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MONDAY, JULY 17, 1933.

THE RECOVERY TEST

THE President's recovery program faces its hardest test this week and next.

The threat of a thirty-five-hour-week for all employees has worked as intended and major industrial codes are pouring into Washington. This does not mean, however, that the race between prices and purchasing power is over.

Code after code is coming in with provision for a work week of forty hours or more. The lumber men suggest a forty-eight-hour-week. The steel agreement offers a forty-hour-week, averaged over a six-month period, which means that in busy weeks men would work fifty or fifty-five hours and then would be laid off or put on part time. Most of the big codes now waiting hearings fail to reflect the spirit or purpose of the recovery act.

The administration is trying to take these faulty tools and, somehow, fashion with them the sort of balanced economy that can bring prosperity back to America.

It is not surprising that codes of this sort have been submitted. The cotton textile industry's forty-hour week fixed that figure in people's minds as a precedent, despite the warnings by the President and Administrator Johnson to the contrary.

It inspired a general hope in some employers that somehow or other they could get around the first principles laid down in Washington and get a long start in the price and purchasing power race.

If they are successful, the recovery program will fail. Prices will rise for a while in anticipation of better times and will fall with a thud because reinforcements of purchasing power have not been brought up to support them.

American business leaders have admitted again and again that our economic structure can survive only if a way is found to keep the whole population at work and earning enough to buy enough to make the wheels go around.

Before these major codes receive the approval of the administration, most of them should be and will be revised.

Working hours will be shortened to the point where the recovery administration is certain that more men and women will have to be hired to do the work which a few are doing now. Minimum wages will be raised. This is the only way to get the purchasing power we are after.

Child labor should be ruled out, as it has been in every code so far. Unemployment insurance should be provided for each industry, as it has been for garment workers. This sort of insurance protects the business man against collapse of the present order as surely as it protects the worker from starvation and want.

Business is making faltering progress toward saving itself from destruction. Only continued firm guidance from the administration can pull it through.

Meanwhile, the President properly is considering the recommendation of the recovery administration for temporary codes for groups of industries, pending formulation and acceptance of the individual codes.

Several weeks or months must elapse before most of the individual codes can become effective. During that time purchasing power will be losing in the race with rising prices.

To get the unemployed back to work quickly and to create mass buying power at once, the President might well appeal to all industry to accept voluntary blanket codes for shorter hours and higher wages immediately.

LET SAM DO IT

IN a wire to Governor Ruby Laffoon of Kentucky, Harry L. Hopkins, federal relief administrator, made clear that the government does not intend to assume any state's entire relief burden.

The rich state of Kentucky, it seems, has voted absolutely nothing during the crisis to feed its own destitute. City funds have run out. The federal government now is carrying the whole load of that state's public relief.

Hopkins suggested that Governor Laffoon forthwith call a special session of his legislature "to provide substantial funds so that Kentucky will pay a reasonable share of the cost of caring for its own destitute."

Mr. Hopkins' stand is just. Federal grants were needed to supplement, not supplant, local hunger relief. The allowance of one federal dollar to every three local relief dollars is generous.

Without state co-operation, the \$500,000,000 federal fund soon will be gone, and all states will suffer. States seeking to "let Uncle Sam do it" should be reminded that there are such things as state's duties as well as state's right.

We trust that Hopkins will continue to resist political pressure from stingy states and insist that they do their duty toward their own needy families.

LITTLE RED SCHOOLHOUSE PASSES

THE little red schoolhouse has been one of the most significant of all American landmarks for more than a century. It is part of the background of millions of Americans; it has been the starting point for many of the nation's most successful men; and it lives today in a halo of sentiment, a thing as indisputably and typically American as corn on the cob.

But Owen D. Young was right in his recent warning to the National Education Association that we must bend every effort to getting the little red schoolhouse off of the scene.

The rural villages of the red schoolhouse's heyday, Mr. Young points out, were self-contained and self-supporting. They were islands, remote and isolated.

The cultural life of the nation was centered

in the cities; to the cities, consequently, went the ambitious and energetic young men as soon as the red schoolhouse had finished with them.

Today the wind of change is blowing over the land. New economic conditions foreshadow a decentralization of industry, of population and of culture. The small town is due for a rebirth. The old barriers that isolated it have vanished forever.

But, says Mr. Young, "we will not get this change in country life without good schools. People will not move there or even stay there if the educational facilities for their children are inadequate. The schools are the key which will unlock the country for modern living."

All this is perfectly true; and no one who has traveled through rural districts in recent years can fail to realize that a tremendous start has already been made in the right direction.

