

BEAVERTON ENTERPRISE

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A PROBLEM PRESSING FOR SOLUTION

There is frequent mention of the National Labor Relations Act in newspapers these days. Most of this news has been the kind of smoke that really indicates the presence of a fire.

Not the least important item of this type was the recent decision handed down by the United States Supreme Court to the effect that Federal courts have no power to pass on the rightness or wrongness of Wagner Board certifications of labor unions. The case in question was brought to the court by one national labor union which felt that a Wagner Board decision had been too sweeping and had disregarded minority rights.

The problem of the Wagner Act has cried out for solution for a number of years now. So far, the Act's defenders have done a skillful job of thwarting the desire of the public and of all groups in the country to have it amended. But the knowledge that the wide powers of the Board cannot in many instances be checked by the courts ought to make the need for amendments to limit that power seem even more urgent to those most concerned.

Coupled with this recent news event come continued revelations made during the Congressional investigation of the Board itself that tend to show that the body with these extremely broad powers does not always employ them wisely.

These revelations—of bickering among Board members, of bias evidenced by Board representatives, of wide powers assumed or usurped by the Board—point, of course, partly to an unsound attitude on the part of the Wagner Board itself. But far more significantly they throw the spotlight on the flaws, omissions, and loose constructions of the Act itself which make this situation possible.

Congress, with the international situation growing hourly and daily more tense, must be wise enough to do everything in its power to help get our domestic affairs shipshape. In the field of employee-employer relations, so important both to recovery and national defense, Congress can best serve this end by amending the Wagner Act along lines that will mean a fair deal for management as well as labor. This action would mark a substantial contribution to real employer-employee harmony.

That Congress will follow this line is a consummation devoutly to be wished by all real friends of labor, of industry, of the consuming public, and of Congress itself.



What more moving spectacle than tax-drunk relief agencies trying in vain to spend their allotments as fast as they get them? For instance, San Francisco papers recently announced that the local National Youth Administration office, "with a monthly payroll of \$25,000 to spend" had 900 on its rolls, with room for 200 more and "the jobs are there, almost for the asking. The only qualifications are that the applicant be a citizen of the U. S., finished with schooling, preferably from a family in the lower income brackets and eager for experience."

The NYA hires young men and women an average of 60 hours a month on non-profit projects where employees learn "everything from clerical work and gardening to photography and how to be a skilled houseworker." An additional 2,000 in San Francisco make up to \$30 a month through NYA's student aid project.

The area supervisor was quoted as complaining: "The NYA spends enough money annually to build a

battleship, but most people never heard of it." Seemingly, they were heartbroken at the thought that even a few young people might have found honest, full time jobs in private industry and were in a position to spurn handouts from Uncle Sam. However, the announcement did the trick. The rolls were quickly filled. Now there's a waiting list.

We are told from Idaho that the President's announcement of a "limited" emergency, in September, was his 40th emergency since March 4, 1933. Personally, we have lost count, but we do know that emergency relief still is with us, after seven years and over 20 billion dollars spent.

Salaries paid to officials of the California state relief administration increased more than a million dollars in the first 11 months of 1939. The exact total was \$1,408,394 over 1938, and "executive expenses" went up another \$150,000. Meanwhile, Edwin James Cooley, SRA director of the city, said of the children of families on relief:

"Undernourished and set apart, they can develop neither the physical nor mental health necessary to stand up in a tough world."

Some of those extra salaries to officials might help the children out. Anyhow, that is where we stand. Extra millions each year for officials and just as many people as ever out of work and on relief. This is the "humanitarian" New Deal. And it is YOUR money.

Seasoned commentators in Washington seem to agree that this will be the strategy of the White House with congress: To propose drastic cuts in spending, suggest the need of tax increases and call attention to persisting problems of agriculture and industry—then let congress listen to the howls and wrestle with the problems.

In other words, congress, having rubber stamped the White House policies for seven years, is now given the job of pulling the country out of the hole—without changing the poli-

PLENTY MORE TO DO



cies that are making all the trouble:

Congressmen may feel that the administration can be charged with poor sportsmanship, for passing the buck—but "all's fair in politics," including smearing.

Speaking of sportsmanship, a friend tells of going pheasant hunting on a great southern California ranch with Irvin S. Cobb. He came suddenly around the side of a hill and saw Irvin drawing a bead on a mother hen pheasant, walking along followed by her brood.

"Good Gosh," said my friend, "you're not going to shoot that hen while she's walking on the ground, are you?"

