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THE STRIKE TRUCE

ACTION of the labor leaders in calling off the San Francisco general strike is a truce, and only that. It can be turned into a labor peace. But unless the continuing maritime and longshoremen's strike can be settled quickly and the troops withdrawn, the situation may grow worse rapidly.

This is the danger not only in the San Francisco area, but also in Portland, where the Governor has mobilized troops against the advice of Senator Wagner, the President's representative, and despite a labor agreement to withhold a general strike if troops were not called.

High praise has been given to the regular labor leaders of San Francisco, who called off the general strike, by General Johnson in his message to President Roosevelt, by Mayor Rossi and others. That praise is merited.

But it should not be forgotten that the same labor meeting which voted to call off the general strike also voted to continue support of the striking maritime and longshore workers and voted to retain the general strike committee for the time being.

The general strikers, who now are hastening back to work under General Johnson's promise to get justice for the maritime and dock strikers, are certain to consider themselves tricked and act accordingly if that promise is not kept. Any attempt by the anti-labor forces of the coast to use this situation to break up the unions will be an exceedingly costly blunder, it seems to us.

Apparently the federal authorities, and at least some of the local officials, understand this danger. Mayor Rossi has issued a warning that ending of the general strike "must not be construed to mean that San Francisco either will desire or will tolerate any attempt to destroy union labor or invade its rights."

These federal and local authorities must carry out their pledges which the general labor unions have accepted in good faith.

A HOPEFUL SIGN

CREATION by the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce of a governmental research bureau and appointment of Virgil Sheppard to head that bureau constitute a reason for optimism in this city.

It is always a healthy condition when a city's leading business men approach the problem of its government—and of the government of county and state—from the scientific, rather than the emotional, angle.

Too, the reputation which Mr. Sheppard brings to the post he will assume Aug. 1 should be encouraging to thoughtful citizens. He would appear not to be one of the reactionary type all too frequently associated with big business' ventures into governmental fields.

In Toledo, O., where he served in various public positions and where he taught political science in the municipal university, Mr. Sheppard is known as a man who manages to mix the liberalism of a good student of government with hard-headed, "practical" politics.

For Indiana he handled the difficult job of relief in stricken Lake county during much of 1933 before coming to Indianapolis to be assistant director of the Governor's commission on unemployment relief.

The Times wishes the new bureau and its chief well and hopes that they may justify the optimism arising from news of their prospective work.

MORE PREPAREDNESS

TWO air fleets of the United States army and navy yesterday were on the first leg of long test defense flights.

At the same time the British government announced its decision to increase its air forces by forty-one squadrons.

News items of this sort are becoming commonplace. Scarcely a week passes without additional evidence that the nations of the world, on the twentieth anniversary of the opening of the so-called war to end war, frantically are making ready for another and larger war.

Why?

Stanley Baldwin, lord president of the council, in justifying the new British aviation program to the house of commons, said that the disarmament conferences and negotiations were running on and on year after year without getting anywhere.

That is true.

But Great Britain as the largest empire in the world is not entirely blameless for the failure to achieve effective disarmament. More than once she has rejected American and other offers of fair arms limitation. And more than once she has aided the destruction of world peace machinery by supporting treaty-breakers. If Great Britain and the United States, the two mightiest nations, had been able to co-operate fully during the last decade the peace system probably would be much more secure today.

Maybe it is not too late yet.

Apparently our two governments are understanding belatedly the dire necessity for them to work together to discourage the forces making for war in Europe and in the Far East.

Norman Davis, American ambassador-at-large, denied yesterday in London reports that the American-British naval conversations had broken down. On the contrary he maintained that they had been "very beneficial, frank and friendly" and that they would be resumed in the autumn.

We hope so.

WHAT IS WRONG?

A GENERAL strike is a fight in which labor transfers its efforts from the economic to the political field.

It is a fight in which the original issue has become transformed into a symbol, so that men whom the original issue in no way con-

cerns become ready to go into action for the sake of an abstraction. Ultimately, the thing at stake is a thing ordinarily sought at the ballot box.

These things being so, the general strike becomes a fearful social phenomenon—a development which bespeaks a profound discontent lurking somewhere below the surface. It is industrial warfare transformed into something perilously like class war. Push it far enough and you get to the very edge of revolution.

Looking at the San Francisco dispute, therefore, is like gazing into a microscope in which some of the major social maladjustments of our time are magnified on one slide. What we are seeing is no longer a disagreement between employers and employees about one particular point, but a knock-down struggle in which all kinds of unmentionable grievances are operating, on both sides, to produce determination and bitterness.

