FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1946

## The Draft Act That Doesn't Draft

available men is between 500 and 600. This situation, repeated throughout the nation, means that the draft act still lives only to avoid the confusion which would follow its suspension in many fields. It has the effect of limiting the armed services at their present size.

Representative Sam Ervin, outraged by the action of the House, saw the situation clearly, and did not hesitate to speak his mind. In plain language he told his fellow members that they were fooling nobody. He told them what they have known all slong, that to exempt 18 and 19-year-

all along, that to exempt 18 and 19-year-olds from the draft left almost no one eligible. He warned them once more that

The meaning of the boot-tailed draft set was not clear before it is now that set was not clear before it is now that here were a translated to the translation of the meaning of the meaning that the translation of the meaning that the translation of the meaning that many ments to the draft boards, and on the past record perhaps half of them will be found acceptable. That means that our entire list of available men is between 500 and 600. This situation, repeated throughout the nation indulging in the time-honored American tradition of disarming immediately after

ictory.

Judge Ervin is surely right. The House Judge Ervin is surely right. The House hoodwinked no one, here or abroad. It is plain enough that the new act means only the feeblest services will be imaintained, and that we have no intention of perpetuating the power which took us to almost miraculous victory. He believes that this mood in the House is dangerous, cheering though it is to the new-class of draft eligibles. Once before in our generation it led to disaster. There is every reason to believe it may do so again.

## The People Are Not To Be Trusted

The People Are Not Once more, it seems, the fale of the World is to be settled in secrecy. The United Nations Security Council will sit in its own smoke-filled room, a sort of star-chamber ruling body of the world. Not only will the press be barred so that the peoples of the world may not be told, in any fashion, of the fate in store for them. The UN members themselves will never know what goes on behind the closed doors. The decision to take policy discussion underground was unanimously approved by experts from every nation. It is a death blow to the theory, beloved of Americans, of open covenants openly arrived at. Henceforth the cards will not be on the table. The truth of UN deliberations will seep out only as rumors. It is not encouraging that the leaders of the great nations find it necessary to deny public trust.

The demand for secrecy, we suppose, arose be ca us so of the misunderstanding bred by open discussion of troublesome issues. When Russia was battling to keep her noay allies out of the Iranian question, and pressing for action in Spain, there arose a furious squabble all over the world. Casual newspaper readers caught.

the pessimism of the headlines, and began to see fissures in the foundations of the world order. It has not been a happy time, while we were witnessing the victorious allies, strong and close-knik in battle, fall to bickering over question after question.

tion.

Perhaps it is the better part of valor to hush the public quarreling and place our hopes in men of good will, dealing secretly. But history has been trying to teach nations from the beginning that such secree juvites the meat cynical power politics, and breeds distrust, provokes first execution and then willing workers. pontes, and breed distrus, provokes itiss-conomic and then milliary warfare. The peoples have never been qualified judges of the complex questions of international relations, of course, and they will probably never be given the chance to approve set-tlements by their voles. But they have shown a remarkable, though not infallible, instinct, based on a genuine yearning for neare.

If our ministers will have it that way if our ministers will have it that way our security will be planned in secret, regardless. And if we have come to the point that the future of us all must be written by a handful of men behind closed doors, perhaps no course would lead us to safety.

### A New Red Menace Confronts Us

SOMETHING sinister and un-American is Swain and Jackson. Indians, of all people, are trying to register and vote. These are

Swain and Jackson. Indians, of all people, are 'trying to register and vote. These are obviously upstarts, imposters who wot not that the right to vote is held sacred, and is based upon the oldest of American traditions. These interlopers will wreck out time-honored heetinge. They must be, yes, they are, foreign agitators. They have the look of Reds.

And these charlatans have come to the registration centers claiming to have been roters as long ago as 1968. One of them, a pretentious rogue, even read from a law hook upon request. Surely subversive activity is afoot. Why else should these intruders violate the domain of our fathers?

An, well, it's the same all over. North carolina's poil tax is long since removed. The white primary is gone. There are few protests that Negro citizen is, missing, and there is no one to take his piace except the Indian, the lonely and lowly Indian. And so he must fit into the pillory reserved every-

where for some unfortunate minority. Finding no Negroes, no foreigners, perhaps the men of the hill counties seek sport and moral rejuvenation in baiting the red

and moral rejuvenation in bailing the red man.

