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ARTHUR EDWARD POWELL
Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

HANDWRITING ON THE WALL

Certain labor leaders in the United States today set themselves and their demands above the welfare and safety of the nation.

To enforce their demands, whatever they happen to be, they do not hesitate to imperil the lives, not only of the workers themselves, but of every man, woman and child in our country.

Standing behind the cloak of freedom which they enjoy in this land, they are deliberately pursuing a course which may well destroy that freedom, and destroy with it the labor movement they prostitute for financial gain and power.

They dictate to government as well as to industry and the worker. There is only one force that can control them—public opinion, which eventually controls government.

The welfare of the public is today threatened on all sides by rule or ruin labor leadership.

First, our national defense is at stake.

Second, the nation's supply of coal is depleted to the danger point by strikes and threatened strikes.

Third, farm production is discouraged through increased costs the farmer cannot meet.

Fourth, the railroad workers now go the defense workers and the coal miners one better and demand a 30 per cent increase in basic wages which, if granted, would so boost living costs that the vicious circle of strikes would start all over again.

The development of little dictatorships was practiced in foreign lands until helpless people accepted a total political dictatorship which finally destroyed personal liberty and labor liberty as well.

Labor must realize that when the safety of the nation is in jeopardy, anything can happen. If the people are driven too far, they will be forced to demand a government dictatorship that will end labor dictatorship. And if that happens, the eventual result will be the destruction of the kind of freedom we have all enjoyed.

HOUSE CLEANING AND FIRE

Mrs. America is now turning her expert hand to the job of spring house cleaning, and woe betide all interference! There she stands—a towel guarding her coiffure, with a broom and a scrubbing brush—mistress of all she surveys.

There is panic amid the cobwebs, the dust particles shudder despairingly. Wise husbands stay downtown for dinner. Smart children absent themselves.

But the National Board of Fire Underwriters dares to raise a voice. "Mrs. America," it says, "there were 1,500 fires a day in this country in 1940. Most of them were in homes. They cost the lives of thousands of loved ones, the loss of cherished possessions, or hundreds of millions of dollars. Can't we do better than that from now on?"

And so the National Board, which observed its 75th anniversary this year, tries to show Mrs. America the best way to fight fire is before it starts. House-clean the fire hazards, it advises. Beware of rubbish in the attic and basement. Never clean with gasoline—it's liquid dynamite. Discard non-metal waste baskets and ash containers. Use only approved electrical devices and equipment. Put all oil or paint-soaked rags and clothing in the furnace, lest spontaneous ignition break out.

"Fire-proof the American home" is a good slogan for house cleaning time. And Mr. America, along with his Mrs., has a dividend-paying job laid out for him here.

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Our Spirit of Cooperation

By Susan Thayer

We all want to have a share in helping make America strong. We know the brunt of the burden must fall on industry which is turning out planes and ships and guns and tanks and ammunition. But we women . . . we housekeeping women who have no active part in industry want to do something too. Each time the paper comes, each time we turn on the radio and hear more of the things that make us realize it is vital that America become invincible, we think again about our part in this great defense effort. Being women, one of the things we naturally think of is conserving.

A number of women have asked me about saving—tin cans and aluminum pots and pans which might be collected and used in the manufacture of defense materials. The spirit behind such an offer of cooperation is splendid. It's the kind of spirit needed in this country today if we are to be united, as we must be, in the face of danger. But so far there is no need for this program of saving. Of course there may be fewer new utensils of certain types for some time to come, and substitutes may be employed in the making of various

household articles such as refrigerators and vacuum cleaners and thermometers.

Manufacturers are working on a substitute for tin cans. But there's no indication so far that the aluminum or tin we could have at home would make enough difference to defense production to be worth the effort of collection. For instance, it would take 60,000 coffee percolators to furnish enough aluminum for just one bomber!

But let's keep that spirit of cooperation alive. There's the real contribution that we women can make in these days of intense activity, as our husbands and sons become, in a sense, swallowed up in the huge magnitude of our total national effort. After a while they may not be able to "see the woods for the trees." Then, as Mr. W. Y. Batt of the Office of Production Management says . . . "Is it not for you, the women of America, to keep defense a living issue in the home; to make of each uncertainty, each dislocation which reaches into the life of the family, not an annoyance but rather a tangible symbol of participation in the common and worthwhile effort of our country?"

Economic Highlights

A great deal of the President's late talk was given to a restatement of his foreign policy, so there was nothing particularly new in it, except for a definite more aggressive tone when he spoke of Hitler and the Axis. However, Mr. Roosevelt emphasized a few points which are of the highest importance, and which he had not covered in the same way before.

First, he made it perfectly clear that, in the Administration's viewpoint, our present policy is not just an idealistic attempt to save England and the British Empire—that, to the contrary, it is based on cold, hard principles of self-interest. He is convinced that if England falls we will be next on Hitler's list, and that the wise course is to keep the fighting out of this hemisphere if possible.

Second, he said categorically that sea control will be the determining issue—"If the Axis powers fail to gain control of the seas they will certainly be defeated." Therefore, he and his supporters reason, it is necessary that we keep the democracies' present control of the oceans intact.

Third, he intimated that this country, in self-defense, may find it necessary to control certain areas in this hemisphere which now belong to German-dominated France—Dakar, the Cape Verde Islands, etc. Of these possessions, it is probable that only Dakar, which is a fairly well fortified position, would be difficult to take over.

