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YOU CAN'T STRIKE AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT

"You cannot strike against the government."

With this blunt statement, President Roosevelt last week established the government's opposition to the nation-wide walkout of unemployed skilled workers engaged on WPA construction projects. At the height of the "stoppage," 92,770 skilled building-trades workers, mostly members of the American Federation of Labor, had quit WPA projects in an effort to force re-establishment of the "prevailing wage" principle for relief work. This principle was scuttled by a provision of the 1940 relief bill requiring every worker to put in 130 hours a month on his WPA Job. Previously, skilled workers had been able to earn the same monthly wage as under the new act by working only one-third as many hours per month.

Encouraged by the President's firm stand, other government officials reiterated treir own opposition to the "stoppage", so called because they refused to recognize a "strike" against relief.

Brought into the picture by new outbreaks of violence in Minneapolis, Minn., where the second killing of the strike occurred in a clash between WPA pickets and police, Attorney General Frank Murphy revealed that his agents were investigating "some evidence of racketeering" in promotion of the strike.

In the face of this barrage of criticism, the strike seemed to be wilting at the week's end. President William Green of the A. F. of L., whose locals had strongly supported the walkouts, indicated that the national organization was not wholeheartedly behind the move. "We clearly recognize," he said, "that the remedy lies with Congress rather than through strikes on WPA projects. At the same time, Congressional leaders who had planned to seek restoration of the "prevailing wage" principle announced that they fund it "inopportune" to press for such legislative action during the strike.

Most effective action of all in discouraging the strike was WPA's discharge of 32,582 relief employees for failureto report for work for five consecutive days.

—The Pathfinder

MANY WPA WORKERS WILL LOSE JOBS

WPA workers who had been employed for more than eighteen consecutive months in Maryland will be dropped gradually in August.

These workers were ordered removed from WPA pay rolls not later than August 31 under a relief bill passed recently by Congress. Thirty days must expire before these relief workers are eligible again for WPA employment. Meanwhile, they must be recertified as to their need for work.

Statistics compiled by the WPA revealed that 14,468 persons are now on the WPA rolls. At this time last year 16,600 were working on projects.

Of the total now working, 11,973 are engaged on State projects and the remainder on Federal projects.

Last week the N. Y. Stock Exchange took a first step to find out just what the public thinks about it and why. Well aware of the weakness of their institution's reputation, Stock Exchange officials appointed Elmo Roper, marketing and research expert, to make a nation-wide survey of public opinion on the nation's leading securities exchange. Operating with a well established technique, Roper's army of field workers will question a cross-section of the population representative of the entire United States.

The questions Roper will ask have not yet been determined. In general, however, they will be designed to show the nature and extent of what Exchange officials call "misunderstandings" of the market's function.

Latest government figures compiled by the U. S. Office of Education show the cost of education for all American public elementary and secondary schools in 1936 to have been $1,968,898,000, or $74.38 for each pupil enrolled.

Enjoy the pleasures of life when you have a chance; when you get ready to enjoy them you may find them missing.

WHO WILL HEAD 1940 TICKETS?

J. E. Jones

Washngton, D. C., July 31—The figures of the Gallup polls indicate the accuracy of the observation of one Senator that "the only Democratic issue is Roosevelt." The President is expected to be the nominee, unless he should decline to be a candidate for a third term. The same Senator and most democratic leaders do not expect him to decline.

The Gallup polls are accepted as important because in every showdown they have proved to have been correct. The polls show Thomas E. Dewey to be the favorite of Republicans for next year's standard bearer—actually it is Dewey against the field. Dewey, 47 per cent; all other potential candidates, including Vandenberg, Taft, Hoover, Landon, Bricker, Saltonstall, etc., 53 per cent.

How curious and remarkable it is that the District Attorney of one of the nation's 3053 counties should today so outdistance the field as the favorite of his party for the 1940 presidential nomination!

The charge of his opponents that Dewey is too young and therefore too inexperienced does not stick as far as the public is concerned. Decent people everywhere who respect integrity and ability like the cut of Dewey's jib, get enthusiastic over the public record that he has made. They like his public record because they highly regard courage, intelligence and ability wherever found—and especially in public life.

And like the astronomer they don't have to wait to see a comet land before knowing its coures. Instead, after the manner and method of searchers of truth in the heavens, they study its course, get a range on its curves, calculate its speed and tell you exactly when and where it will land.

