OUR PROGRAM
To Tell the Truth as We See It.
To Do Our Best for Seattle
and the Northwest

The Seattle Daily Times

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AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO PRINT

Four Billion Dollars Wasted And Nothing Done About It

THIS country's military-production program, says Senator Adams of Colorado, is being conducted with "incalculable waste." The Colorado Democrat is chairman of the Senate appropriations subcommittee, which must consider the President's request for $7,082,419 additional defense funds, now pending in the House. At the moment, he seems in no mood for easy acquiescence.

Congress already has authorized expenditure of $58,500,000,000 for defense. Failing to get satisfactory reports on how this vast sum was being used, both Senate and House lately have had special investigating committees. Hearings have been held in Washington and subcommittees have been sent out to gather first-hand information. When Senator Adams speaks of incalculable waste, he knows what he is talking about; the evidence admits of no dispute.

Meanwhile, the wasteful spending on defense is more than matched by continuing wastefulness in non-defense expenditures. The cost of what was once called "ordinary" government runs up and up. It is far higher now than before the defense emergency was declared.

Congressional committees apparently have not been able to catalogue all items and strike a total of money wasted on the defense program. Senator Adams calls it incalculable, which means something more than much. But let us say it is no more than 2 per cent of the $58,500,000,000. That would be $1,170,000,000.

Other committees of Congress already have learned, in part from Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau, and in other part from Budget Director Smith, that non-defense expenditures of government can easily be cut by close to $2,000,000,000 a year.

In other words, while most of the money is now going into the defense program, the far greater waste is for purposes wholly unrelated to that program.

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Profitable Quarrel

SEVERAL months ago, on the first outcrop of acrimony, The Times expressed hope that controversy over how state school lands and timber should be handled might continue. Altercation among public officers is usually deplorable; but in this matter the clash of official opinion is informative. It is giving the people of the state a better understanding of the issue than they have ever had before.

The issue itself is very simple. It is whether the highly valuable lands and timber of the school grant shall be conserved or frittered away. This is virtually a new issue. Until recent years, there was no reason to worry on this score.

The Times heretofore has said, and it will bear repeating, that through the many years of his service as state land commissioner, the conduct of Clark V. Savidge was above suspicion. Retiring in 1933, he left a record beyond reproach. During those years everyone knew that the interests of the schools in lands and timber were fully protected.

It was not until after Mr. Savidge quit office, that organizations specially concerned for the schools and the property of the schools became apprehensive. No need now to go into the causes for anxiety.

The Allied Committee of Sixteen was set up to safeguard the interests of the schools. Legislation was procured creating a state board of land commissioners, consisting of five ex-officio members, to supervise and pass upon the proposals of the one elective land commissioner.

Early this year, with several new members, the state board plunged into controversy, which, we are pleased to note, as yet shows no sign of abatement. The latest bone of contention is whether the extent and value of school timber shall be appraised by independent cruisers or by cruisers chosen by Land Commissioner Taylor. Progress, other than conversational, just now seems blocked.

This is just as well. There is no need of haste to be rid of any school lands or timber. The permanent school fund, which derives from land and timber sales, is more than sufficient for current and prospective requirements. So long as no action adverse to the schools is taken, the people will be pleased to have members of the state board keep on talking—quarreling, if they must.

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Hot water has been banned in government offices in London. Some heating restrictions in Washington, D. C., offices might be advisable too, but applicable not so much to water as to air.

He Brought Good Cheer

LLOYD SPENCER, Seattle advertising executive, has told his last story. Death came to him swiftly after he suffered a stroke during the football game Saturday.

Mr. Spencer endeared himself to many friends by his genial sense of humor and his work for this community. A great collector of books, he accumulated a choice private library.

But he will be remembered most affectionately as a teller of tales, for he had that happy gift, the ability to bring laughter into tedious lives. Thus he will be genuinely mourned as one who with rare good cheer did his part in the building of Seattle.

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The Daily Battle

ALTHOUGH assurance is given that work on the new Spokane Street viaduct will be commenced early in the year, it will be months before the completed bridge will relieve traffic congestion in that area.

Assurance is also given that the work itself will add but little to the present traffic problem. The viaduct will be built in the portion of Spokane Street that is now unpaved.

Even so, the problem is likely to grow worse in coming months, certainly no better. West Seattle residents, who had to fight their way to town long before defense industries were heard of, see little hope of escaping this daily battle.

Is it time to revive talk of a ferry system across Elliott Bay?

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There's a Limit—We Hope

NEW effects of the defense program are felt by Seattle residents almost daily. Latest is an increase of 1 cent in the price of milk, bringing the cost of the home-delivered product to 14 cents and the cash-and-carry price to 13 cents a quart.

