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The Other Foot

The spreading strike of Montgomery Ward employees is not just a strike by union members. It is, instead, the direct result of a strike by Sewell Avery, Ward board chairman. Because he has steadfastly refused to comply with War Labor Board orders, particularly the order concerning maintenance of membership, his workers have struck in many cities.

the conversation, and as a consequence almost nothing of import was said, and the temper of the Senate was entirely changed. There were one or two revealing moments, when headstrong Senators pressed for information.

Mr. Avery, from the start of his troubles with the Government, has been defiant. He publicly proclaimed that he would refuse to comply with WLB directives, and said that these orders were only advisory, anyway. A WLB spokesman advises us that Mr. Ward is making good on his threat to this moment.

Not only does he refuse to support maintenance of membership; he will have no truck with any board orders. He has refused to install grievance machinery to hear individual complaints, and the union now charges that he has not put into effect orders regarding wages. The WLB doesn't know for certain about that, but considering Mr. Avery's general attitude, it has suspicions that the union charge is true.

Concerning Mr. Avery's charge that WLB orders are simply advisory, the Board's spokesman (Information Director Archie Robinson) admits that, technically, they are only advisory, but he added this:

"To date the board has decided more than 10,000 cases since it started in January, 1942. There have been only 25 cases in which companies or unions have failed to comply with its orders, and in some instances the board has made over 300,000 rulings on voluntary wages brought before it."

That makes it pretty plain that the man behind this strike is Mr. Avery himself, and that his position is anomalous. Mr. Robinson went so far as to say that Mr. Avery simply refused to cooperate with the Government in wartime, and the statement seems to sum up the Montgomery Ward case pretty well.

There are several irrefragable actions by labor groups during the war which must have caused acute embarrassment to labor at large. In this instance, management at large must blush at the sample of its contribution to the war effort as offered by Mr. Avery.

In Harmony

Yesterday afternoon the old Mayors of Charlotte, most of them dead and gone, looked down from their picture frames upon a little scene they certainly never saw in their days at City Hall.

The City Council, in session given over to the first official attention to the overall planning of community growth, greeted a packed roomful of its patrons. A large group of Charlotte's most enthusiastic and thoughtful, both men and women, were assembled to give their support to the City Planning Commission.

They were citizens deeply interested in our future development, but citizens who do not bear responsibility for guiding it, and translating plans into action. Their very presence, as much as the words of their spokesmen, gave weight to the proposals presented.

For the Council, as a body officially responsible for the plans and activities of the community, took the will of the visitors and started it upon its way to action. The Councilman accepted the views of the gathering sympathetically and enthusiastically, and though he could take no legal action to hurry blueprints, bond issues and construction into being, they stamped their approval upon the Planning Commission and all of its proffered recommendations.

Self-Healing

There is stirring in the South a contest over the poll tax, and the flowering of a new movement. It is strictly home-grown, and not to be confused with the drive of outlanders in general.

There are those who are already taking different forms, but it is forming nevertheless. In two of the eight states retaining the head tax as a prerequisite to voting, Virginia and Georgia, there is action at the moment.

In Virginia, while the Legislature is amending the State constitution so as to enfranchise some 230,000 Virginians in the armed forces, many citizens are pushing for outright repeal of the poll tax as well.

In Georgia, a commission busy redrafting that State's constitution voted to keep the poll tax, 7 to 0, but Governor Armistead asked for a study of the question. He himself took an amusing position, saying:

"As Governor of Georgia, I am prepared to defend the poll tax. It is found everywhere in the world. At the same time, if it is found injurious to our democracy, I am prepared to defend it."

There was evidence that Georgians at large felt about it much as did their Governor. In the course of his comment on the poll tax Governor Armistead said: "Not much is known about the poll tax, for it is not a political issue."

But at the same time Governor Broughton of North Carolina is relating this State's experience for the benefit of Georgians:

"In North Carolina the popular vote immediately began to climb following the repeal of poll tax requirements in 1920. By 1928 the increase was 142 per cent over the vote cast in the election immediately preceding repeal."