The fine new schoolhouse is more and more becoming the cultural and architectural center about which the life of the small town is built. Many and many a town has spent more money than it really could afford to give its children the best schoolhouse possible.

That is a healthy trend. Our democracy must stand or fall by its educational system, and the demands which it will make on its schools in the immediate future will be greater than ever before.

The little red schoolhouse, enormously useful as it has been, has outlived its day. The American scene will lose one of its dearest landmarks—but it will get something better to take its place.

THE KIDNAPING MENACE

THE series of kidnappings which have provided so many black headlines for the newspapers recently comes as a shocking and horrifying development.

Insolence and defiance of the underworld which produced them remind us sharply that so far we have made no headway whatever in our avowed fight to check gangsterism.

Few crimes strike so directly at the security and safety which organized society seeks to provide for its members as does kidnapping.

It is the meanest of crimes and the most dangerous. It can flourish only when society's means of protecting itself against lawlessness is on the very edge of collapse.

These recent kidnappings ought to arouse us to tackle the whole problem of gangsterism with genuine vigor and determination. The job will be one of the hardest we ever undertook; but it also will be one of the most important.

FAIR PLAY AND FAIR HOURS

GENERAL JOHNSON'S terse statement disapproving of the new code for minimum hours and wages submitted by heads of the lumber manufacturing industry is one with which most Americans will agree emphatically.

This code provided for a forty-eight-hour week and a minimum pay scale of 22½ cents an hour; and General Johnson immediately rejected it with the remark:

"Forty-eight hours is so long I wouldn't even consider it, and speaking generally, 22½ cents is far below what I regard as a minimum wage."

A great deal is expected from these new industrial codes. Properly handled, they can form a pretty effective bulwark against a return of hard times.

But it seems self-evident that if they are going to fill that function they must offer substantially more than this proposed lumber code. General Johnson was entirely justified in rejecting it.

105,733 YEARS

A TOTAL of 105,733 years, eight months and nineteen days were passed out by federal judges in jail sentences for violations of the eighteenth amendment. This figure, an official one from the United States prohibition bureau, does not include federal sentences for 1921 or 1922, nor does it include those imposed by state judges for violations of state enforcement laws. Federal fines totaled in prohibition's 12½ years \$71,240,915.62.

Stretch that many years back into history and you find that they span all of man's existence on earth. About 100,000 years ago our human ancestor was the hairy Dawn Man. Eoanthropus, who roamed Sussex Downs armed with a stone hatchet in search of wild boars and strange creatures now extinct.

Now that we've decided to end the experiment that failed, we can ask: To what end these 105,733 years of human suffering?

THE ACE OF ACES

ONLY thirty-three cars will start in the 500-mile automobile race at the Indianapolis Speedway next Memorial day. That drastic rule change has been ordered by the contest board of the American Automobile Association on recommendation of Colonel E. V. Rickenbacker, America's ace of aces in the World War and now president of the Speedway Corporation.

That rule was urged on the law-makers of the speed sport by The Times the day after the last 500-mile race was run. It is a wise rule and a sane rule, and to the contest board and Colonel Rickenbacker belong a vote of thanks from all racing followers for picking up the suggestion.

It was apparent after the last race that something ought to be done to reduce the staggering accident toll. Surely no event that could take the lives of five men could be looked upon as a sporting classic. It was a throwback to the days of Rome, something far from these days of a so-called higher civilization.

Rickenbacker and T. E. Myers, vice-president of the Speedway, went to the contest board meeting at Detroit determined to wage a battle for added safety in the Indianapolis race. The colonel is a showman, of course, but a very human showman. The deaths of those five men last May shocked him far more than he ever can explain.

So Eddie Rickenbacker went to war again. It was not to make his 500-mile race more colorful, but safer and saner. He won.

Rickenbacker may not be the ace of aces in the clouds any more, but he still is an ace of aces among men. And that's what counts most.

THE TRANSPORTATION STUDY

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S reported decision to have Secretary of Commerce Daniel Roper and others undertake a wide study of transportation facilities should produce interesting and helpful results.

But his inquiry will not, of course, supplant that which Joseph Eastman, federal co-ordinator of railroads, is ordered to conduct in the law which created the office he now holds.

Eastman, since the beginning, has been very enthusiastic over the possibilities of his investigation; in some respects he and others regard it as the most important phase of the new law.

In his first formal announcement since becoming rail co-ordinator, Eastman has announced that he will have a separate staff of research experts to help him carry along his investigation.

Upon the findings he and his experts make will depend recommendations for further railroad legislation of a more permanent character for submission to congress.

