

It Seems to Me by HEYWOOD BROUN

A NEWSPAPER MAN always feels a little embarrassed at raising the complaint that he has been misquoted. Generally he feels that what he said was of no great importance in the first place. But I am disturbed because I did see a short piece which had me talking to taxi drivers at an A. F. of L. organization meeting and warning them against "mob violence." I never mentioned violence once. I'm sure of that, because the speech was practically the same one I made a year ago. Moreover, I feel very strongly that present talk of "mob violence" is being used by a number of people to distract attention from the bloody violence of the militia and the deputies in the textile strike.

When I read that "loyal workers" are "being escorted to the plant by national guardsmen" I wonder what has become of the various vehement gentlemen who insisted that the government should not feed the starving families of textile workers because that would be "taking sides." What side is the militia on when it is called out by some Governor to "protect service order"? It is worth pointing out that practically all the fatalities during the present strike have occurred in sections where the troops were on hand to "preserve peace." And the list of the dead is a list of strikers or strike sympathizers.

I spent the day in Boston and found a disposition there to give the strikers somewhat the same treatment which they received in San Francisco. The "red menace" is getting a hard play and Governor Ely was featured in eight column headlines as appealing to Gorman to preserve the peace lest it become necessary to call out the guard.

He's in the Liberty League

BUT the same newspapers which made this play upon the Governor's word carried smaller items saying that at this mill or the other strike breakers had been sworn in as deputies and provided with arms and one company was brutally frank enough to admit that it was importing one hundred and fifty "deputies" from New York to protect its property.

It seems to me extremely arrogant for the Governor of Massachusetts to call upon the president of the textile union to preserve the peace while he himself is winking at the employers' hiring armed thugs who will dispute the legal right of picketing.

Governor Ely is a prime mover in the Liberty League which has but recently announced that property rights and human rights are practically the same thing. I wonder whether the Governor can not grasp the conception that there is a property right in a job itself? To me a man who steals another fellow's job is a peculiarly contemptible sort of thief. I would not have these so-called "loyal workers" torn limb from limb. To that extent I am against violence. There are even occasions when the use of troops may be indicated as useful. But the troops should be used not to escort strike breakers into a plant, but merely to chaperon them out and then keep them out.

It's Not a Tea Party

IN all strikes trouble arises from the effort to keep operations going with strike breakers at times when feeling runs high. I can not see why the state should be enlisted in helping employers to carry on these anti-social and highly inflammatory tactics. The striker loses wages during a labor dispute.

Why shouldn't the employer forego profits during that same stretch of time? The duty of the government through its police or militia should be to see that operations are shut down the minute that difficulties begin. Both sides then could approach the problem in hand with more reason and less passion.

Directors of the National Association of Cotton manufacturers met in Boston yesterday afternoon and at the end of the meeting one of them blandly announced, "We are willing to submit any question of working conditions to the established machinery of the code authority."

When I see statements of this sort I doubt the protestations of the mill owners that they feel their cause is just and that they are being put upon by the agitators. You see, the spokesman for the cotton manufacturers forgot to explain to the reading public of Boston that the industry's code authority was made up solely of cotton manufacturers and that in effect it would be an appeal from Philip, adamantly to Philip, adamantly.

The textile strike should furnish to America the final and convincing proof that labor no longer will submit to the dictatorship of industrialists. Its slogan might well be, "no work without representation." And, incidentally, Boston harbor was the scene of one of the first American efforts in mass picketing. But I have no desire to draw the parallel too close. This is not a tea party.

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Today's Science

BY DAVID DIETZ

THE necessity of revolutionizing the methods of teaching elementary chemistry in the nation's schools will be one of the subjects under discussion when the American Chemical Society begins its eighty-eighth meeting in Cleveland on Sept. 10.

Leaders of the society's division of Chemical education believe that the curriculum of elementary chemistry has lagged far behind the recent spectacular advance of science and that there is a crying need for new types of textbooks.

The division, according to its chairman, Professor Ross A. Baker of the College of the City of New York, has accepted "the challenge to reorganize the elementary chemistry course in the nation's schools."

A symposium will be held during the Cleveland meeting to outline the minimum essentials of the newer chemical knowledge and to illustrate how they can be presented to the beginning student in chemistry.

PROFESSOR BAKER has some critical remarks to make about the textbooks now in use. He says:

"It has been the common practice of textbook writers to treat new theoretical developments simply as addenda instead of integrating them with the whole. As a matter of fact, the majority of textbooks of general chemistry on the market today are but glorified editions of famous works which first appeared fifty or seventy-five years ago. It is difficult to find a really up-to-date text."

In this connection, it is interesting to note that it is only recently that many schools have gotten around to mentioning the existence of the electron in their chemistry classes. Despite the fact that such subjects as valence and the periodic table can not be adequately explained without recourse to the electron, instruction proceeded practically on the basis of the old notion of the indivisible atom, a nineteenth century notion.

UNDoubtedly, it was felt that mention of the electron would have made the subject more complicated. But the fact is that the student was left with no adequate picture of why chemical elements combined into compounds or what the nature of the bond between atoms in molecules was, whereas all these things could be pictured in a simple fashion with the aid of the electron.

The same things may be said for many other things. Isotopes, for example, can not be made intelligible without some discussion of the construction of the nucleus of the atom.

The Cleveland symposium, Professor Baker says, will try to reach an agreement upon which of the older views should be retained and which should be discarded.

"For example," he says, "it is no longer possible to maintain the simple or mechanical conception of matter and radiation. We are prepared, if necessary, to recommend a complete reorganization of, and an entirely new approach to, the study of general chemistry."