The Merry-Go-Round

By Draw Pearson

WASHINGTON
NELSON ROCKWELLER, now before the Senate for appointment as Assistant Secretary of State, once cancelled passage on a Potomac River steamer when the ship refused to give accommodations to his Negro servants.

led him into it. . . . Finally Calvin Coolidge stepped in, appointing a small man named Hoover to Nicaragua over the State Department's head. Stimson cleaned up the mess.

Mr. Rockwell, having presented his sides one by one, heard them questioning. Mr. Greer denied that he sought continuation of Japan's imperial government; Mr. MacLish denied that he was a Communist; Mr. Clayton denied that he stood for international carrels; Mr. Rockefeller denied the dastardly charge

break open the whole promotion scandal. A good friend of Coolidge, Moses went to the White House. Also he introduced a bill in Congress. So did Congressman Steve Porter, also Congressman Edwards of Georgia, and Congresswoman Edith Rogers, whose husband sponsored the case's services.

Mr. Greer, grizzled Joseph C. Greer, newly appointed Undersecretary of State, is about six feet three in height, and was in Tokyo . . . Greer was just two years ahead of FDR at Groton and Harvard, is descended from the Boston Cabots, married into the P. Morgans, and after a youthful career of shooting tigers in Manchuria and elephant-hunting in India, settled down to diplomacy.

Finally Frank B. Kellogg, in an official announcement, his crown. He admitted rank favoritism for a few "steps should be taken to correct any unintentional injustice that had occurred."

When Greer was Ambassador to Turkey he once jumped into the Bosphorus and rescued a Turk from drowning. Another quality he has been immensely popular in Turkey, also in Japan. But when he was Undersecretary of State, the job to which Roosevelt has again nominated him, he was in constant hot water.

As the Congressional probes broke, Greer promoted himself to be Ambassador to Turkey, together with Hugh Wilson, Minister to Sweden and Dwight Wright as Minister to Hungary. . . . These were juicy jobs.

Looks Like J. B. Was in a Bit of a Spot



PHILADELPHIA
LOOKS LIKE J. B. WAS IN A BIT OF A SPOT. He is being pulled in many directions by the various groups and individuals who are vying for power and influence.

CHICAGO
ONLY A rash prophet would have predicted three years ago that we would be where we are today. We've come so far and we're so confident, that here at this conference we've been jockeying for place and position just as though a bigger and better Armageddon had never happened; as though it weren't still happening.

Black Days In Europe

By Marquis Childs

THE kind of thing that sits well on the sober British constitution particularly when "order was restored" only thanks to British tanks and infantrymen.

Our Two-Way Policy

By Samuel Grafton

TWO themes run through American foreign policy. I seem to me there is a constant struggle between them. One is the theme of international co-operation, and so we have Dumbarton Oaks, and Bretton Woods, and so it turns out that while Britain and France now have twenty-year treaties of mutual assistance with Soviet Union, we have none.

SIDE GLANCES

By Colbath



"You had the store sent me as a gift? Oh, dear! And I wrote your sister. I was hand-sewing those things for her myself!"

Everyday Counselor

By Herbert Spangh, D.D.

IN 1942 our national security of the situation on our home front. Their resolutions, called upon the citizens of the United States, together with their children and their youth, to begin at once to live by their own best and highest ideals, physically, morally and spiritually.

In particular they point to one camp of the enemy of Christian civilization which includes socialist, pagan and kindred drugs, and behavior alcohol.

What Policy?

By Dorothy Thompson

NEW YORK
ONE cannot lightly dismiss the aspirations of Mr. Churchill that Europe is threatened with a seizure of power by ruthless occupying military groups because of their superior discipline and organization may impose their rule in the midst of chaos.

People's Platform

EDITORS, THE NEWS:
The long and fruitful life of my friend, and our esteemed fellow townsmanship, Dr. Julian Sibley, who has just fallen to sleep in his bed, has been a life of high and noble ideals.