Fourth, and very important, he spoke tellingly of "freedom of the seas." To millions of Americans, those words carried them right back to 1916. "Freedom of the seas" was President Wilson's cardinal point of disagreement with imperial Germany—and it was Wilson's insistence on this point that finally brought us actively into the war. When we passed the Neutrality Act at the beginning of the present war, we, by indirection, abandoned that old policy. And while the President has said he sees no reason for repealing the Neutrality Act, it is clear that he has no in-

tention of accepting German's version of the rules of war as they apply to the ship traffic of non-belligerents. Many think that the Neutrality Act, though it is still on the statute books, is pretty much of a dead letter—at this time, the President's powers are so vast and so sweeping, and his backing in Congress is so great, that laws can be construed pretty much as he wants.

The President seems certain that American participation in this war can be limited to air and naval action of one kind or another. "While preparing his speech, he referred frequently to this," say Columnists Alsop and Kintner, "arguing that Germany could be strangled by sea power and that no large American expeditionary force would be needed to conquer her." In other words, the President is thinking of a long war of attrition.

Highlight of the speech was his announcement of an "unlimited national emergency." The legal hair-splitters will be arguing for a long time just what powers this gives him that he didn't possess under the "limited emergency" proclaimed more than a year ago. He can commandeer factories, control the radio and perhaps the press, ration basic materials, etc.—but, say some authorities, he could have done this anyway with his "limited emergency" powers. One point of view is that the "unlimited emergency" proclamation was at least partly for psychological effect—to stiffen up the country and make it more aware of its problems. Some think it was also partly directed at malcontents in the ranks of labor. The sections of the President's speech in which he spoke of labor, and said that decisions of the government mediators must be accepted by all concerned, are considered significant in some quarters.

Story of African Rubber Plantation

(Continued from Last Week)

Yesterday the Ladies Club on the Plantation gave their Christmas luncheon also at the big club. I got off work at 12 noon instead of 1:00 o'clock. The men who drive sedans on the plantation—about five of them—turned them over to the ladies so I called the garage and had a driver sent over to pick me up and also some of the other ladies. As I have told you women are not allowed to drive out here so when you aren't going, you have a colored driver. We all gathered at the club at 1:00 P.M.—It is about 20 or 25 miles from the office and is on the highest hill of the plantation and overlooks the place. It is really a cantage place and you see for miles and miles from the tops of this hill. A long banquet table was set for twenty-six ladies and we had a lovely luncheon which was served by the colored servants who work at the club all the time. Each one of us had brought a small Christmas present so we had a grab bag affair and got our gifts. It is difficult to give present out here for the only thing you can give is something in the way of cosmetics or hankies or something like that for there are no gift shops, of course, and only this bear necessities of life are sold out here so to find presents for Christmas is really a problem. I received four of the loveliest ivory colored candles for my dining room buffet and I can make good use of them. We left the club about 4:30 P.M. Surely enjoyed the afternoon.

On Christmas Eve the company is entertaining the white staff of the plantation and they are giving a lovely dinner at the club and will have small gifts for each one. They really try very hard out here to keep the people satisfied and I think we should all appreciate it very much. Some of the people are very critical and say nothing is done right out here, but usually the people who do the most complaining are the ones who had the least at home in the states and therefore try to put on the dog or impress people that they have been used to living better in the States. Women especially are apt to complain out here, but I think one of the reasons why they do is because they don't have anything to do except have a good time and play golf, tennis, and the rest of the sports, go to the shows, the clubs and be entertained or entertain constantly out here, and they become bored with it all, whereas if they had a hobby they could really make their life extremely interesting out here away from it all.

Sometimes I wonder if I am always going to be rushed all my life. I rush to work in the morning, rush home at noon, try to find time for a siesta in the P.M. for I feel I will "wear better" in the Tropics if I can get as much sleep as possible, try to get some letters written, and sewing done, the house fixed up in different ways, keep a diary, practice the violin, go to various things which are going on out here, dash out for dinner and also entertain at home until I am rushed all the time. Joe is on the go also and he hasn't even had time to start playing golf yet and the

course is right in our back yard so you see there is plenty to do out here. We have enjoyed being out here very much, however, and like the place a lot. That is the main thing anyway and someday perhaps we won't be so rushed. We have lots of nice friends and they are always inviting us over so, of course, we want to return the favor once in awhile. I like my work very much and don't want to give it up as I am afraid I would be bored if I did so have decided I'll do what I can and that is that. We both feel perfectly wonderful and have ever since we arrived so we are thankful, indeed, for that. Some people who have been very healthy at home come out here and are half sick all the time or have the fever most of the time and spend their hours in the hospital because they can't take the Tropics but I am thankful we happen to be out of that class and have not felt a bit different out here than we did at home. Oh boy!

(To Be Continued)

Legal Notices

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF JACKSON

In the Matter of the Estate of Cora E. Lewis, deceased.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, Kenneth G. Denman, has filed his final account as administrator of the above estate with the County Court of said County, and that the Court has fixed the 27th day of June, 1941, at the hour of 10:00 A. M. of said day, and the County Judge's office in the County Court house in Medford, Jackson County, Oregon, as the time and place respectively for the hearing of objections, if any there be, to the said final account, and you are hereby notified to file objections, if any you have, to the said final account on or before the said time fixed for hearing.

Dated this 29th day of May, 1941.
Kenneth G. Denman,
Administrator.

28—May 29, June 5, 12, 19

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