Milk dealers do not anticipate that the increase will have much effect on the sale of milk. They say consumers shortly become resigned to higher prices.

But sooner or later their resignation may need to be bolstered. The new prices approach the all-time high of 16 cents that prevailed for three months during World War I. From the looks of things, Seattleites will be lucky if that record is not equaled or even exceeded before this thing is over.

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Russian women are standing right beside their husbands in the front lines. A man can't even have war in peace.—The Longview Daily News.

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Sentence Sermons

NO MAN IS INDEPENDENT—

—Who wears clothes other men have made.
—Who reads books other men have written.
—Who eats food other men have cooked.
—Who enjoys liberties other men have established.
—Who lives in a house another man has built.
—Who lives off an income another man has earned.
—Who has been educated in a school other men have built.

Years of Pampering Bring Harvest of Discord

YEARS of pampering unreasonable factions in the labor movement and of conciliatory attitudes toward their demands now are bringing their harvest of national discord and peril. This is the view taken generally by the press of the State of Washington in discussing the strike of the United Mine Workers in the "captive" mines of Pennsylvania.

The Walla Walla Union-Bulletin puts it this way: "The administration encouraged this sort of thing by its conciliatory attitude in recent years. Now it is face to face with the Frankenstein of its own creation."

The Snohomish County Tribune says it "amounts to revolution."

The Yakima Daily Republic asserts that the nation "has been brought to the brink of economic disintegration in an hour of national crisis."

Looking at the question from the point of view of labor, The Kent News-Journal predicts that "the unions will lose more than they will gain before the thing is settled."

The Washington press has regarded government intervention as inevitable. The Longview Daily News remarked: "This is a time when the government seems forced to assert its power against the challenge of one individual."

PRIVATE LIVES -:- -:- -:- By Edwin Cox

C. I. O. Tries to Hide Its Closed Shop Demands with Screen of Trick Phrases

By DAVID LAWRENCE

WASHINGTON, Monday, Nov. 24.—Although President Roosevelt used the term "closed shop" no less than five times in the text of his letter to John L. Lewis and the heads of the steel companies and never once employed the term "union shop," many of the news articles sent from Washington contained in their paragraphs of introduction only the words "union shop," which is the approved C. I. O. terminology.

One of the leading Washington newspapers not only failed to mention the word "closed shop" anywhere in its news or editorial articles on the President's letter but spoke repeatedly of a "union shop" controversy.

The explanation is not to be found in the charge that most of the newspaper men, being themselves members of a C. I. O. union, might be tempted to formalize the C. I. O. terminology, but rather in the fact that the C. I. O. has put over on unwitting reporters a clever piece of euphemistic propaganda in order to keep from the public the true meaning of the "closed shop" evil.

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TO say that employers are refusing to grant a "union shop" means to the average man that the employers do not wish to recognize a union or deal with it. That's what the C. I. O. would like to have the press disseminate and the public believe.

In fact, the United Mine Workers Journal, national organ of the miners union, told its hundreds of thousands of members last week that the "union shop" issue in the captive coal mines is a matter of "union recognition." The fact is the employers have already recognized the union as required by the Wagner law whenever a majority of the workers are lawfully organized.

The President, doubtless in an effort to combat misleading impressions arising from camouflaged terminology, wrote in his letter Wednesday which describes the agreements that the employers in the captive mines are willing to sign:

"Under these agreements, the United Mine Workers are recognized as the sole bargaining agent for all the workers in and about the mines. The agreements fix the highest basic daily wage and the highest tonnage rates paid miners anywhere in the world. They provide in many other ways for the security of the mine workers under union auspices . . .

"A single issue, that of the closed shop, remains in dispute, but this issue concerns only 5 per cent of the mine workers employed in the captive mines which is one half of one per cent—one worker out of every 200—of all the mine workers in the United States."

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MR. LEWIS promptly attemped to shift the argument, this time claiming that the President desires an "open shop" which, by the way, has often been used in labor controversies to mean that the employer had no objection to either union or non-union men but would not deal with the union as such.

This is not what the President has advocated. Taking cognizance of the effort to mislead by technical phrases, the White House through Secretary Early said:

"Let's get this thing straight. There is no use to confuse the issue. Ninety-five per cent of the miners have selected the United Mine Workers Union as their bargaining agent. That is a union shop, not an open shop."

The reason the labor leaders and particularly the C. I. O. chiefs like to get away from the words "closed shop" is because it tells every American who isn't particularly familiar with labor terms that employment is closed to certain workers. In other words, it means the constitutional right to work has been subtracted from the Bill of Rights.

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IN an official survey of the whole question of terms, the Department of Labor in a bulletin issued in October, 1939, described the various forms of "closed shop."

It lists the type where all employes must belong to the union and new employes must be chosen from the union's own roster.