While it is true that the science of politics is not an exact one as is the science of mathematics (with which the astronomers calculations are made), nevertheless there is enough known about it to enable men to see where a public figure is going. And Dewey is going places. He has become the symbol of honesty, courage, and decency in government. He thinks straight, sees straight, walks straight, and best of all he is young—the symbol of the fresh, hopeful, clean, honest leadership which can lead a discouraged people to the firm ground of high places.

* * * *

Neutrality Legislation Postponed

It will be a good public service if the President carries the battle for a new neutrality policy to the country. Senator Borah practically challenged the Executive to start a discussion of that issue and the veteran legislator served notice that both sides of the dispute would be fully discussed. Let's hope that both sides will meet this challenge.

The President and Senate agreed to postponement of neutrality legislation until the next sessin of Congress.

* * * *

Summing Up

As Congress prepares to adjourn its members may look back over the records of great extravagances and shocking spendings. A large number of lawmakers arrived in the National Capital last January, boasting that they would bring about economy in government, and reduce taxes. Like our President who promised a 25 per cent reduction of public expenses in 1932, these critical Congressmen went the limit in breaking all records in peace-time spending.

It all seems to indicate that an "independent" conservative can spend the taxpayers money as easy as reformers and liberals.

* * * *

Poor Business And Strikes

New labor strikes, particularly of WPA workers, are worrying Washington. Congress will not change the law, and therefore workers must "take it or leave it."

The legislature of New York State asked for a voluntary cut in the salary of school teachers. Dynamic Mayor LaGuardia thereupon raised the roof and told the teachers not to agree to "any voluntary cut in salary in order to cover the perfidy of politicians." The teachers promptly agreed with the Mayor.

Business is not good throughout the country. Why make it worse with strikes that will increase difficulties of our people.

MARYLAND STATE BONDS BRING HIGHEST PRICE EVER RECORDED HERE

As an indication of the high regard in which Maryland's financial future is held by the financial interests of the country, the bids for the new issue of $1,800,000.00 Maryland State Bonds, opened by the Board of Public Works, were the best ever received for any previous issue on record.

The highest bid of some twelve received was from a New York syndicate, whose price of slightly above par bonds to yield 1¼ per cent means that it will cost the State of Maryland only 1.24 per cent interest per annum, a figure which bears irrefutable testimony to the country's confidence in Governor O'Conor's financial administration.

Governor O'Conor was delighted with the bids, and immediately after the award, issued the following statement:

"It is most gratifying to note the exceptionally high price at which Maryland State bonds were sold today. The price is the highest at which Maryland bonds have been sold in the history of the state. This is positive proof that those who are in the best position to know consider the State's fiscal affairs in splendid condition.

"For years, emphasis has been laid upon the necessity of having a balanced budget. We have now accomplished this result. Furthermore, it has long been felt that our State should not live on borrowed money and defray current expenses loans. The program which we have adopted adheres strictly to such a policy. Another important factor is that after pursuing the most painstaking effort to determine the total State requirements for the next two years, we tackled the problem and put forward a tax program which would produce an adequate amount. All of these considerations undoubtedly are reflected in the high bids made for Maryland bonds. As Governor of the State, I am proud that, throughout the country, our securities are valued so highly and that it is the consensus of opinion that our financial house is in order."

MICHIGAN'S GOVERNOR SLAPS HIGH LIFE

When ailing, 120-pound Republican Lieutenant Governor Luren Dudley Dickinson became governor of Michigan last March after the death of Gov. Frank D. Fitzgerald few expected him to create any excitement. He was 80 years old. He still taught a Sunday School class near his home at Charlotte. His chief interest was the Anti-Saloon League, of which he was national vice president. Moreover, he said he would not seek re-election.

In June, Dickinson, accompanied by his granddaughter and his secretary, attended the National Conference of Governors in Albany, N. Y. With other governors, he was entertained at big dinner parties in Albany, Saratoga Springs, New York and at Hyde Park, where President Roosevelt was host. At some of the parties liquor was served. Dickinson was shocked.