A FAIR CODE

WHATEVER flaws hostile operators may find in the new bituminous coal code, it is apparent that this is the fairest and most commendable code yet presented to the national recovery administration.

In every major feature it carries out the policies and purposes of the Roosevelt administration and the New Deal. Moreover, it has the added advantage of having been drafted by a joint conference of operators and miners, thus assuring labor a voice in the future conduct of the industry.

In wages, the code fixes a basic pay of \$5 a day for underground labor and \$4 for surface workers. Miners who work by tonnage are to get wages comparable with this basic rate.

In regard to working hours, the code leaves the final decision up to the national recovery administration, and both operators and miners agree to abide by the decision.

Collective bargaining specifically is guaranteed, along with the miners' right not to buy at company stores and to have their own check weighmen at mine tips.

And, as a protection to operators against cut-throat competition, fair trade practices are specified that will protect both large and small mine owners.

Obviously, such a code offers much to both miner and operator. For the former, it means a decent living wage, restored purchasing power and the right to organize and bargain collectively. For the operator, it means the end of price-cutting wars and other vicious trade practices.

Those are factors that should assure favorable consideration of the code by the Roosevelt administration.

Though nobody was shot when Governor Murray called out state troops to delay the sale of beer in Oklahoma, it is probable that there were many who were half-shot soon after the ban was lifted.

Having been assured that education pays, the average college graduate now is trying to find out where and when.

Seems that one of the reasons the London economic conference frittled out is because Europe found it couldn't stack the cards in Roosevelt's "new deal."

Bathing beach visitors have observed that the modern girl has a perfect back. Yes, and usually a perfect comeback.

M. E. Tracy Says:

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER justly may be regarded as typifying an era. The ninety-four years he has lived virtually compass the rise and development of American big business.

There were millionaires for him to study and emulate in his youth—men who had become dominant in certain lines of trade and had won great fortunes—but the corporation, holding company, and organized raid to gain control in some particular field remained to be perfected.

Inventors, lawyers, and promoters combined to create a new philosophy while Mr. Rockefeller was growing up, and he elected to join them. They were a strong, imaginative, acquisitive set of men, and the very liberty by which this government sought to protect the weak gave them a great advantage.

They schemed, combined and built without much interference. Borrowing corporate privileges from individual rights, they developed such a system of financial and industrial hegemonies as the world never knew.

The people still were too interested in preventing centralized political power to appreciate the threat of centralized economic power. The hangover of revolutionary concepts gave mid-Victorian bankers and exploiters free reign. Fourth of July orators accomplished nothing so well as to divert attention from what was taking place in trade and finance.

AS A MATTER OF FACT

AS a matter of fact, America was proud of her big enterprises and the big men at their head, proud of their boldness and daredevil spirit. She applauded as they drove the railroad westward, opened new territory, bet their money on innovations, and gambled gloriously with the fate of whole communities.

Besides, there was plenty of sympathy to console the doubters. Endowed colleges, hospitals and museums sprang up on every hand. It became the fashion to give back part of the profit, though not too big a part, and generally not until death or old age made it convenient.

It was a grand display of human capacity, and we shall miss it, if those who think it has come to an end are right.

Possibly it has not come to an end, though it is obviously due for a stricter sort of supervision. Possibly the blues of depression have led us to assume too much.

We are adopting some rather drastic measures, but whether to meet an emergency or for basic changes in our system of government remains to be seen.

It is to be admitted that industrialism is a Rockefeller, Ford, Morgan has its drawbacks, but what theory has not?

