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Unshackle The Competitive System

The Temporary National Economic Committee, which has been investigating alleged monopoly in industry, has made its report to Congress. One section of that report is of the utmost interest to the consumer.

This section strongly recommends the repeal of the Miller-Tydings law—which permits manufacturers of trade-marked products in interstate commerce to fix the minimum retail price at which they may be sold. The TNEC says "The legal sanction of such practices tends to undermine the basic tenets of a competitive economy. The free competitive system which has been so largely responsible for the high production and wide distribution of goods, is seriously threatened in many state and local markets by the passage and enforcement of laws which, while seeking to curb monopoly and encourage independent business, frequently use price-fixing as a means to that end, resulting in uneconomic and unsound practices which undermine the effectiveness of competitive prices in providing the advantages of mass production to the largest number of consumers."

In still another section of the report, the TNEC makes this significant observation: "It will avail us nothing to carry a gigantic defense program to a successful conclusion if in doing so we lose sight of the basic philosophy of our American economy—a competitive system of private capitalism."

Undoubtedly the motives behind price-fixing and similar laws were good. But experience shows that such laws have been harmful to the consumers, producers and progressive merchants. Factual surveys prove beyond question that the price levels are generally higher in states with price-fixing laws than in those without them.

Congress would serve the country well if it would follow the TNEC report and repeal the Miller-Tydings Act. Then it will be up to the states to repeal local laws of the same character. In this time of upward price trends, it is necessary to protect the consumer and give the free competitive system every chance to serve the country.

Fire Must Be Licked

"Fireproof America's defense effort," is the current motto of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary this month. And here are some startling facts concerning the toll of fire which were recently cited by W. E. Mallalieu, the National Board's general man-

ager. In the last 24 years, fire killed more Americans than died on the battlefields of Europe in World War I.

In those 24 years, fire's toll was more than \$9,500,000. That is enough money to have paid for three times as many naval fighting ships as we actually built during that period, which includes all World War I construction.

America's fire waste in homes, factories and elsewhere since 1917 is equal to the cost of 50 super dreadnaughts, a thousand destroyers and, on top of that, a thousand and gigantic bombing planes.

Not Too Hot Not Too Cold



By JOHN EMBERT
National Dairy Month

The National Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation announces that June has again been designated as National Dairy Month. As in the past, intensive effort will be given to stimulating interest in milk and milk products.

That is of great importance to all the states. Milk is the most universally produced farm crop. It provides a part of the income for millions of farm families, and all of the income for hundreds of thousands. From the consumers' point of view, milk is among the most healthful of foods, and dietary authorities point out that consumption in this country is substantially below what it should be.

Marketing cooperatives will be among the leaders in forwarding National Dairy Month. These cooperatives have achieved some of their most notable successes in the dairy field, and they have proven themselves invaluable to profitable dairy farming.

Control of Sea and Stake.

There are two kinds of European wars—those which are purely land wars and those in which sea power is involved.

We on this continent are never involved in the first kind; we are always involved in the second. This has been true ever since Columbus discovered America. The reason for this is that the security of this hemisphere, in the ability to keep hostile peoples from these shores, prevents them even from starting across. That was the policy of England when we were still colonies, and has been the policy of the United States ever since.

Since it was discovered that the United States and Great Britain could grow and develop in peace, the control of the sea has been a joint Anglo-American affair, largely to save expense on the tremendous sums involved, the American navy controlling the Pacific and the British navy controlling the Atlantic.

The British control of the Atlantic is now gravely threatened—both the navy itself and also Britain, the home base of the navy. Regardless of our opinion of the British, we must support her control of the Atlantic, for on that control our security depends.

Therefore, when we hear that the United States must keep out of foreign wars, we will know that this war, since it concerns sea power as well as land power, and that it is our war, since our security is just as vitally concerned as is England's.

Let it Remain a Symbol

In 1876, the United States observed its one-hundredth anniversary as an independent nation, Philadelphia celebrated by holding a centennial exposition. In the Machinery Hall at Philadelphia, there were on exhibit some weird strange contraptions forecasting the world to come. Two of the exhibits marked the start of a dramatic story that is still going on in this modern world that depends on tremendous quantities of

meehanical power.

One of these exhibits showed two crudely fashioned electric dynamos, designed by the Belgian inventor, Gramme, and the American, Wallace. Each supplied current to a single arc lamp and one drove a small pump. The public gazed at these gadgets with the curiosity of an audience watching a flea jump at the command of its trainer.

But what really took the public's eye was another exhibit that was huge and awe-inspiring—the Corliss steam engine, a mechanical mountain of man's ingenuity. It stood thirty feet high and was capable of producing 1,000 horse power. Interest in the Corliss engine was in proportion to its size, the public could not visualize that the latent possibilities in those freakish little dynamos sitting insignificantly off to one side would in a short while supplant the steam engine in most power fields. The efficiency of electricity of electric power has revolutionized the home and factory, although steam power is still indispensable to the uninterrupted production of electricity.

Electric power has made this world we live in more convenient and efficient, and reduced the labor demanded of man of producing the necessities and luxuries of life. All this has been brought about the initiative and enterprise of free men, not by government edict.

Let us hope that the magic of electricity will remain a symbol of the public service that flows from the American system of free enterprise.

A Decision is Necessary.

The people of the United States have a decision to make and they may have to do it a little faster than they think. We have already gone on record in the belief that a Hitler dominated Europe will be a menace to the peace of the Western Hemisphere, requiring the maintenance of a huge standing army, a great two-ocean navy and the world's largest air force by people of this country. Now, we must consider whether we are willing to take a chance and risk the defeat of the British. Do we prefer to stop Hitler in Europe or fight him, alone, somewhere else?

"MIDDLE-AGE" WOMEN

(38 to 52 Years Old)

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Edited by CECIL B. DeMILLE



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- VIRGINIA BRUCE
- BOB BUENE
- LEO CARRILLO
- CLAUDETTE COLBERT
- GARY COOPER
- BETTE DAVIS
- DEAD END KIDS
- RICHARD DIX
- IRENE DUNNE
- HENRY FONDA
- JANET GAYNOR
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- LEWIS STONE
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- LORETTA YOUNG

—and many more!

Wednesday-Thursday

May 14, 15

Love in Swingtime!

It's a sweetheart of a picture...set to mirth, melody and music!!!!



WHERE DID YOU GET THAT GIRL?

LEON ERROL · HELEN PARRISH