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THE CENTRAL POINT

AMERICAN

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ARTHUR EDWARD POWELL Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

TAX DODGERS AND ECONOMY DODGERS

A legitimate campaign against

laws, surely the Treasury Depart- and Michigan. It is his belief that ment could point them out and Con- the labor movement, if it is to be gress could correct the situation in successful, must be permanently and short order.

public officials are responsible for over labor and its desires and activievaders.

for the government from tax evadenergy and determination in saving such strategy as the sit-down ers, would spend a fraction of the forcing efficiency and economy mea- per cent closed shop, where no nonbillions to the government by enple of this nation heavy increases in of industry's earnings. taxes and provide less incentive to

be in the same boat in public esteem may cost the hard-pressed taxpayer pennies, while the official economydodger costs him millions.

of strikes than at any other period However, today the issues are deeper in the country's history with the ex- and different, and present . strikes through May, exactly 2,323 strikes = have occurred. They have struck 46 Nexico being the exceptions. As is to be expected, they have been most numerous in sections of the country where industrial development is highest-Michigan New York, New England, California. They have been least numerous in the agricultural states-Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, etc.

Even so, there is nothing unique in the number of strikes that have occurred in recent months-the World War years provide a numeri-

cal parallel. However, as the U.S. true that for the first time in our butcher shop in Medford Monday.

In practically all pre-depression Entered as second class matter at strikes, labor demanded higher gon, under the Act of March 8, 1879. weeks. The closed shop was rarely a vital issue. Today the primary demand of strikers is the closed shop. closed shop.

labor's attitude. Furthermore, it has been accompanied by the entry dented scale, The A. F. of L., for inof political partisanship-yet before the last election, A. F. of L.'s President Green and other high officials came out strongly in favor of the tax dodgers is something that no-reelection of Mr. Roosevelt. And body can object to. The unusual part John L. Lewis, head of A. F. of L's about the present so-called cam- rival, the CIO, is a strong Roosevelt paign is. Why was action delayed backer, and was a major contributhis long if officers of the govern- tor to the Democratic campaign Oregon was a business visitor in this ment knew that tax evasion has been fund. He is likewise a strong influ-community Monday afternoon. ence in several of the major indus-If there are loopholes in our tax trial states, notably Pennsylvania aggressively involved in politics.

The public might be as much in- This unprecedented situation has terested in knowing which of our caused a definite cleavage of opinion permitting tax evasion to continue ties. It is the general opinion among in the flagrant manner they claim, employers, for instance, that the as it is in the names of the tax great issue of the hour is whether labor is to run, by proxy, the govern-In the meantime, however, if ment. The labor union executives those who talk about saving pennies and the liberal and radical publications that side with labor, feel that direct action is essential, and that strikes and the demand for a 100 sures, some worthwhile results could union man may work, is necessary be secured that might save the peo- if labor is to receive its fair share

One thing is certain-labor is more powerful today than ever in The private tax dodger and the the past. In the nineteen years endeconomy-dodging public official will ing in 1932, less than 30 per cent of strikes ended with labor winning its before long. The only difference be- demands. Last year, more than 40 tween the two is that the tax dodger per cent of strikes culminated in unequivocal victories for the strikers while in 36 per cent more, labor re ceived part of its demands.

As every student of history knows STRIKERS' DEMANDS CHANGE recovery from a depression breeds "Since last November there has strikes. This was true after the debeen a larger monthly average total pressions of 1884, 1891, 1907, etc ception of 1917," says the United cannot be accurately compared with States News. From November those of previous decades. It is also

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News also points out, there is a vast history, the Federal government has lations Board.

Admittedly, the Wagner Act is clerk. wages and/or shorter working one-sided-it puts responsibilities of many kinds upon employers, and few upon labor. The Supreme Court spoke of tihs fact in upholding the Hurst was to have undergone a mi-In many instances, union demands Act, but said there was nothing in nor operation for higher wages and shorter work the Constitution to prevent Congress weeks have been met by industry...... from passing a one-sided law. So far were dinner guests at the Wertz but strikes have continued, because the Wagner Act has certainly failed home Thursday evening. employers refused to grant the in preventing strikes-but in fair- Phil Wertz is doing chores for ness to the Act, it should be record- Frank Hurst during Mr. Hurst's abed that it has seldom been invoked, sence. This is obviously a vital change in In the recent steel strikes, for insance, it was not brought into force cut Thursday. So far the farmers in As a result, the adequacy of the Act this region have been lucky in not remains in question and is yet to be having any hay damaged by the restance, used to keep absolutely clear proved. General opinion holds that cent rain. the Act must be extensively revised if it is to achieve real success.

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and fundamental difference in the demands the strikers are making today as compared to those they made through legislation-the Wagner of District 13 June 21, Frank Hurst Act creating the National Labor Re- was elected director for three years

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Master Jack and Bob Frederick

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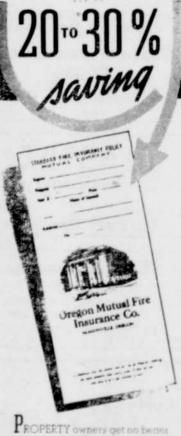
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