"No," said Cobb. "I'm waitin' till she stops."

Wonder what a third term would get us—except bankruptcy—that we haven't already experienced: reckless spending, ruinous experiments, utter disregard for campaign promises. The incumbent would seem to have had enough time in which to make good. Like the remark attributed to the

late Will Rogers, when a fellow complained about the 2 o'clock closing law for bars: "What I always say is—if a man ain't drunk by 2 a. m.—he just ain't been tryin'!"

Here's the inevitable aftermath of the spendspree: Come election year, the Great White Father will try to reduce expenditures. Already the pressure groups are forming, with the slogan "Cut somebody else—not us." And quiet pleas are being made by senators to spare this or that activity.

Whatever new spending is done will be blamed on the necessity for national defense and there may be surprising cuts made in budgets. The kick-back, observers say, will come in January, 1941, when elections are over. Then we will learn how much is needed for DEFICIENCIES. Thus, cash outlay in 1940 will likely equal the record-breaking 1939 figures, but we may not know it for a long time.

Some say congress will duck the tax problem and find that the treasury can squeeze through until after the campaign is over, without changing the public debt limit.

Grim and Far-Reaching War of Substitutes

Continued from Page 1

plastics finally come to grips with the ancient line of the natural materials—automobile bodies—the war will enter its final stage. Moreover, it is not being too optimistic to talk of all-plastic automobiles and all-plastic airplanes.

Possibilities of Plastic Planes

America's plane capacity could be speeded tremendously if "duramold" a plastic made of hardwood veneers pressed with phenolic resin) proves successful. One of the big time-takers in plane building is the driving of as many as 200,000 rivets in some planes. In contrast, the shell of the "plastic plane" comes in only three parts—wings and body. Success of this process means stronger, lighter, faster and far more economical methods of building and operating. From plastic airplanes to plastic terraplanes (automobiles) would be the next step.

This War of the Substitutes means more than a battle between materials. It means vast social changes. For instance, a town built around a factory whose metal product is captured by "Ersatz" must find a new article to make or lay off its workers. Metal mines, ore railroads, cabinet shops, silk mills, may all be caught in the backwash of this epoch-making war. Big beneficiaries will be farmers. The Plastic Army carries a bright beacon of hope for them—settlement of their two-decade old problem of price-busting surpluses. Remember, the basis of two of the four plastic groups is farm products!

SARAWIDE BILL



1940 Hodoo's

Hello Folks: Some things, you had better watch your step doin' this year, an one of 'em is runnin' fer president of the U. S. A. Jus' look what has happened beginnin' with 1840. Since this year, an includin' it, every man elected to our presidency in a year endin' in a zero, "naught", died in office. Look, 1840 William Henry Harrison; 1860, Abraham Lincoln; 1880 James A. Garfield; 1900, William McKinley; 1920, Warren G. Harding; and now, WHO will be the victim of Hodooternally. Bill.

MARY ANN YOUNG FALCONER
Mary Ann Young Falconer late of 7221 SW 54th, Maplewood, died Jan. 11.

HENRIETTA HIRSCH

Funeral services were held Monday at Flaley's Morninglight Chapel for Henrietta Hirsch late of 7111 SW 33d place, sister of Mrs. Helen Carlton of Portland, and Chet Ridgeway of Salem, Oregon. Commitment Lincoln Memorial Park.

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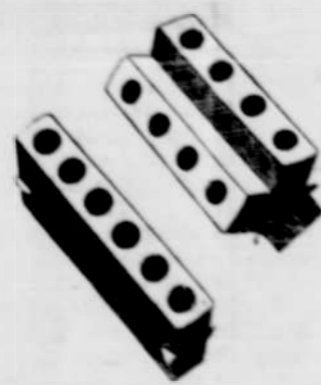
Official Results GILMORE-YOSEMITE ECONOMY RUN, JAN. 4, 1940, SHOW FORD BEST IN GASOLINE MILEAGE OF ALL THREE VOLUME SELLERS

'39 FORD V-8 "85" 24.57 MI. PER GAL.



'40 FORD V-8 "85" 24.02 MI. PER GAL.
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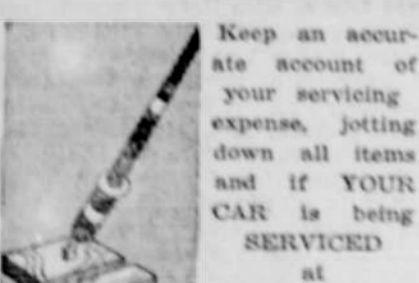
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