WHEN YOU GET RIGHT DOWN TO BRASS TACKS

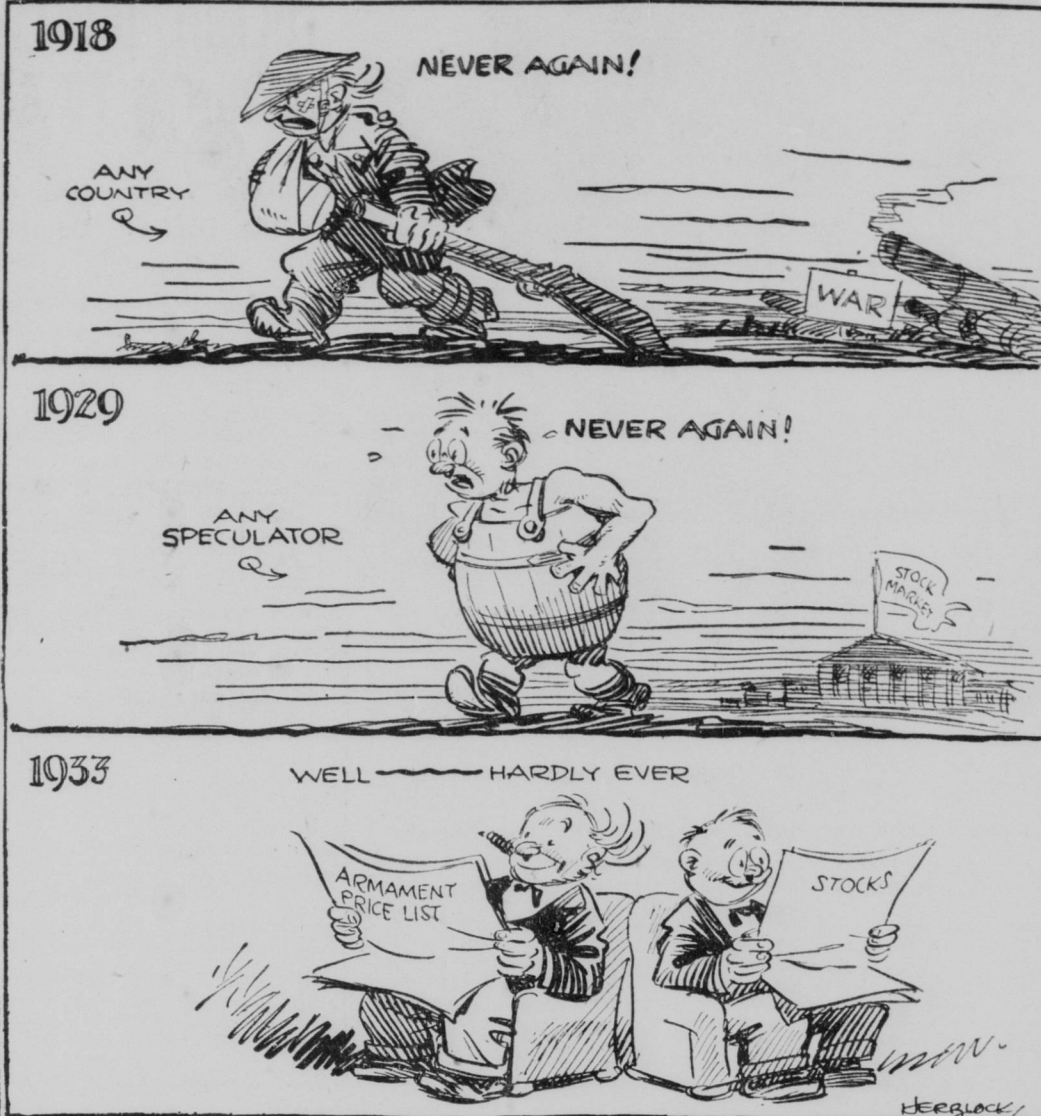
WHEN you get right down to brass tacks, have the Stalins, Mussolinis or Hitlers shown any greater ability to meet, or avoid, depression than the rest of us?

England and the United States have suffered terribly from unemployment, as well as other economic losses, but they have succeeded in preventing widespread illness and death.

Disciplined action has kept most people at work in such countries as Italy and Russia, but when translated into terms of bread, meat and recreation for the masses, has the system shown better results than our own?

At least we have preserved freedom of speech, a free press and our political rights, which they have not, and we still can preserve them, in spite of such modifications as may be necessary in our industrial structure, by following the lead of President Roosevelt.

What—Never?



:: The Message Center ::

I wholly disapprove of what you say and will defend to the death your right to say it.—Voltaire

Drys Confounded

By E. F. C.

(Times readers are invited to express their views in these columns. Make your letters short, so all can have a chance. Limit them to 250 words or less.)

By Grudging Payer.

The first act of the income tax spree is over—and the sovereign state goes merrily on.

As one taxpayer in millions, I paid grudgingly. It seemed grossly unfair that this additional burden should be levied on the people in face of reduced salaries, rising prices and the supposed "cutting" of government costs.

The sovereign state, we know, cracked its whip to enforce the collections. We read in the papers veiled threats for failure to pay—when it was plain that every taxpayer in the state was talking nothing else but income tax.

The people didn't have to be told about it. They knew it was coming months before the deadline date. The only defense was to pay what they carried were reduced earnings and higher living costs.

But in fact of these facts, the new tax has been initiated. Individuals have felt it, but, most of all, business has felt it. The law has met its test in the people, and it now remains to be seen how effectively the new Indiana democracy can put across its quota in the new deal.

By Wilson Compton.

National Lumber Mfrs. Assn.

