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THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1944.

New Backing for Proposal To Help a Basic Industry

INTEREST grows in the measure proposed by Congressman Fred Norman, Republican representative of Washington's Third District, which would authorize the United States Forest Service to establish forest-products "pilot plants" in the Pacific Northwest.

The bill now has the formal indorsement of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, on the recommendation of its industrial and state development committees, whose members have asked the Washington delegation in Congress to give it their support.

"Pilot plants," it should be explained, are test plants designed to develop new industrial processes and, in this instance, to furnish private industry with engineering, cost and other data for the development of practical new uses for wood and wood waste. The proposal thus merits the attention of all who are interested in the progress of this section; for every resident of the state has a stake, direct or indirect, in the future of the forest industry.

If any reservation exists as to the worth of the Norman bill, it seems to arise from fear that it might give the federal government too much control over future developments in that industry. Possibly with this in mind, the Chamber's state development committee has proposed an amendment to provide for an advisory committee to pass on the order of importance of the pilot plant projects. That may be a valuable contribution to the discussion.

What Congressman Norman seems to lack now is the formal indorsement of leading lumber organizations to his measure. The congressman from Raymond has made a sincere effort to aid the forest industry in sponsoring this bill. General support of the legislation can scarcely be expected without the unqualified indorsement of the industry itself.

A Symbol of Remembrance

AMERICAN doughboys, slugging their way forward in Italy, are pictured fighting in fields of poppies as crimson as the blood of the wounded shed.

They follow the footsteps of their fathers, who fought among poppies, too, in the First World War.

Poppies are not a flower of forgetfulness, but of remembrance. That is why at this season, auxiliaries of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, have adopted the flower to symbolize their good work among the veterans of American wars and their families.

That work should have our support. The poppy sale will be tomorrow and Saturday. No resident of Seattle should require the slightest prompting to buy a poppy.

Vital to a City's Future

APPROPOS of Foreign Trade Week, which is being currently observed along the Pacific Coast, Vice Admiral J. W. Greenslade, U. S. N. (Ret.), declares that maintenance of a powerful merchant fleet in the Pacific after the war would be a strong influence for the preservation of peace.

Admiral Greenslade's plan embraces the enactment of a tariff system requiring that 50 per cent of American exports and imports be carried in American vessels.

These remarks, and others made in connection with Foreign Trade Week, give Seattle citizens something to think about. At latest reports, the War Shipping Administration had under its control some 3,100 cargo vessels. Never before in history have so many merchant ships flown the Stars and Stripes. What disposition will be made of so vast an armada will be one of the ticklish questions of international discussions at war's end.

Admiral Greenslade's proposal may or may not be the best of solutions. But Seattle's position in these discussions becomes clear. This community must go down the line in favor of a vigorous national policy to keep a large part of that great merchant fleet intact. Seattle must hold to its purpose to become a great port in a great maritime nation.

They Depend on the Weather Man

THE British Information Service probably does not exaggerate when it remarks that the most important man in the world at this moment is the director of meteorology of the British Air Ministry. Upon his predictions depends the date of invasion of Western Europe. His responsibility is so great that he sleeps in his office every night, so that he will not miss any significant fluctuation in weather developments.

Fortunately for them, the weather men on our own peaceful shores are not required to stay so closely to the post of duty. But even here, in war or peace, accurate weather forecasting is of great importance to shipping, to farmers, to many types of business, and to the public in general.

Circumstances have combined to give Seattle and its immediate vicinity an improved weather forecasting service. The state and the Pacific Northwest, however, still must rely on the predictions of prognosticators in distant San Francisco. A state forecasting center, located in Seattle, should be established. Other communities of Washington should join in urging the early establishment of such a center.

Into The Mainstream

NO matter what others may think of it, the War Relocation Authority, with Director Dillon S. Myer still on the job, thinks very well of itself.

So much may easily be gathered from the most recent report of Director Myer to his immediate and altogether sympathetic superior, Secretary of the Interior Ickes. This report tells how some 22,000 Japanese, located in the Pacific Coast area before Pearl Harbor, have been established in various parts of the country and "allowed to resume normal ways of life." Many others are to be released from relocation centers as fast as the W. R. A. can find places for them.

"This transplantation," reports Director Myer, "has tended to break down the pre-war isolation of this Oriental minority in the United States, and has brought thousands of these people more completely than ever into the mainstream of American life."

Japanese-American soldiers in the United States Army are fighting on several fronts. There can be no doubt of the loyalty to this country of many others. The big question mark attaches to the discriminatory power of the W. R. A. to effect a wholesale Japanese infiltration of the mainstream of American life, already somewhat congested with material not easy to assimilate.

Their Reward For Loyalty In Wartime

—By DAVID LAWRENCE

WASHINGTON—When Chairman Davis of the War Labor Board says that it is necessary to seize plants in order to prevent the "no-strike pledge" from being ignored by labor itself, he is in fact saying that it is necessary to put pressure on the employer in order to win over the employees.

For in many cases the employes unions have maneuvered the situation to where, after they have called a strike, the War Labor Board has been unable to get jurisdiction over the strikes except by seizing the plant.