Elections officials denied the charges made by seven Indians, who claimed they were refused by registrars. They denied having instructed registrars to permit no Indians on the books. The denials were not because the property of the Indians, pushed by an American Legion post, has the ring of truth, somehow, and the knowledge that no Indians have been on the books in either county for fifteen years does not allay suspicion. We went through the process of lifting the poil tax and inviting the Negro's vote a generation ago, and the state survived. The ione effect of that move was to greatly increase the percentage of voters in the state, and that did no harm to improving race relations. If it happens now that the remnants of the Indian tribes in the Western counties are a potential political menace to us, perhaps we should be deporting them as allens, send them back to China, or India, or Manchurla, or wherever they came from. Durned furriners.

### Another Voice

## The Second Burning Of Books

The Second Burning Of Books

Of all the orders issued by the Allied of Millary Government in Germany, the one that must sound most familiar to the Germans is that decreeing the burning of millions of books, newspapers and other writings deemed "anti-democratic, millitary in the state of the destruction of all millitary and the millitaristic or Nazi." Along with this is to go the destruction of all millitary and the millitary in the state of the common that it is a state of the common that it is the can astlary their perverse desire by reading the millitary illerature of their conquerors, or by gazing upon the many Russian victory monuments in their land. But they must not gaze upon such products of their own authorship, even if that means rewriting their whole pollitical, millitary and thereby gives them a standing they never archieved in their second and their politicals and divise it underground to Nazism. Above concent history, Since the witch might satily be extended to embrace the German farma and the opera, perhaps even southfure and painting, it might well end in the externmentation of the larger part of German illerature, philosophy and articeding; to glorify the state, including industry in Portuguese West Africa, it is fedding to glorify the state, including industry in Portuguese West Africa, it is German Herature, philosophy and art tending to glorify the state, including, fronfeally enough, not only Hitler's "Mein Kampf," but also Karl Marx's "Das Kapital."

Kapital."
The order must sound familiar, and sise-eminous, to the Germans because it not cuty imitates but exceeds one of the searliest orders issued by Hitler after his scession to power—the burning of democratic, posifields and "testish" Scoks And Miller's phoes must laugh at the manner

As a first step in developing a textile industry in Portuguese West Africa, it is ordered that the natives start wearing clothes. However, it is a long about here that an OPA usually steps in.

Regretfully an Eastern publisher turns down a book written by nine scientists on the splitting of an atom. The larger prob-lem, of splitting a royalty nine ways, was too much



Quite A Saccessial Strike

## John L. Lewis On The 'Welfare Fund'

From The New York Times
JOHN L. LEWIS issued this statement Wednesday
concerning the demand of the United Mine Workers fund financed by a contribution from the opertors equal to I per cent of gross pay rolls:

The property of the contribution from the opertors of the partial respectively. The contribution of the second of the seco

workers.

In the 1946 conference they proposed the establishment of a welfare fund, asking its scceptance in principle by the operators, and sald that the manner of raising the fund and all the details of it were negotiable questions. Yesterday was the first opportunity we have had to present the details of it under circumstaces where the operators would admit that they were expressed in the principle. Accordingly, we presented it.

SEX REASONS FOR FUND
The mine workers request the fund for the following six reasons:

1. To furnish adequate and modern medical service to the coal miners and their dependent fam-lies with a choice of physicians, which in many areas, particularly in the South, they do not now have. We plan to replace the present company doctor scourge.

To provide adequate hospitalization under proper standards.

proper standards.

