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The Path Of The Lemmings

SOMEWHERE beyond the general public outrage at the coal and rail strikes there is still a clear division of opinion over the proper method of dealing with the industrial chaos of the moment.

It is interesting to note that while the press generally supported the President's demands some valid criticism came from the more conservative journals.

Solicitor Whitener's Impossible Task

THERE is reason, we think, for regret at the decision of the voters of Gaston and Mecklenburg to retain Basil L. Whitener as their solicitor.

But there was another factor in the election that had nothing to do with the individual capabilities of the two candidates.

The voters of Gaston turned out to support the socialist son, although him, through an ancient custom and legal jargon, the voters of Mecklenburg stayed away from the

mined to give the President what he asked for, appeared to be simmering down a little as its unique conservative-liberal coalition urged a sort of legislative cooling-off period before the House-approved anti-strike bill was considered.

And then old John L. Lewis pulled his miners out of the pits again, recreating the tense atmosphere that had caused the once pro-labor House to rush through an anti-strike bill with only 13 dissenting votes.

When the smoke clears away, and labor leaders set out to measure the ground they lost in the late Spring of '46, we trust they will remember Messrs. Lewis, Johnston and Whitener who insisted on a fight to the finish even when outraged public opinion guaranteed defeat.

The Senate itself, while it seemed deter-

People's Platform

More Tolerance, Less Hate

Editor, The News: I SHOULD like to refer to two letters appearing in your People's Platform of May 24.

I believe that the latter article should more properly have been headed by a footnote than the other.

Both of these letters were well written, and should cause a little bit of good or harm, depending on one's viewpoint, even though printed in a checkered "monthly" news sheet.

But my point is this. The first letter is social, the second anti-social. The first is intended to still the drums of hate that we already hear too well.

The fact that M. H. Huttley signed his name to the second letter, whereas the former letter went unsigned, shows that each of the writers understood

at any rate, we wish Mr. Whitener well. We believe the task assigned him is impossible, but we are convinced he will bring it to his best efforts.

The Church Opens New Fields

LAST week marked the entry of two powerful church groups into new fields of social action. A group of Italian Catholic bishops and an American Methodist bishop, for diverse reasons, expressed themselves seriously to secular problems.

The Italians descended to the workaday world to warn their flocks that anyone violating the laws of the state, entering into marriages might be exposed to sanctions of the canon law.

However high-handed the political dictation in Italy might seem, and however far afield the Methodists might seem to have strayed, these two steps are of more than passing significance, and hold great promise.

The action of the Methodists may outrage many who are extremely unympathetic to labor at present, but it may also bring a new social consciousness beneficial both to the church and labor.

Another Voice

Apostle To North Carolina

THERE are many signs to indicate that Undersecretary of War Kenneth C. Royall has been designated apostle to the nation, and especially to North Carolina, to plead the cause of the War Department.

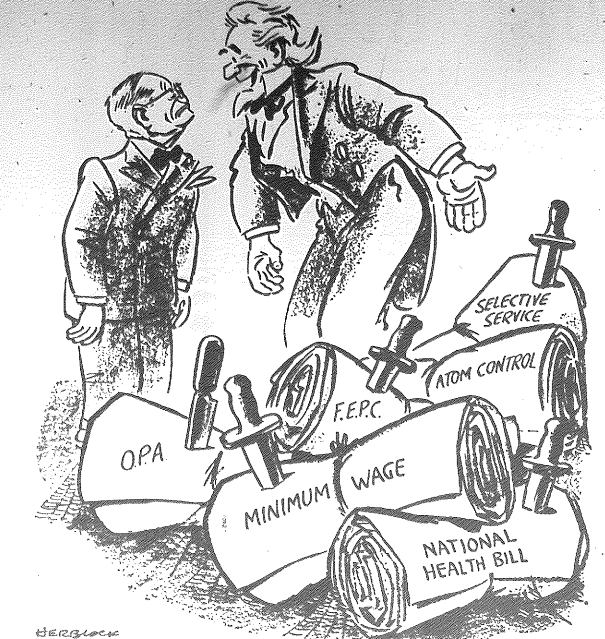
He has been making a lot of speeches lately, and from the press reports they would have been good speeches. Mr. Royall speaks with ease among his own Tar Heel people, and he does not fail to strike hard at what he believes ought to be said.

That last speech—the one he made in Fayetteville Thursday evening—was on a highly sensitive theme. He set out to tell his audience what North Carolina contributed to the winning of the war.

In the great biennial political war, about to recur, perhaps the administration would be wise to wear a bullet-proof vest that goes all the way around.

Once unionized, the toilers of big league baseball would need a heart-touching grievance—like failure to receive time and a half for over 40 hours a month.

