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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1941

By A Lash

The Performance Yesterday Bodes Ill for the U. S.

It was a ghastly pandemonium that loosed itself in the House of Representatives last night. The setting was pregnant with the fateful decision that had to be made, the atmosphere electric.

By an eyelash the bill scraped through, by the margin of one vote, the validity of which was vehemently brought into question, the fervent recommendations of the Administration and the Army's General Staff were upheld—and by a House, mild you, which has pertinaciously voted billions and more billions for the materials of war.

A Democratic member arose and announced that he had failed to hear his name called and wanted to be recorded in favor of the bill. "He wasn't even in the room," yelled Republicans.

The Republicans resorted then to a series of parliamentary maneuvers. The Hon. Short made a motion to reconsider, which the Speaker arbitrarily denied.

Fortunately, other Republican counsel prevailed, and the stratagem was abandoned. Mr. Short withdrew his motion and the day, technically at least, was saved.

But the narrowness of the decision and the horse-play which accompanied it testify to the frightening disunity of the country as a whole for facing this or any crisis.

Q. and A. Our Own Quiz About Congress and Legislation

Q. Is legislation much influenced by oratory? A. Not much.

The foregoing item is from the 88-page quiz booklet recently compiled by Representative Patman of Texas and entitled "Our American Government—What Is It? How Does It Function?"

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When Prussia Hurried To The Field, And Snatched The Spear, But Left The Shield.—SIR WALTER SCOTT.

Shortness Of Sight

By Hugh S. Johnson

SO, now Mr. Leon Henderson says that shortages in strategic materials may result, as this column has intimated, in a long time, in at least a temporary unemployment of possibly 2,000,000 men.

I understand the press dispatches, flooding copies of 4,000 to 5,000 establishments of little business men.

MILITARY POLICY BECOMES THE DECIDING FEATURE

There isn't a question in experience or history that the greatest hoarders and hoggers are the military.

Wishful Hope Has Weygand Reputated The Vassals of Vichy?

Non-War Construction Goes On Unhindered

The National Dodo Party

A Community Shares Guilt of a Criminal

Religious War, This Is It!

Side Glances

The Queen City's Hope Chest

Air War Trouble

Direct Method

Messrs. Lassiter and Kuester Use Sordid on Gordian Knot

Visitin' Around

Troop Movements In Europe

By Herblock



Letters to the Editor: A Private Poll On Wheeler

Editors, The News:

In order to settle this question of Wheeler or no Wheeler in the democratic way I am falling a national election.

There may come a time when these young men may have to fight; not for another nation, not only for their own but for the very same principles upon which your letter to the Editor of The News was based.

Germany after centuries of overlords and of submission, "culture" rooted in Paganism and blighted by Nietzsche, has been and is denying the Christ who worship and His Father.

It is believed by the wisest men, and it is true, that we are not to start with war, here is one to start with, at the beginning of the alibi.

How will somebody take up and write one about "Blundering or Blundering" Mr. Reynolds?

Who was it who said, "I came not to bring peace but a sword." If we value our possessions we must be willing to defend them.

Dear Madam: Not having read Mr. Metts' July 30, except for the excerpts you quote in your letter to The Charlotte News, published on July 31, I am scarcely qualified to comment fully on her position.

It is to say in this connection, that although we are building an army and equipping it with the best mechanical equipment possible, feeding it better, housing it better, training it better, entertaining it better than in the last war and possibly doing all these things better than is being done for any of the forces at present in conflict, there is little evidence that its young men have experienced the "Volunt impulse" as you quote Mrs. Townsend.

No. 1 — An Uptown Theater-Auditorium No. 2 — A Separate Court District No. 3 — An Uptown Rest Room No. 4 — Street-Widening

Sedition Act Is Tested

From Business Week

THERE are three cities in the United States where left-wing labor unions have seemed to be more politic than economic. They are New York, where one vociferous section of organized labor always appears to be taking its direction from the Communist Party; San Francisco, where the labor unions are known as the "Red Brigades"; and Minneapolis, where the political opinions seem just as important as wages and hours, and Minneapolis, where 75 union leaders have just been indicted on charges of sedition conspiracy to overthrow the Government.

LABOR FIGHTS OVER CONCEPT OF REDX

New York, San Francisco, and Minneapolis labor politics are not just Decency vs. Republicanism, or American Labor Union vs. Communist Party. In these cities big labor armies also meet in bitter conflict over the correct interpretation of the gospel laid down by Karl Marx.

LABOR LEADERS BECAME "REASONABLE"

Former labor leaders came to power with handbills methods but, once established, recognized a common interest with the industry in which they operated. They became, in most cases, temperate, responsible and patriotic.

After years of unabated labor strife, the City began to take an interest in the Dunnes brothers' politics. This was because of a growing conviction that Minneapolis employers had to deal with a different stripe of labor than other employees.

When that happened, "Trotskyism," the Dunnes' political creed, became an issue in Minneapolis. Employers believed that they had to deal with labor led by a group of irremediable radicals.

Months ago, G-men from the Federal Bureau of Investigation went out to job the truck drivers in the city and union Local 54. The evidence they gathered, plus documents secured by FBI agents in a raid on Socialist Workers' Party headquarters, showed the evidence on which a Federal Grand Jury indicted the Dunnes and their aides.

DUNNES MUST FIGHT TWO INDICTMENTS

The indictments are based on two counts. The first charges a violation of the Smith Act passed last year and which has not yet had a Supreme Court test. Under the Smith Act it is a felony to "advocate, advise, assist, or teach the duty, necessity, desirability, or propriety of overthrowing or destroying any government by force, the Dunnes' lawyers contend that if the law is valid, a reading of the Declaration of Independence is a crime. They press contention that the law is unconstitutional.

The charges against the Dunnes grow directly out of their connection with the Socialist Workers' Party, whose 5,000 members (FBI estimate) espouse the cause of world revolution, but when the Dunnes and their associates were arrested they were immediately charged that they were being persecuted as trade-unionists.

CLAIM PERSECUTION FOR PACIFISM

Later, the Dunnes quickly changed their story and claimed the mantle of political martyrdom. They maintained, because it was an anti-war party in opposition to what party spokesmen call "the New Deal's drive toward war."

Meanwhile, Minneapolis employers have little about the Dunnes' connection with the Communist Party, regardless of its motives, accepted it as an unemployed blessing. The Government's motives, however, are of vital concern to American industry as a whole. If the charges against the Dunnes can be made to stick, they may prove to be the opening gun in a national campaign against unreliable or "subversive" labor leadership.

THE trial of the Dunnes—set for Sept. 8—is apt to be enlightening on how far the Government is now prepared to go in curbing radical labor leadership. Already, some sources testify, G-men have joined a number of important unions often charged with being Communist inspired. If the Dunnes are convicted, more grand juries are expected to take up labor problems.

Visitin' Around

For Complete Details—(North Wilkesboro Street) Mr. Fred Caldwell at the Cold Mill plant, Cherry Street, had a visit from...

"It looks like you had a good time at the convention, J. R."