And it becomes, for the moment at least, relatively unimportant who "wins" in this fight—for, as matter of fact, nobody really can win, and the general public is bound to lose.

The important thing is that all of the complex issues which combined to make such a disaster possible shall be passed in review and straightened out; all of the things which made organized labor, on the one hand, ready to go to almost any extreme in order to gain its point and which made the employers, on the other hand, ready to fight to the last ditch be-fore surrendering.

For a disaster of this kind does not burst on a community out of a clear sky. Employers don't forego dividends in order to win a labor dispute out of pure cussedness; workingmen don't quit their jobs and get out on the picket lines just because the cool breezes off the Pacific have gone to their heads.

Somewhere underneath the attractive surface of San Francisco's civic life there have been very deep and serious maladjustments. The general strike will be unrelieved catastrophe unless it jars the general public into a determination to find out precisely what those troubles were and get them set right.

HELP GREATLY NEEDED

THERE is widespread misunderstanding of the emergency work being carried on by the federal government.

As a result the local welfare services, such as hospitals, nursing organizations, child and family-care institutions, are suffering seriously. They haven't the funds to do their work.

People think the federal government has assumed this burden, but that is not the case. The federal government, co-operating with state governments, has undertaken to see that nobody starves and that nobody is without shelter or clothing, during this depression. But there is still left a tremendous task for the welfare agencies.

Hospitals, orphanages, homes for the aged and similar institutions still are dependent upon gifts from those citizens able and willing to give. The national emergency already has taxed them beyond their resources. Since the depression began the privately supported nursing units, for example, have had to increase their services by 21 per cent, while the free government nursing service has not been increased. Free services in privately supported hospitals has been increased 46 per cent as against an increase of only 19 per cent in government hospitals.

The industrial workers and the peasants, for their part, found that Hitler's promises with respect to radicalism and social justice were a hollow sham. Neither the great industrial trust (cartels and syndicates) or the banks were nationalized and distressingly little was done to re-distribute the estates of the great land owners.

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When it comes to knowing or giving sympathy to the labor movement, the Scripps-Howard press is a very effective strike breaker.

When a great chain of newspapers which claims to be a tremendous power nationally is unable to get an innocent working man pardoned from prison after going on record indorsing such action, the labor movement certainly knows how much effective friendship they can expect. The Times editorially praised the very Governor who could have pardoned this innocent working man because the Governor paroled a gang of bootleggers.

So to state that the Scripps-Howard press is a friend of labor, that the basis of labor is the union contract and that the general strike is suicidal, is sufficient proof that

The Times is trying to mislead the workers, or that the editor does not know labor's cause.

If the contract is such a beneficial instrument to labor, why did the employers of San Francisco object to the contract, force a lock-out and demand a wage reduction, which caused the strike in 1920-22? Millions of dollars were spent by the California Merchants and Manufacturers' Association to destroy organized labor and reduce wages.

Scabs were imported by the hundreds. Boys were sent out to work as journeymen after a few months in the M. and M. Trade school. The employers refused to abide by the 7½ per cent wage reduction after they had signed a written agreement to accept the findings of an arbitration board. The board consisted of the Catholic archbishop of San Francisco, a former state supreme judge and an industrial expert.

The craft union shop strike was ineffective twenty-five years ago, and because of its use, organized labor was intimidated by local and imported "plug uglies," the police and state militia, and was forced to protect itself by counter methods, where, if it had been organized industrially with local strike autonomy and had used the general strike, it could have gotten in a few days strike, a fair consideration and avoided much hard feeling from their employers and the public.

It is certain not to be the intention of Washington to take too much interest in the troubles of labor. While the bullets whiz and the gas bombs burst, and women and children starve in San Francisco, Roosevelt fishes and fiddles, leaving labor's troubles to his blustering job holders who hope to get votes by handing out blar.

Translators who rendered the speech into Spanish gave the world "sell" its literal meaning and Puerto Rican readers became vastly disturbed, thinking that President Roosevelt intended to sell their island to the highest bidder.

A Frenchman has grown tobacco which is practically devoid of nicotine. But that must be for export. The kind Frenchmen smoke is nicotine that is practically devoid of tobacco.

General Johnson spoke only for himself, says the state department, when he condemned Nazi terrorism. That's the official explanation, but unofficially he spoke for a great number of Americans.

"To an American God's country means New England," says Viscount Hailsham, to whom the stretch between Florida and California seems to hold none but Indians.