It lists also the type which requires that all workers in a plant must be members, but the employer can hire whom he pleases on condition that after thirty days or so, the new worker must join the union or forfeit his job. This is the type which Mr. Lewis is asking for in the captive coal mines.

A third type listed is that in which workers who already are members of a union must pay their dues and remain members in good standing or be dismissed by the employer. This is the type which the National Defense Mediation Board attempted to force on the employer at Kearney, N. J., and the President ordered the Navy to seize the plant.

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FOR all practical purposes, these various forms of "closed shop" mean that an American citizen either cannot get a job unless he promises to belong to a union or that, once having joined a union, he cannot change his mind and withdraw without losing his job.

To close the door against American workers and to put a monopoly power in the hands of labor bosses by granting them the closed shop, no matter by what name it is called, is to restrict the freedom and the liberty of the individual citizen in his right to work.

The Supreme Court of the United States has never been given a case to decide involving this point because labor union lawyers have cleverly avoided the issue.

In many states closed shops are prohibited by law and strikes demanding the closed shop have likewise been declared illegal. The real goal in the closed shop is the monopoly power—autocracy and not democracy.

Loyalty to U. S. of Japanese in America Big Disappointment to Tokyo Spy Chiefs

By JAY FRANKLIN

WASHINGTON, Monday, Nov. 24.—One of the aces which Roosevelt has up his sleeve is the knowledge that the Japanese and Japanese-Americans on the West Coast and in Hawaii are thoroughly loyal to the United States.

Since Japanese strategy and propaganda has tried to use these citizens and residents as the basis for Fifth Column operations, this is an important victory in our "war of the nerves" with the ruler of the Mikado's Empire.

The Japanese exclusion clause of the 1924 Immigration Act, which ended the Gentleman's Agreement, choked off immigration to the United States. As a result it left over here a sizable group of Japanese who were not "eligible for citizenship"—and caused considerable anger in Tokyo.

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THIS group, however, is about eighteen years older today and has no stomach for adventure or heroic self-sacrifice. They have settled down, as farmers, small merchants, or professional men, and are in many cases elderly people who have become an accepted and useful part of their communities.

Their substantial loyalty to a country which does not admit them to citizenship is one of the most touching phases of American-Japanese social relations.

Their children, the so-called Nisei (or American Japanese) are American citizens by virtue of having been born in the United States. This group is enthusiastically loyal to America, proud of the role they have played in supplying recruits to the Army, and resentful that they are, unlike the American Negroes, denied employment in defense-industries.

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IT was from this group that the Japanese spy-service and consular agents hoped to recruit a Japanese "Fifth Column" on American soil for mass-sabotage in the event of war with the United States.

For this reason, at considerable trouble and expense, arrangements were made to have large numbers of the Nisei educated in Japan, in hope that thus their loyalty to the Emperor might offset their natural loyalty to the land of their birth.

It didn't work out that way. Exposure to life and ideas in Japan was a great shock to the vast majority of American-born Japanese. Not only were living conditions far harder in Japan than in America but the Japanese themselves had such hatred for "dangerous thoughts" (that is, foreign ways and ideas) that they took it out on the Nisei.

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ANY American who has bumped into the far more subtle and considerate English conviction of social, moral and intellectual superiority over "colonials" and "Yanks," has a faint idea of the sort of beating these Japanese-American boys took from the narrow-minded European-worshipping militarists who tried to drill out of them all the American ideals of freedom, equality and individualism.

On top of that, the Japanese clapped the Nisei into the Japanese army—since Japan refuses to admit that any child of Japanese parents is not a subject of the Mikado—and gave them a taste of goose-stepping and barracks which made them realize that, with all the discrimination, they were better off in America.

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SO the result was that, with only a tiny number of exceptions, the Nisei who saw what Japan was like lost their illusions and returned to America fired with new loyalty for the land of liberty.

In the meantime, except for trouble-makers, the mass of native White Americans on the West Coast came to accept and respect the Japanese-Americans as part of the American people, more concerned for their safety and protection, from ignorant abuse than with any fear lest the Japanese arise to attack American power on the West Coast.

He's a National Nuisance; Let's Have a Proclamation

By HENRY McLEMORE

NEW YORK, Monday, Nov. 24.—Breathes there the man with soul so dead who never to his wife and children has said—"I wish to goodness I could pick up a paper and not have John L. Lewis' King Kong kisser staring at me from the front pages?"

We don't believe so. The man has become not only a national menace but a national bore. He makes the front page more often than the weather report and isn't nearly so interesting. The weather at least changes for the good every once in a while, but John L. is always hot and cloudy.

At best he isn't a man whose picture one enjoys looking at every day. And he is always at his worst. To judge from his pictures, he is a man who gets out the wrong side of the bed every day, has burned toast every breakfast of his life, breaks a shoe lace every time he ties his shoes and always misses trolley cars and busses by a split second.

