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POLITICS BEHIND RACKETS

THE most important development in the senate racketeering hearings so far is the charge made by District Attorney Medaille and Justice Kernochan of New York that the persistence of gangsters is due largely to their protection by corrupt politicians.

Mr. Medaille said: "In almost every large city, racketeers and gangsters are part of the machinery of municipal control. Not until politics is divorced from municipal control will you get rid of the gangster and the racketeer."

Judge Kernochan said: "Racketeers would be given a tremendous blow if in some way the protection of the district leaders could be taken from them. They contribute to campaign funds and sometimes solicit funds for district leaders."

These facts have been well known to students of crime and municipal politics for years. It is fortunate that Senator Copeland's investigation has enabled them to make the headlines.

It is futile to pass the buck to city police and attack them for inefficiency and venality. Granted that they are guilty at times, police hardly can be expected to rise superior to their overlords in the city organization. As James P. Kirby of the Cleveland Press explained to the Princeton conference on politics:

"It is the politicians on the bench, in the prosecutor's office, and in the council chambers in our great cities—to their shame—who have set the pace which the policeman follows. The most insidious influence existing today is the political influence which ties the hands of the honest policeman."

To the protection given gangsters by unscrupulous but clever lawyers. Politicians and lawyers are not responsible for the existence of the majority of these anti-social types, but they do provide a major obstacle to ridding the country of criminals and racketeers.

END SWEATSHOPS

THE strike of 60,000 New York dress and waist workers is not a strike in the usual sense of that word, but a walkout shared in by many manufacturers to test whether the barbarous system of sweatshops shall longer endure.

It is not surprising, therefore, that federal recovery administration officials are agreeing with the union leaders and with the reputable manufacturers supporting the movement that the sweatshops are doomed.

The sweatshop system of driving human labor endless hours in insanitary work places at pay insufficient to keep body and soul together is abhorrent to virtually every human being, even to all those who, generally unknowingly, buy the sweatshop products at bargain prices.

Sweatshops, the enemy of thousands ground down in them, are the enemy of the country. They are the hideaways of industrial suicide.

The strike of the 60,000 in particular is directed against the middleman of the industry, the jobber, the grand abettor of the sweatshop evil. The merchant, wanting the lowest priced garment, arranges with the jobber to supply him a certain number at a certain price.

The jobber goes shopping among the 2,500 manufacturers. If the manufacturers stick to a good price the jobber puts on the clamps, saying, "Yes, I know about your labor contract, but do you want the order?"

If he does not, the jobber tries others, and ultimately may go to the sweatshops, where there are no labor contracts and where the wage of starvation drives people to work for any price they can get.

In this way, under the murderous competition of the depression, wages have been cut to the lowest possible minimum. The dress industry has been almost demoralized.

Union leaders say that the workers receive as low as 32 cents for making a dress that retails for \$6. The jobbers do not employ the labor and so escape responsibility, thus serving as a buffer to the conscience of the dealers, who do not dicker with the contractors.

In this process every one except the jobber suffers in the end, even the people who buy the dresses.

The unions are out to obtain shorter hours and better pay. But they mainly seek to compel the jobbers to assume responsibility for the pay and conditions in the shops that do their work.

The recovery administration, we believe, is in a position if not to put an end to the evil, then to reduce its prevalence to a high degree.

Fortunately, General Johnson, in Washington, and Grover Whalen, New York recovery chief, are showing vigorous interest in the main object of the strike—the perpetual doom of the sweatshop.

NIRA IS CONSTITUTIONAL

DURING the last five months, the American people have learned that the legislative branches of their government can function swiftly and adequately in time of dire need.

This week they have reason to hope that perhaps the judicial branch can do equally well.

The District of Columbia supreme court on Wednesday heard oil men argue for an injunction against Secretary of Interior Ickes' "hot oil" orders on the ground that the recovery act is unconstitutional.

On the same day, Justice Joseph W. Cox denied the request. He said, "Congress has declared that there is a national emergency and has granted the President broad powers to meet this emergency. In times of emergency, even the Constitution is subject to the laws of necessity."

A judicial decision at this time stopping in its tracks the recovery program, on which the hope of the nation depends, might have had results too terrible to contemplate.

The people are determined that this plan of President Roosevelt's to end the horror of the four futile years shall be tried. A judicial system so knotted in red tape, so befogged by precedents of the past that it only could hamper democratic government's fight for life would bear the responsibility if that fight were lost.