It gives me much pleasure to tell you that the National Lumber Manufacturers' Association (and its affiliated interests) are entirely in accord with the last paragraph of your recent editorial entitled: "Trees Are Wealth." These industries look upon the industrial recovery act as their salvation.

The economic position and the statutory obligations of lumbermen have been such ever since the war, and before, that it has been difficult, if not impossible, to keep most of the forest products industrial condition or in a position to practice sustained yield operations and thereby to insure perpetuation of forests.

The industrial recovery act appears to give the forest industries an opportunity to make their business remunerative enough to meet the cost of reforestation and conservative cutting.

Permit me to say that your editorial is in grave error in stating that the forests are being "destroyed and mutilated" at the rate of eight million acres a year. In the first place, the total area cut over never has been as much as eight million acres a year, and except to a lim-

ited extent the cut-over areas have not been destroyed—as witness the fact that fully 30 per cent of the lumber output of the United States in recent years has come from second, third, and even fourth and fifth growth of trees since the original cutting.

By far the major part of all the millions of acres that have been lumbered in the last fifty years now are supporting new forests. In a report prepared by Colonel W. B. Greeley, former chief forester of the United States, to the United States timber conservation board, he says:

"The area now covered with commercial forests and likely to remain available for that purpose, if given ample protection and management, is more than sufficient to meet any probable future demand."

The code of fair competition about to be submitted to the industrial recovery administration provides for sustained yield forest administration, and the forest indus-

tries sincerely hope that the industrial recovery act will result in permanent public policies which will make continuous reforestation economically practicable.

Lumbermen are no more to be blamed for present conditions in the forests than farmers are for their impoverished soils, coal miners for their wasteful mines, or oil men for their lost oil.

All have been operating under public land policies, legal restrictions and commercial customs, and economic conditions that made the present practices and conditions inevitable. The practical problem is to meet these conditions as they now are and not as they might have been had wiser public policies been followed heretofore.

This involves both industrial and public obligations. The industries intend to do their part and are counting on the President's pledge of effective public co-operation.

Get away and stay away—for at least six months and preferably for a year—from your son or daughter who just has been married.—The Rev. Henry H. Crane, Scranton, Pa., in advice to parents.

I guess these taxes for the benefit of the farmer are all right, but I'll bet they wouldn't have levied them if they'd known what was going to a dollar a bushel before they even could start to collect.—F. A. Dodge, Washington, D. C., grocer.

The teaching in the American university could be materially cut down without loss to anybody.—President Robert M. Hutchins, University of Chicago.

Depreciated currency never benefited any country except by enabling it to repudiate debts owed to foreigners.—Rufus S. Tucker, New York economist.

I am in favor of applying the curb to industry where necessary, but not of placing the heavy, paralyzing hand of the government upon all the business enterprise of the nation.—Al Smith.

The attitude of snobishness is all too common among educators.—President Walter Dill Scott, Northwestern University.

Modern methods of treating burns include application of liquid petroleum, or the application of melted petrolatum, which then hardens and covers the burn.

A more recent method involves the use of especially prepared tannic acid, which produces a crust under which healing takes place.

Burns from acids are serious, particularly nitric and sulphuric acids. The first treatment is to wash off the acid as quickly as possible with a solution of bicarbonate of soda and to leave the wound in the soda solution for some time.

People who work in acids regularly should wear gloves.

Electric burns usually are deep and severe. They should be treated as are other burns.

(The End)

Cold Water Checks Heat Effect in Scalds

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association of Health, the Health Magazine.

This is the last article in a series on first-aid.

BURNS of the skin may be produced by many different methods, including the heat from a flame or hot iron, the heat from scalding water or steam, and by electricity.

Burns which involve more than one-half of the surface of the body usually are fatal.

When a person has been severely burned he may suffer from shock. This demands immediate attention to save life. He should, of course, be put at rest and the burn suitably covered, to prevent continued irritation.

Almost every one now knows that when a person is suffering from a burn, the best thing to do is to apply cold water, which will check the effect of the heat and stop the pain.

If the foot or hand has been burned by spilling hot water, soap or coffee over it, it is well to put the part burned immediately under water and to keep it submerged until the first effects of the injury have passed.

Thereafter, it may be covered with sterile vaseline or petrolatum.

Loose cotton should not be put on a burn, nor should wide pieces of gauze be applied. It is practically impossible to remove such materials without great injury to the tissues. The gauze should be applied in narrow strips.

When slight burns or scalds occur, it is preferable to cover the burned portion immediately with cold water, which will check the effect of the heat and stop the pain.

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