In Lansing last week, he issued a blast against the "high life" he had seen at the parties. Liquor, he charged, was served in large quantities "at all official dinners of the conference," except the one at Hyde Park; but even there, "if they asked for it, they probably would have got it." "Girls from 15 to 25," including the two with him, were "repeatedly" urged to drink, and some succumbed to the "sweet-voiced hosts," but "Thank God, our girls came home unsullied, and never will know how near the brink they were." Purpose of his "sermon," said Dickerson, was to "warn mothers and daughters of the dangerous proximity of the hellish brink for unprotected girls in anything smattering of high life...There is more danger than in the old saloon days."

Denials of Dickerson's charges followed immediately. A host at one of the parties called the statement "ridiculous." New York City's Mayor Fiorello La Guardia said Dickinson had "hallucinations," adding: "Nobody pays any attention to him in his own state, and surely I'm not..." Gov. R. L. Cochran of Nebraska flatly said "there weren't any wild parties." But Dickinson retracted nothing. In fact, he regretted that he had not made his criticism "strong," and announced that he was planning an attempt to return prohibition to Michigan, if not the whole country.

Sixty-five of every 100 pupils who finish the eighth grade of elementary school graduate from high school, according to a survey by the Division of Social Research of the W.P.A. Of the 65, only 19 enter college, the report states.

To combat crickets threatening to destroy crops in Wyoming and Montana, entomologists last week spread a new kind of poison said to "tickle them to death." Sprayed on, the poison causes the cricket to itch, scratch, and then lick the deadly dust from their feet.

May Solve Dispute Over Shakespeare

Pages in British Museum Identified as Bard's.

LONDON.—Hope of a definite settlement of the claim that Francis Bacon, Lord Verulam, wrote the plays of William Shakespeare, was offered in three faded, blotched scraps of paper preserved under glass in a show case in the British museum.

Dr. Robin Flower, deputy keeper of manuscripts of the museum, said that he believed, after years of study, that the fragments were written by Shakespeare, and thus were the only original Shakespearean writings known to exist, aside from a few mere signatures.

"If my verdict is correct," he said, "we shall be relieved forever of the wearisome assertion that anybody else but Shakespeare wrote Shakespeare."

The three fragments, in untidy writing, are ranged in the museum alongside open pages of a manuscript book in Bacon's neat, scholarly hand. They are three pages from the play on Sir Thomas More, and are part of the world famous Harleian collection of the museum, the collection of Robert Harley and his son Edward, in the Seventeenth and Eighteenth centuries.

"The conditions in which these pages were written," Dr. Flower explained, "imply that they were the original composition of a journeyman dramatist called in by his company to patch up a play to certain features of which a censor might have been expected to object. And the great lawyer (Bacon) or the magnificent nobleman (the seventeenth earl of Oxford) whom wild theorists prefer to Shakespeare as the author of Shakespeare's plays do not fit easily in this role."

It was in 1769, more than 150 years after Shakespeare's death, that the theory was first advanced that Bacon really wrote Shakespeare's plays. Little attention was caused then but the theory was revived in 1848 and the controversy over it has raged ever since.

Manufacturers Now Use Scents to Boost Sales

BUFFALO, N. Y.—The manufacture of odors has reached the boom stage because producers of various commodities have discovered that "the better it smells the better it sells," according to Dr. Harold G. Hewitt, assistant chemistry professor at the University of Buffalo.

"The old can of glue appears now with an odor of spring flowers," Dr. Hewitt pointed out. "The painter offers not only the color you wish, but paint that is free from the so-called 'paint odor.' The food industry has taken to scenting the inks which appear on food packages to make the product more attractive. Most articles of clothing have the odor of starch employed in manufacture masked with perfume."

Declaring that emotions can be influenced by the nose, Dr. Hewitt recalled how scented stationery was followed on the market by books and magazines with delicately scented pages to give their readers added enjoyment.

"It would not surprise me at all," he said, "to learn that soon not only will we buy gasoline which is tinted to suit our eyes, but probably scented to please our nose."

Chinese Hold Classes In Caves in Mountains

KWEILIN, CHINA. — Students from various parts of China are now flocking to the caves in the mountains of Kwangsi near here.

When schoolwork seemed at a standstill as the Japanese were incessantly bombing this mountainous province, a Chinese teacher, Tao Tze-shing, hit upon the idea of using the 18 huge caves for schoolhouses and it proved at once an unqualified success.

The Han Min middle school, formerly of Nanking, the Kiangsu educational institute, and the China vocational educational institute which was once in the French concession, Shanghai, are all now in the large Kwangsi caves. In the smaller ones are libraries.