3. To provide insurance, life insurance and health insurance for the miners, which they cannot now purchase. Life insurance now costs the mine worker about 277 per cent of what it costs people in sedentary occupations. Obviously, he cannot purchase it at that price. Obviously, he has no insurance as a result and his family is unprotected in case of death by violence in the mines or from natural causes. This fund can provide insurance under the control of the control in the mines of the control of the contro

REHABILITATION & EDUCATION

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4. The fourth reason is rehabilitation. Men who are injured and disabled in the mines through the loss of limbs (blindness, or other major physical injures) need rehabilitation. The results of the major physical injures in the results of the reason of th

CHARGE AGAINST PRODUCTION COST

CHARGE AGAINST PRODUCTION COST
All of these reasons were stated to the conference yesterday together with an extensive analysis of the principle together with an extensive analysis of the principle together with an extensive analysis of the principle together with a conference of the principle together with a conference of the production and that it should be a charge against the cost of production and that it should be a charge against the cost of production and that it should be a to 7 per cent of the gross earnings of the men before deduction should be paid by the operators into this fund to be operated by the United Mine Workers of America.

fund to be operated by the United Mine workers or America. America, and only a constructive could agerter the United as officiently or as cheaply as the mine workers that It could not become a tripartite fund and simply another bureaucratic Governmental agency with the overhead eating up a major part of the revenue of the fund, clogsing it with red tape other Governmental agency. It is a subject to the Was Labor Board, which has been as many as 15,000 cases behind in its achedial. Like the coal insurance of the coal insura

VETO BY OPERATORS STRESSED

We pointed out that the operators velo power on this rund rested in the fact that at the end of each contract period they could, if they would, discontinue it by refusal to continue it; that the amount of aid that could be extended to the miners was necessarily mixed by the contractual because they contract the contractual of the contractual because they contract the contractual of the contractual of

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications possible, and on only one side of the paper. Libel and obscently will be deleted—eitherwise anything pos. Each letter must be signed, although, in succeptional cases and upon requestional transfer and any one state of the side of the succession of t

Marquis Childs

Mr. Hoover's Plan

A seven-point program will presented to the country authentic management of the country will be a clear to be in care and to be a constructed to be in care and to be in the care and th

Disa voluntary contributions, more or less on the pattern of the relate very sense of the sense

## Samuel Grafton

## Dangerous Bulwark

Dangerous

New York

The Western world is playing again with the idea that it is a spaning the property of the

we run into enormous difficulties, Naturally, Russia could not be allowed to have much say about who the leaders of the new Germany were to be, for that would tend to make Germany a Russian puppes, or, at least, so the situation would be read. HOW MUCH DEMOCRACY?

# Drew Pearson's: Alice Is Doubtful Influence On John L.

WASHINGTON

DURING the coal strike, friends of Alice Roosevelt Long-worth have been trying to figure out whether she has more influence over her good friend Join L. Lewis or whether he dominates her. Some had hoped that she might help persuade him to call off the strike. New Seasest lowest However, Mrs. Longworth seems to have Seasest lowest However, Mrs. Longworth seems to have beened toward some of the labor people once close to John L. Lewis say his interness is partly inspired by Mrs. Longworth. So be influence in settling the strike is doubtful.

Today Mrs. Longworth's circle is largely confined to isolationals, including some friends bordering on the facility of the strike in the strike is doubtful.

Today Mrs. Longworth's circle is largely confined to isolationals, including some friends bordering on the facility and the even refers to such old friends as Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, former U. S. Minister to Norway, as a "Commits" because Mrs. Harriman served on a Russian relief committee.

At a dinner given by Mrs. Longworth for her briefleet.

THOUGH Secretary of War Patterson has called a board to examine the "caste system" inside the some of the brass hat are still going out of their rub the caste system into CIa. As late as May 3, Field. M. Y., issued an order warning officers agains "dates" with enlisted personnel.

enlisted Wacs. The order read:

"It is the intent of this letter that every male and female officer within this command perfain frogs 'dating' enlisted personnel.

"It is resilued that there are circumstances which will arise such as officers having relatives or old Irlends smong the enlisted personnel or viscoversa. Those cases should be given special consideration and readed with discretion by the commanding officer of the indictated exemmand. Set III and American books earse had a right to intervene, but he intends to the purps bettles as were staged by FDR, but they related the purp bettles as were staged by FDR, but they related the purps bettles as were staged by FDR.

President Truman's Purge

A LOT of dust was kicked up by all the reports and counterreports that President Truman wanted to guage Domecratac Compressions Roger Standber of the President's home
hallwick. However, here is wind actually happened.

Demberside National Chistogram host Insurage in telephomes'