The administration has never recommended the use of any penalties for striking labor unions, and the idea that the no-strike pledge has been kept is based upon the equivocal statement that strikes which are "unauthorized" do not count in the tally.

AS a matter of fact, labor union leaders frequently maneuver the War Labor Board into the position of seizing a property in order to prove to their constituent members that they are "doing something" to justify their positions.

The War Labor Board has recently awakened to this tendency and has started to apply some sanctions to striking unions. The National Labor Relations Board has assisted in the process only to receive the condemnation of labor unions.

The fact is that as long as labor unions can get favorable decisions from the War Labor Board and the National Labor Relations Board, they support these decisions; but when the decisions go against them, they assail the members and either withdraw from participation in the boards or ignore the hearings.

THE real reason for this is that labor unions have not really appreciated the fact which employers have already recognized, namely, that the War Labor Board has taken upon itself the power of compulsory arbitration. No labor leader in his right mind will accept government compulsion in peace-time and very few of them have been willing to accept compulsory arbitration in wartime.

The truth is that every suggestion or proposal to legislate compulsory arbitration has been rebuffed by the labor leaders. The idea that a government tribunal can order a settlement is not relished by labor unions when the orders are unfavorable to the employe, but most of the orders of the War Labor Board have been against the employers. That is why the War Labor Board, without any authority from Congress, has ordered "maintenance-of-membership" contracts.

THE War Labor Board consists of three groups—namely, labor representatives, management representatives, and so-called public representatives. The public representatives, as referred to in their decisions, are in the main favorable to the labor unions. The policy of ordering the "maintenance-of-membership" clauses in union contracts has been consistently supported by the three public members of the labor boards.

The theory behind the "maintenance-of-membership" clause is that the labor unions should be given some sort of reward for their loyalty in not indulging in strikes. It is contended that labor unions are unable, on account of wage stabilization, to get much for their members, and this would result in a drop-off of members, and hence in the amounts of labor dues, unless the "maintenance-of-membership" clause requiring members to stay in the union once they join.

THERE is no such reward for the employer who fails to lock out employes in wartime, or maintains his plant even at a loss in order to keep going in the hope of eventually getting into the black.

There is no reward for the employer who is the victim of jurisdictional disputes between employes. Nobody has ever suggested that he too be compensated for the loss he incurs while unions fight it out.

Indeed, there is no fairness in the Roosevelt administration policies where the employer is concerned.

TO argue, therefore, that it is necessary to seize plants in order to prevent an epidemic of strikes is merely to scratch the surface and ignore the fundamentals. If the War Labor Board had a policy that applied equally between the employers and employes, there would have been very little clamor over the seizure of the property of employers who were recalcitrant.

The number of candidates filing for office this year makes it apparent that the only deciding factor is one of transportation. You can ride the band wagon or the gravy train.—Concrete Herald.

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THE OLD FAVORITE IS BACK AT THE CONSOLE — By Dowling



Policing Postwar Europe Not So Simple

—By CONSTANTINE BROWN

WASHINGTON—The military value of the underground movements in Europe in the forthcoming decisive battles against Hitler will be ascertained only after the major battles on the Eastern and Western Fronts begin.

Some military quarters believe they will not be of real assistance to regular invasion forces. Others feel they will have a great nuisance value by destroying enemy bridges and railroads. Little can be expected from the western underground.

PREMATURE activities in the past 18 months have disclosed to the Germans the location of the "heart" of the underground movement. Some of the leaders are being rounded up in Western Europe and it is feared that when sporadic outbreaks in France, Belgium and Holland. The remaining organizations might play havoc with the Nazis if, under the impact of the Allied attacks, the German forces begin to disintegrate.

In Eastern Europe, guerrilla forces compose the "underground" and they have been fighting for some time. They are in a more favorable position than those in Western Europe, principally because the peoples of Central and Eastern Europe and those in the Balkans have been familiar with guerrilla fighting for centuries. A certain amount of support, however, may come to the Allies.

SOME Washington quarters, thinking in terms of the pacification of Europe, wonder what would happen if these organizations, bolstered after the Nazis have been defeated by the addition of demobilized soldiers and officers, begin private wars of their own.

The U. N. R. A. will take care of the feeding of millions of destitute Europeans. But some high American officials wonder what political dissatisfaction the new map of Europe would cause.

The peoples in Western Europe, who have been kept in slavery by the Nazis for four years, will expect to enjoy their new freedom like a thirsty man who has been in the waterless desert for some time. Any government imposed on them even temporarily by the Allies might create disorders on a large scale.

These people have now been educated to violence. Domestic political strife is likely to be patterned in accordance with the habits of the "underground," and the interference of foreign troops might be as much resented as the activities of the Nazi occupation troops.

In Eastern and Southern Europe, there are likely to be similar outbreaks due to possible frustrated national aspirations.

You also state that it was not until just a few weeks ago that the Swedish government sought to re-apply its restrictive rules. May I remind you that this transit traffic was discontinued already well over nine months ago and long before any "Allied invasion plans were plainly in the making."