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AS far as we can gather, Lewis has but two expressions—mad and madder. In the mornings, he poses for cameramen looking like a fellow who has just feasted off a two-pound box of green persimmons, and in the afternoons, he switches to an expression that gives him all the facial charm of a cannibal reduced to eating a mixed green salad.

If he'd only smile once. If he'd only get a reputable landscape gardener or tree surgeon to trim those eye-brows so those of us who have to look at them wouldn't keep wanting to stick a "No Poaching" sign in them. If he'd only change the tune of his conversation once in a while.

Doesn't anything in life but strikes interest him? You can't tell us a man can live as long as he has without having some conversational change of pace.

What a relief it would be if the C. I. O. chieftain would come up once a month or so with a discussion of how to wash antimacassars without shrinking them, or the best way to bank a fire, or why Livingstone and Stanley never exchanged Christmas gifts. Or anything.

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WHAT can be done about him?

The better minds of the country having failed to solve the problem, perhaps it is time for some of us underprivileged intellects to have a try at the solution.

Something should be done. He's a triple threat. He snarls up defense. He snarls up all the national leaders who try to deal with him and he bores the citizenry.

As a starter toward a solution of how to handle Brother Lewis why not officially designate him as the National Nuisance? The President could do it by proclamation.

We have all sorts of national things—parks, cemeteries, debts, bird sanctuaries and holidays—so why not a National Nuisance?

This would give Lewis the distinction and prestige he apparently wants so badly. Overnight he would be on an equal footing with Yellowstone Park and Washington's monument.

There is a good chance that the importance of being the National Nuisance would take his mind off causing trouble and set him to preserving himself as something dear and precious to his countrymen.

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TO encourage this, busloads of social children from all parts of the country would be brought to the National Nuisance at first hand, just as they are now driven about to see other natural national wonders. Guides would be appointed to follow him about and explain him to those who have long wondered just what he was like.

The moment he became thoroughly adjusted to being the National Nuisance, Congress could grant him a vast tract of land and let him retire to the center of it. To prevent him being bothered by too many sightseers, the visiting hours could gradually be reduced until, finally, the public would be allowed to see or talk to him but once a year, and then only from 9 a. m. until 9:15 a. m.

We'll pay for the parchment if the President will furnish the proclamation and the Great Seal.

Revival of First Talkie Recalls Early Favorites

By DALE HARRISON

NEW YORK, Monday, Nov. 24.—During the revival of "The Jazz Singer," the first talking picture, at the Museum of Modern Arts, many spectators are surprised to observe that one of the girls playing a minor role is a young woman who subsequently has done much better in movies than the star of that picture. She is Myrna Loy.

"The Jazz Singer" was a stage play in which George Jessel starred, and it was planned that Jessel would star in the screen version. Jessel, however, balked.

He did not wish to endanger his career by being the principal performer in a new form of entertainment, which, if it failed, might bring ridicule upon him.

Jolson took the role—and made screen history.

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THE years have brought many changes in the lives of those performers.

Myrna Loy, an unknown then, has become a star.

Jolson, considerably older than the others, has been in and out of the theatre and pictures in the past 10 years, and has had a flyer at radio.

Jessel, lean, fashion-platish and a lively wit, has taken front-page space with a September and May wedding to Lois Andrews, and currently is romping through a bawdy burlesque musical on Broadway which most of the drama critics said is a good show—if you like that kind of a show.

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PERSONAL idiosyncrasies:

Alec Templeton, the blind piano satirist, when introduced to anyone, does not extend his right hand, but holds it open close to his chest, which brings the new acquaintance much nearer to him, where he can "feel" the personality he cannot see.

Tommy Dorsey is lost without his glasses.

Vincent Lopez is a numerology addict and advocate.

If Walter Winchell ever has to shoot the pistol he is licensed to carry, it will be with the left hand. He's a southpaw.

Tito Schipa collects Napoleonic prints and autographs.

Fred Waring has declined for years to make phonograph records, the reason being his objection to the use of records by radio stations in place of live musicians. "I object to competing with myself," is Waring's explanation.

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A CANNY pigeon has discovered that a grocer on Sixth Avenue keeps a large bag of bird seed in front of his store, selling it in small quantities to persons who wish to feed the birds.

This pigeon, a larcenous fellow at heart, flutters to a nonchalant landing at the curb, waits until he thinks nobody is watching, then hops over to the open sack and helps himself, completely ignoring the sign which says: "Bird Food, 5 cents a bag."

THE NEIGHBORS -:- By George Clark

"He's all right, mother! He always answers the phone in a husky voice. If it's someone he doesn't want to see, he can tell them he has a bad cold."