

THE CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN

Re-established, September 15, 1925

Entered as second class matter at the post office, Central Point, Oregon, under the Act of March 8, 1879.

Published weekly at Central Point, Jackson County, Oregon and devoted to the best interests of the city and vicinity.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Six Months \$1.25
One Year \$2.00

Payable in advance
Advertising rates on application
Office—Second Street, off Main

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Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

HEARTSTRINGS PULLED BY TOTS

With little fanfare and publicity The American Legion annually spends millions of dollars in its nationwide child welfare program. Most of this money goes for food, clothing and medical care. More than 30,000 volunteer workers carry on the program, searching out children in need, sponsoring enlightened legislation to protect their rights, combating delinquency, doing all possible to give every child a square deal in starting life.

There is an intensely human interest story in the birth of this huge program in which The American Legion since 1925 has spent some \$56,000,000 in aiding under-privileged children.

It all started back in the days of the first AEP in 1917-18-19 when orphan tots of France, Belgium and England made friends with American soldiers and sailors. They tugged with mighty heartstrings as they sat in soldier and sailor laps, learning to pronounce American words, sing American songs, eat American candy for which they paid with baby hugs and baby kisses. The dough-boys of World War I passed the hat around on paydays to provide better food and clothing for the kiddies. Then companies, batteries and regiments started adopting orphans. The first Stars & Stripes sponsored an orphan fund which grew to millions of francs.

Out of that love of American sol-

diers and sailors for these innocent victims of war, grew The American Legion's great child welfare program. It has proved to be one of the strongest ties uniting the veterans of World War I with the veterans of World War II.

For history repeated itself. American soldier and sailor hearts of World War II opened again to the orphans of war. American units again adopted orphans. The Stars & Stripes again raised an orphan fund.

Today the veterans of World War II, now in the majority in The American Legion's membership of more than 3,000,000, are finding in its child welfare program a common bond of interest. They too have learned that heartstrings pulled by tots have a mighty tug; that when the great Nazarene said, "Suffer little children to come unto me," He meant that their love conquers all.

The American Way

MODERN MONOPOLY

By Dr. Alfred P. Haake

(Editor's note: Alfred P. Haake, Ph. D., Mayor of Park Ridge, Illinois, is a noted Economist, Business Consultant, Lecturer and Author.)
Monopoly is bad; it gives the monopolist power to control the lives of thousands of people who are unable to protect themselves against the monopolist. It means compelling the victims to give more and to get less than they would receive in a free market with fair bargaining. The essence of monopoly is control of supply sufficient to give control of prices.

Half a century ago we had monopolies in the hands of some business men, so we passed anti-trust laws

and fair trade practice laws to do away with those monopolies.

According to Thurman Arnold, most active of the so-called "trust-busters," writing of business enterprises under Franklin Roosevelt, "actual monopolies in the United States are comparatively rare." But he discovered and proved that the laws which so effectively discouraged business monopoly could not reach organized labor. President Roosevelt's Supreme Court held that labor organizations were immune from the provisions of the anti-trust laws.

Today, Donald Richberg, early administrator in the NRA, and champion of collective bargaining, frankly admits that "the available labor supply in our major industries is under the control of labor unions. They have monopoly powers; and like all monopolies they are sure to abuse their powers."

If you have any doubts about that just take a look at John L. Lewis, James Caesar Petrillo, Phillip Murray and some lesser leaders. Never in the palmist days of business controls, did any individual or concern, or group of either, wield anything like the power of a small

group of wiseful labor leaders who, today, can bring 140 million Americans to their knees in subjection to the power of a small minority called organized labor. That, my friends, is monopoly.

But there is a more modern and even more tyrannical form of monopoly. It is called OPA, and is apparently secure in the inability or unwillingness of its victims to understand that the OPA itself is now the principal cause of the very inflation it so stupidly and futilely attempts to prevent.

By controlling prices, while permitting costs to go up, the OPA can make it impossible to increase supply. Holding down supply makes

it necessary to hold down prices, which in turn further reduces effective supply.

And then comes the hypocritical relief of the situation by such devices as adding 11 cents to the price of butter and more than that to the price of cheap shoes, to say nothing of the encouragement given by OPA itself to the blood-sucking black markets.

The answer is freedom from bureaucracy and bureaucratic monopolies. We must insist on fair competition, by organized labor as well

as business. Even more important, we must support government rather than permit the government to develop its own more dangerous monopolies by attempting to support us.

Don Mang, Melvin and Shirley Kelly vacationed at the coast over the week end.

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