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By Herndon

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Air Forces show that was held here on May 17th, 18th, and 19th.

Our show was very successful and one of the largest attendances that ever attended an air show in the two Carolinas was here in Charlotte.

We want to say to you thanks a million for all your kindness, your support, and your co-operation.

FRANK RAWSON, Colonel, CAP.

Missing in Action

Editor, The News: WOULD you please print a piece about my son in your paper, at your convenience?

He was very well known through the Carolinas, in your paper, at your convenience?

I have learned he was shot on February 16th, 1944, and taken a prisoner.

There appeared a picture in "Life" Magazine on April 23rd, 1944, of my son in a prisoner camp; one has been identified as Joseph Demler and the other soldier who we feel sure is Richard.

My reason for wanting a piece about my son in your paper is to see if any soldier had met him in North and South Carolina in his military regiment.

The Government as late as February, 19th, 1946 has reported him only as "missing in action."

I have seen the original picture that appeared in "Life." My son has a mark on his neck and on the ear as the picture shows.

Richard was known as "Leonard" at home and to some of the soldiers at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he was stationed.

Mrs. Jim Bell of Chester, South Carolina, recommended your paper to me.

(NOTE: Mrs. Park's address is 146 North 9th Street, Newark 7, N. J.—Eds., The News.)

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it.

Should be less than 300 words, typewritten if possible, and on only one side of the paper.

Libel and obscenity will be deleted—otherwise anything goes. Each letter must be signed, although, in exceptional cases, and upon request, we will withhold the writer's name.—Editors, The News.

GOP White Hope

WHILE the East and Middle West are contending with the names of Eisenhower, Stimson and Dewey so far as Presidential candidates in 1948, some strong medicine is being in the politically dynamic State of California

Under California's odd election law, candidates may enter both the Republican and Democratic primaries.

Dr. Warren has split Kenney's labor support, but with the backing of the AP L. H. Huttley and may very well win enough Democratic votes to kill all competition in the final election.

The Democrats may also lose their chance to pick up another seat in the Senate because of the split between California's Junior Senator is young Bill Knowland, a

Wages And Prices

WASHINGTON THE White House, in these perilous days, is like a camp in siege.

Behind this first line is a second line. It is manned by those who have been trying to keep some moderation in the swift advance of wages and prices.

They also retained veterans in the front line have their eyes fixed on one goal. That is to get the railroad workers' strike and coal mines opened.

This sends shivers of fear down the spines of price control officials. What they dread is a second wave of strikes.

A careful look at the facts shows that the prospect of a second wave is no idle threat.

Strikes in major industries have made big headlines in newspapers. Few people realize how many voluntary settlements were made last Fall.

Some unions signed settlements with increases as low as 6 cents an hour. CIO textile unions in the North signed a contract providing, on the average, an increase of 8 cents an hour.

When the time comes for them to sign a new contract this Fall, they will face the fact that they have almost everything they buy gone up. The leaders of their unions will certainly make new wage demands.

At the recent convention of the United Steel workers in Atlantic City, Philip Murray, head of the union and also head of the CIO, said that his union would ask for a 10 percent increase.

Here, of course, the matter of competition between union and non-union labor is a factor. Mr. Lewis gets a health and welfare fund for his miners, in addition to the 10 percent increase.

Consequently, Lewis can get a generous portion of the 7 per cent that the Government price rise within the Government framework will be maintained.

Congress will legislate. But whether laws can prevent a new wave of strikes is another matter. As Lewis and his henchmen are fond of saying, you can't mine coal with bayonets.

A Soviet Interview

JACKSON, MISS. I was interviewed by Ilya Grekovich, a Soviet reporter, in my home in Jackson, Miss.

When and under what circumstances did you meet your wife and do you consider that your relations with her are about average, above average or below average?

In one of these towns Ilya Grekovich found a Southern lawyer with a wife and a girl, a young direct factual answers to direct questions and the interview continued at 11 o'clock at which which was also naturally our dinner hour.

Eleven turned to midnight, midnight to one and the questions in French and Russian flowed on.

And on the doorstep of a rather had Negro shack someone says: "Ilya Grekovich is in America; it is daytime in America; it is night there." Ilya Grekovich smiles and looks again at the shack and says: "Ilya Grekovich is in America; it is daytime in America; it is night there."

And one o'clock turned to two and we sat on a couch, each drawing out the whole story of the curious place occupied by the Negroes in the industrial area of some portions of the South.

"How do you suppose that I as a Jew can get along with you as you have just told me?" The two tired men looked at each other and the Jew with a grin said: "I am a Jew and you are a Jew."

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