Numerous radio sets have been placed in these improvised schoolrooms and the students are kept fully informed of all that is going on in the present clash. Often they can hear appeals and exhortations sent out from Chunking by Gen. Chiang Kai-shek.

Law Against Ornaments In Colonies Uncovered

BOSTON.—In 1651 colonists had to own £200 before being allowed to wear gold or silver ornaments, silk bands or scarfs.

But magistrates and other public officers, their families, military officers and soldiers then in service and those whose estates had become "decayed" were exempt from the ruling passed by the general court of Massachusetts Bay colony, according to the WPA historical records survey.

Giant Oak 1,200 Years Old

SAN MARINO, CALIF.—The gigantic oak tree here, known as "The Sentinel of the Ages," is believed by scientists to be the oldest and largest oak in the world. Its age has been established at 1,200 years. The tree's circumference is 20 feet and its spread more than 60.

PRISONER ESCAPES!

GUARD KILLED BY BRITISH OFFICER IN DARING ESCAPE FROM GERMAN PRISON CAMP

Hunted by all the police in Germany, he found refuge in the heart and home of this lovely little girl of the Berlin streets... Calmly, bravely she faced the police and lied for him—lied for an enemy of her country whom she had known but one short night... Not even the threats of certain death could break her devoted loyalty to him.

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MURDER!

ARSON!

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"Three Shuttered Houses"

ALMANAC

"A friend in the market is better than money in the chest."

AUGUST

6—The steamer "Alaska" was wrecked, 1921.

7—U. S.-Canada peace bridge was dedicated, 1927.

8—The first locomotive run in the United States was made, 1829.

9—Free Soil convention nominated Van Buren for president, 1848.

10—Herbert C. Hoover, 31st president of U. S., born, 1874.

11—Fulton's steamboat made a triol trip, 1807.

12—The first United States railroad was completed, 1830.

MILK AND MONOPOLY

Last November, the anti-trust division of the Justice Department advanced another step in its drive against monopoly by cracking down on some parts of the milk industry. After a year's investigation by Federal agents and 16 weeks of Federal grand jury hearings in Chicago, it obtained two comprehensive indictments charging a vast conspiracy to fix fluid milk and ice cream prices. This conspiracy, said the government, was in violation of the Sherman anti-trust act's provisions against restraints of interstate trade.

Named as conspirators in the milk indictment were 34 coporations from coast to coast and 63 individuals—big business executives, labor leaders and public officials including Dr. Herman N. Bundesen, president of the Chicago Board of Health. Named in the ice cream indictment were 20 corporations and 20 persons.

In a minute, the United States manufactures over 90 pounds of potato chips!

AMERICAN TRAVELERS LARGE SPENDERS

That U. S. citizens are great travelers is no secret. By auto, train, boat, airplane and even on foot, they journey uncounted millions of miles a year not only at home but abroad. As tourists in their own country, Americans can be counted upon to swell the receipts of not a few businesses.

That Americans as travelers abroad are big spenders was indicated in a report from the Department of Commerce last week. Principal disclosures were these:

In the 20-year period from 1919 to 1938, U. S. citizens spent $5,400,000,000 on oversea travel, almost 5½ times as much as the $1,000,000,000 spent by foreigners visiting the United States.

Peak of American overseas travel came in 1929. In that year, Americans spent a total of $771,000,000 in foreign lands, compared to the $167,000,000 paid out by alien visitors in this country. In 1933, the figures skidded to $300,000,000 and $64,000,000; in 1937, they rose again to $563,000,000 and $161,000,000. In 1938, expenditures by Americans abroad were still more than $500,000,000, while expenditures of foreign visitors here remained at approximately $160,000,000.

Since 1934 ,expenditures for foreign travel have accounted for almost 40 per cent of the total payments made by U. S. citizens to foreigners for services and for 13 per cent of the payments for both merchandise and services.

Because of this travel, foreign vessels received $221,000,000 from American passengers in 1929 and $125,000,000 in 1937. American ships received from American passengers only $55,000,000 in 1929 and $37,000,000 in 1937.

Each minute—Kansas grows 150 bushels of wheat, Kentucky distills a hundred dollars' worth of liquor, Virginia produces 200 pounds of tobacco.

Americans have a lot of trouble hearing correctly. Apparatus to help hearing is manufactured at a speed of $8 worth a minute.