 2 and 8 p. m.

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