One step remains for the radio engineers. They have overlooked, so far, the development of a device which would:

1. Automatically hoist the listener to his feet when The Star Spangled Banner is played.

2. Mechanically guide his foot in a tap dance when a rhythmic rhumba is being performed.

3. Deliver a mechanical imitation of an appropriate remark when a saxophone, or a tenor tries for a high note and fumbles.

WONDERS OF SCIENCE

THE latest word in scientific aid to industry has just been announced by the gadgeteers of the radio industry. It is a robot radio clock, which when once set for an evening's entertainment will automatically switch the radio back and forth among seven stations to pick up programs which the listener has chosen in advance.

Now we seem to be rediscovering that there can be a place, in a nation's transportation system, for the canal, after all. After a cen-

tury we are making ready to go into action for the sake of an abstraction. Ultimately, the thing at stake is a thing ordinarily sought at the ballot box.

Liberal Viewpoint

BY DR. HARRY ELMER BARNES

Editor's Note—This is the second of four articles by Harry Elmer Barnes, Ph.D., on the causes, course and immediate results of the uprising in Germany.

KNOWING well that dictatorship, even under the most favorable circumstances, calls for forceful methods and recognizing his specially precarious position on account of the cross purposes of his followers, Hitler set out vigorously on a ruthless process of solidifying his power.

Appealing both to patriotism and religious fanaticism he first launched a nation-wide drive against the Jews which culminated in an anti-Semitic onslaught unprecedented in modern times. Almost simultaneously he crushed the radicals and stemmed the tide toward Communism. He let the conservatives go on believing that he would re-establish monarchy in Germany.

And it becomes, for the moment at least, relatively unimportant who "wins" in this fight—for, as matter of fact, nobody really can win, and the general public is bound to lose.

The important thing is that all of the complex issues which combined to make such a disaster possible shall be passed in review and straightened out; all of the things which made organized labor, on the one hand, ready to go to almost any extreme in order to gain its point and which made the employers, on the other hand, ready to fight to the last ditch before surrendering.

Hitler relied not only upon patriotism but also upon the closely allied sentiment of religion. He went as far as he dared in the way of nationalizing German religion revived the ancient Teutonic mythology, and proclaimed the Germans a race of pure Aryans.

MENTAL and cultural unification was paralleled by a program of political and administrative centralization. The old political federalism which had been established by Bismarck and had survived through the republican days gave way to a rather effectively centralized state. Hitler thus brought to completion the work of Bismarck in unifying Germany.

On the positive side Hitler's work seemed at the outset to vindicate the promises he had made during his campaign to assume leadership in Germany.

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He made high-sounding speeches and proclamations about national unions and the advancement of the interests of the working classes. At the same time, he enlisted the loyalty of the peasants by sweeping promises to break up the great estates of the old Prussian Junkers and to give the small farmers a fair shake.

BUT the opposition which was implicit and inevitable in the composite nature of the Hitler movement soon came to the top.

The monarchists were disgruntled because Hitler made it clear that he did not propose to dim his own luster by calling back the Kaiser or any other Hohenzollern. Moreover the monarchist movement was recruited mainly from the Prussian Junkers who were alarmed at the proposal to encroach upon their feudal domains.

The great German industrialists and bankers, while glad to see Hitler suppress Communism, were aroused by the talk about socialization on the part of Hitler's radical followers, and by Hitler's pronouncements with respect to national unions. They were dismayed particularly over the collapse of German credit and foreign trade as a result of the antagonism and suspicion stirred up by Hitler's crusade against the Jews and his bellicose foreign policy.

The industrial workers and the peasants, for their part, found that Hitler's promises with respect to radicalism and social justice were a hollow sham. Neither the great industrial trust (cartels and syndicates) or the banks were nationalized and distressingly little was done to re-distribute the estates of the great land owners.

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There are so-called Christians who will flock to the theaters to see the "Bible" pictures of "Ten Commandments," "Lord of Lords" and "King of Kings" and think they are great and profitable. Do they realize that the same persons acting in the immoral films also act in the so-called religious films, impersonating our Lord?

James 3:11 says: "Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?" Matt. 7:18: "A corrupt tree can not bring good fruit." Therefore, you can't expect to have a sermon be taught the Bible at the theater.

If church members don't like the way the devil runs his business, let them get out of his territory and come on the Lord's side, where they belong. If they want to learn to live holy, let them separate themselves as Moses from the world, things and go to church where it is taught. I refer them to Gal. 5:19-21.

EVANGELIST'S VIEWS ON MOTION PICTURES

BY Evangelist Agnes Pierce

I note that a group of churches have united in battle array against immoral and indecent films. They have gone so far as to name several pictures which they declare unfit for the public to see.

I would like to ask these church members how they know these pic-

ALL SET TO GO