The great co-operative effort of a people to save popular government expresses the spirit of the American Constitution if anything ever did. A judiciary able to see this fact offers its great promise of success.

THE LITTLE FELLOW HELPS'

ONE of the things the National Recovery Act seems destined to do is make a straight-out test of the comparative degrees of social responsibility and public spirit possessed by small industries and large ones.

So far, it must be admitted that most of the palms have been won by the little fellows.

Speaking generally, it is the little fellow who has shown the greater readiness to sign up under the blue eagle. Drive down any business street you like, in big city or in small town, and you will see that heartening banner prominently displayed in the windows of small shops, little restaurants, tiny garages, and small-scale manufacturing establishments.

The little business man has come forward with a gratifying promptness—and, for the most part, he has been scrupulous in living up to the terms of his agreement.

Unfortunately, not quite as much can be said for the big fellow.

This is not said to take anything away from those giant concerns which already have lined up with NRA policies. Many have done so, and their action has been in the highest degree praiseworthy.

But many of them, unfortunately, have not; and the headaches suffered by NRA officials at Washington have arisen chiefly because some of the biggest industries in the land have shown themselves surprisingly stiff-necked about it.

Now it hasn't been an easy thing for the little fellow to get his blue eagle. In many cases it is more of a sacrifice for him to raise wages and shorten working hours than it is for the big fellow, for the simple reason that labor costs are proportionately larger on his budget than they are on the big fellow's.

The chap who runs, for instance, a corner shoe repair shop, and boasts the number of his workers from two to three under the NRA code, is quite likely to have to operate at a loss for a time.

If he does, the money must come right out of his own pocket, and not out of a pile of cash reserves tucked away in some bank.

Yet it is the little fellow who seems to be leading the way right now. He hasn't talked indignantly about constitutional limitations, or his time-honored open shop policies, or his duty to his stockholders.

He has rolled up his sleeves and gone in there to pitch, and he has done it without much coaxing.

If large-scale industry wants to justify its dominant position in America, it must demonstrate that it possesses social conscience in the same measure as the little fellow possesses it.

A NEW DEAL FOR CUBA

IT would be a great mistake to assume that the worst of Cuba's troubles are over just because Machado has been kicked out.

Before Cuba can get permanently on the way to good government and economic health, there must be a pretty extensive readjustment of the relations which exist between that nation and the United States.

Independent in name, Cuba actually has been a protectorate, an economic dependency, of the United States ever since the war with Spain. It is worth remembering that Machado remained in office with Washington's approval; it also is worth remembering that the island's economic life was ruined very largely because of the attitude of certain American business and financial interests.

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Boston professor says the average man could get along nicely by the use of only 500 words. You will notice, however, that he did not include the average woman.

Jimmy Walker homesick, says a report from France. Strange! He wasn't homesick when he was mayor of New York—and he wasn't home much then, either.

Girl evangelist in Chicago preaches at city's beaches in scanty bathing suit, probably on the theory that her hearers want the bare truth.

Two Indiana state prison inmates suspended from the baseball team because they were caught trying to escape over a wall at night. Back to the old rules: Over the fence or playing safe while other people take risks.

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declared that there is a national emergency and has granted the President broad powers to meet this emergency. In times of emergency,

THE INDIANAPOLIS TIMES

NO TIME FOR INTOLERANCE

UGLY rumors have been floating around Indianapolis for several weeks, tending to alarm both Catholic and Jewish residents. Usually reliable citizens say that remnants of the Ku-Klux Klan are busy again, busy forming the "Silver Shirts," or the "Blue Shirts," dedicated to the Hitlerite idea of "national purity."

America is no place for intolerance. The Ku-Klux Klan learned that. This is no time for intolerance. If the rumors are true, those behind the movement soon will learn that also.

Thousands of Catholic and Jewish residents have brought credit and honor to Indiana and to Indianapolis. The Ku-Klux Klan and organizations of its type have brought only shame and disgrace. That is all those organizations ever can bring to a community.

America needs co-operation and fellowship—not intolerance, prejudice, and viciousness.

CHICAGO WAKES UP

CHICAGO apparently means business in its war on crime. Gangsters, racketeers and hoodlums, accustomed to lax prosecutions, long delays, and to bargaining for light sentences, are discovering to their amazement that quick trials and maximum sentences now are the rule.