3. You state further that Sweden when it renewed its trade treaty with Germany for 1944 "undertook continuing delivery of large quantities of materials which the Nazis have no means of procuring from any other source." This is completely misleading.

The actual deliveries of the principal Swedish export item to Germany—iron ore—are, for instance, estimated to cover only some 11 to 13 per cent of the German requirements and as regards the now much-discussed exports of ball bearings, these are estimated by Allied sources to represent only about 10 per cent of the German needs. On the other hand Sweden is receiving from Germany vital commodities which she has no means of procuring from any other source.

Under these circumstances it seems hardly fair now to jeopardize Sweden's existence for the comparatively unimportant reason of a small quantity of ball bearings.

—C. E. WALLERSTEDT, Consul General of Sweden, San Francisco, May 13, 1944.

Hits and Misses History tells us that a fellow by the name of Alexander said down and cried because there were no more worlds to conquer. One of these days Eleanor is going to feel sad because there are no more to visit.—Grandview Herald.

Our labor situation would be in a more favorable condition if only John L. Lewis had been running a mail-order house instead of a flock of coal mines.—Concrete Herald.

Out for the duration is the one sure cure for dandelions, viz., building a nine-story apartment house squarely on the infested plot.—Tacoma News-Tribune.

A lot of 4 in Ontario can spell Constantine backward. We have no wish to be unhelpful, but is there a future in it?—Walla Walla Union-Bulletin.

Weather Report

Forecast for Seattle and vicinity for the period ending at 8:30 p. m. tomorrow: Cloudy tonight and tomorrow, with light intermittent rain beginning late tonight or tomorrow. Not much change in temperature; lowest tomorrow morning, 50 degrees; highest tomorrow, 68. Washington: Partly cloudy today, tonight and tomorrow, with light rain west portion late tomorrow. Warmer today.

Table with columns: Temp. High, Prec., Low, In. for various cities including Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Denver, Detroit, El Paso, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Olympia, Portland, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Spokane, and Washington, D. C.

*Note: Seattle observation, 8:30 a. m., Pacific War Time.

SALUTE TO THE SERVICE MEN

Lieut. Dunton Learns Peep Can't Run Over Half-Track

Lieut. David P. Dunton, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Dunton, 807 11th Ave., found by the "hard way" that a peep can't run over a half-track. Lieut. Dunton explained in a recent letter to his parents how he suffered a broken arm and left hip fracture in an accident on a half-track.

DAVID P. DUNTON was coming in from the field in a peep about 3:30 o'clock. As we were traveling along the road a half-track approached us at a pretty good speed, raising a lot of dust. He wrote, "My driver slowed down to about 15-20 miles per hour and the half-track passed us."

THE British have had the same experience in their colonies where they have often been compelled to use the matted fist. But our fighting men are not used to this type of policing. Political and nationalistic squabbles of the Europeans are foreign to them and so is the technique of the underground of guerrilla fighters.

PROMOTIONS—H. H. (Buck) Williams, station executive officer of the Harvard, Neb., Army Air Field, and former engineer for the Washington State Highway Department, to major; R. E. Sankey, 408 S. W. 126th St., to lieutenant at Camp Bradford, Norfolk, Va.; Robert J. Flahive, son of Mr. and Mrs. John R. Flahive, 3509 W. Thurman St., to corporal at the Gulfport, Miss., Army Air Field.

GRADUATES—Pvt. Dan W. Carroll, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford W. Carroll, 312 W. 73rd St., from a year's academic course conducted by the Army Air Force at Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y.; Albert William Jonitz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Jonitz, 4427 Dawson St., from the Aviation Machinist's Mate School, at the Naval Air Technical Training Center, Okla.; Harold R. McAllister, son of W. B. McAllister, Bothell, and Martin A. Vanderlip, son of Mrs. Marie Vanderlip, 326 W. 46th St. from the Armored School at Fort Knox, Ky.; Aviation Cadet Ralph H. Wiseman, son of Mr. and Mrs. George A. Wiseman, 4200 E. Madison St., from the advanced engine pilot school at Fort Sumner, N. M., with a commission as second lieutenant.

Toll Reaches Six In Dance Hall Fire HAMILTON, Ont., May 25.—(AP)—Toll of the fire which broke out at a dairy company's staff get-together dance in Moose Hall early yesterday stood at six today. Seven still were in critical condition and 29 others were recovering from less serious burns. Only one of the victims died in the flames. The others died in a hospital from severe burns and other injuries suffered when they leaped from the burning building.

PRIVATE LIVES — By Ford

Advertisement for 'IF THERE ARE ANY BEER HALLS LEFT IN BERLIN' featuring a cartoon illustration of a man in a suit and a woman in a dress. The text includes: 'PATRONS MIGHT BE SURPRISED TO KNOW THAT ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR TUNES PLAYED FOR THEIR ENTERTAINMENT WAS WRITTEN SEVERAL YEARS AGO BY THE MAN WHO IS NOW THE REICH'S RESERVED FINANCIAL WIZARD, DR. HJ. HADJ. SCHMIDT. HIS EARLY AND YOUNG WAS TO BE A MUSICIAN.'