A dozen judges have given up summer vacations to help clean up the crowded criminal dockets.

The country will hope that the present exhibition of activity in Chicago is not just another flash in the pan. Chicago's lawlessness has been a national disgrace, and a challenge to democratic government.

The city has been the pivot of crime organized on a national scale.

And while there can be nothing but applause for Chicago's brave acts and promises, it might not be amiss to wonder why the efficacy of such methods was not discovered before a condition of veritable anarchy developed.

In the first case of its kind, three employees of a Chicago race track have been given prison sentences for doping horses. Race track fans can testify, however, that this is not the first time race horse dope proved all wrong.

We don't know what the members of these nudist colonies plan to wear when cold weather comes, but probably it will be suits of cellulose.

Department of agriculture scientists report farmers are suffering severely from destructive pests this year. Do they refer to city picnickers?

Crime experts meeting in New York suggested that hardened young convicts be lashed regularly at the whipping post. Well, that's one way of keeping 'em in stripes.

We predict success for Cuba's new president, Cespedes, whose name is pronounced "Thess-pay-days." How can a politician with a name like that fail in times like these?

Few of the world's great adventures have been bold, remarked a historian. Probably because they went in so strong for hair-raising stuff.

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There's really nothing new in this NRA suggestion that women are entitled to men's pay. Wives have gone on that theory all along.

Postmaster-General Farley served watermelon to newspapermen at his press conference the other day. Evidently bent upon giving the reporters an earful.

M.E. Tracy Says:

THE Roosevelt administration has done a good job in readjusting our industrial situation. Through the adoption of codes, the shortening of hours, and the increase of wages, it has placed the country in a position to provide more work at better pay.

In spite of a few disagreements, business, both big and small, has accepted the plan with reassuring enthusiasm. The real test, however, remains to be.

When all is said and done, the success of this program depends on what average people are willing to spend, not only for necessities, but for improvements and luxuries. Increased buying power will accomplish little unless it is utilized, and that is a matter of inspiration.

Increased consumption, especially in the field of convenience and pleasure, can not be brought about by technological control, yet increased consumption in that field is absolutely essential to recovery.

Modern industry is a by-product of the desire for improvements. If people only bought what they could afford, half of our commercial and manufacturing enterprises would go out of existence.

Consider, for example, the way in which the government was able to round up the Harvey Bailey gang in Texas.

Young Charles F. Urschel, Oklahoma oil man, was kidnapped and held prisoner in a Texas farmhouse. He had no idea where he was, but he noticed that every morning and every evening an airplane flew over the house.

The movies furnish employment for hundreds of thousands of people. Golf, baseball, football, prize fights, and wrestling matches are all necessary to keep people at work. But—and this is the point to keep in mind—we could curtail such activities if we had to and they will be curtailed if the increased buying power made possible through the recovery plan is not employed effectively and wholeheartedly.

In this respect, the problem of recovery is largely psychological. It goes right back to the attitude of average people, to such simple questions as whether they will buy new shoes when they can afford to or get old ones half-soled; whether they will put their surplus earnings into thrift accounts, or squander some on luxuries and amusements; whether they will buy when prices go up, or wait for bargains.

WE face the task of overcoming not only the habit of thought which it has cultivated—the levity with which we regard it.

It may, as some believe, be an achievement to have freed ourselves from hidebound concepts of marriage, but it is a worse slavery to have sold ourselves the idea that divorce is an enterprise in happiness.

As a useful thing, men and women better their conditions very little by traveling the Reno route. They actually do not obtain peace and contentment or ecstasy by breaking up their homes, although there often are exceptions to the rule.

So far as the husband and wife themselves are concerned, one or several divorces can make little dif-

Speaking of Surplus Crops—



Cyanosis Due to Oxygen Lack in Blood

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

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

are the cases of people who live at high altitudes and who do not get enough oxygen into the blood by way of the lungs, people who have disturbances of the lungs which prevent circulation of the blood in the small air spaces and conditions in which the flow of blood in the lungs is very rapid.

In some cases of congenital heart disease, the blood passes directly from the veins to the arteries without circulating through the lungs and fails to be oxygenated by proper passage through the lungs.

There are other cases in which the tissues of the body demand excess amounts of oxygen, as in the presence of