THE MARCH OF AMERICAN LABOR

Future Policies Make Unions Ponder as They Progress Rapidly

This is the last of a series of six stories on "The March of Labor," telling of the rise of labor under NRA, the problems which beset the nation's unions in the new era, and giving a brief history of the labor movement.

BY WILLIS THORNTON
NEA Service Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—The turmoil of labor today has two aspects. The first is: How to secure the rights offered by the NRA: how to solve the legal and practical problems knitted up with it, and how to keep wages moving forward as cost of living advances.

But the second, more important in the long run, is: How shall labor use its new-granted power; how shall it fit itself into the national scheme; what are its new responsibilities, and how shall it shoulder them?

Between these near and far objectives, labor has a tremendous job cut out for itself.

The NRA really created no new problem. The questions of union recognition, collective bargaining, coercion by employer or union organizer, the closed shop—all these are as old as labor relations. NRA simply brought them into the foreground.

New laws are inevitable this winter. For the NRA expires next June unless something is done about it in the meantime.

The latest decision of the National Labor Relations Board appears to secure exclusive right to represent employees to any organization which can secure a majority. This decision, in the Houde Engineering Corporation case seems the best "break" unionized labor has had since NRA began, and augurs further power to organized labor.

The company union problem remains unsolved. Labor's effort failed to get a law definitely declaring such unions illegal. But in the meantime the nature of company unions themselves is changing.

What is a company union? Obviously, one that is supported and dominated by the company. Originally they were just that. But as they have developed under the strain of the last year, they are becoming something else again.

THE Shoe and Leather Workers' Industrial Union has been sued by twelve shoe companies for \$800,000 in damages for interference with their business by pickets in an alleged strike.

This is similar to the famous Danbury Hatters' case, and involves the question of legal responsibility of unions for damage to business.

Stiff fines were recently paid by former officials of the National Shoe Workers' Union for violating an anti-strike injunction at Lynn, Mass., showing the whole matter of labor injunctions is still far from settled.

On the other hand, unions were upheld in Hartford (Conn.) superior court in a case of a former member who had been suspended from the union. He claimed that since the labor organization had secured contracts with employers, he was unable to get a job, and sued the union for damages.

The court ruled that the union's actions "were not unlawful and the resulting damage, if such followed, is an incident of unactionable but unactionable."

STRONG efforts have been made by the A. F. of L. to eliminate the jurisdictional disputes which have helped prejudice employers against it.

Three major units have finally united with the building trades

department—the electrical workers, carpenters and joiners, and bricklayers, masons and plasterers.

That means that these three unions, with the other sixteen which already belonged to the department, will abide by its decisions as to who shall do what work.

Private industry has sweated under these disputes for years.

Recently the government sweated some in its public building program here, and was believed about to compel submission of such disputes to arbitration.

That spurred the federation to create its own "court" to settle such disputes. Strenuous efforts are being made within the federation to create an authority that can eliminate these disputes, settling them within labor ranks before they start.

The federation also has a bureau devoted to wiping out racketeering in local unions and city centrals. This has always been a hard job because local or international unions, once chartered, are almost independent of the federation in conducting their own affairs.

Impatience of younger leaders with slow, conservative methods has brought them even to seizing power, as in the threatened steel strike of last spring.

This surging pressure from below is being felt throughout organized labor, from the oldest organizations to the new and unseasoned ones.

THE ultimate place of organized labor in the social scheme is at stake. Labor Secretary Frances Perkins wrote in

DAILY WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By Drew Pearson and Robert S. Allen

WASHINGTON, Sept. 8.—Nobody quite knows where Little Robby came from. General Johnson himself, says he doesn't know. "When I came to Washington I found her in my office," he says, "and she has been with me, two paces to the rear, ever since."

Some say she was born in Evansville, Ill., a little town of about 500, where the Mississippi makes a big bend just below St. Louis—but nobody is quite sure. She was brought up in a convent and educated in a university, whose name, she says, she doesn't want to reveal for fear of bringing it notoriety.

Other stenographers and her women friends in the NRA know little about her. The personnel office has no file regarding her past experience. It is known that she worked in the New York office of the Radio Corporation of America, then joined Democratic National headquarters. Finally Bob Straus, son of Macy's ambassador to France, brought her to Washington, installed her in General Johnson's office when they still were writing the NRA act.

WHEN the final story of General Johnson is written—and the NRA chapter is almost finished—Little Robby will occupy an important part. Her part of the story will be that of a small-town girl from the middle west who slaved for a man and a cause.

She slaved sixteen hours a day. And with all her aggressiveness and mannerisms, she has done a difficult job. She has a great capacity for detail. She is a highly efficient secretary. And no matter how late the general rowed with the steel workers or at what time of the night his hoarse voice would yell "Robby!"—she was always there.

And if Robby had one real fault it was not her shrill voice or her love of the limelight, but the fact that she "yelled" Johnson, when times egged him on.

But Robby has had a swell time.

To use her own words: "It's wonderful to meet all the great men of the country. I'm getting a great kick out of it. But after all this is just another job for me."

There are many women secretaries in Washington who play a powerful role. But most of them are quiet, efficient, loyal. They contribute materially to the success of the official whom they serve—but to the general public they are unknown.

LITTLE Robby has all of these qualities save one. She chose not to remain unknown.

Unquestionably, this was the harder role, for it has opened her to attack. No woman, no matter who she is, can play so important a role in the machinery of business—the British Association for the Advancement of Science was informed today by Professor A. Szent-Gyorgyi, the Hungarian chemist who played a major role in the artificial manufacture of this important vitamin.

The striking hereditary disease of bleeding, known as haemophilia, the mouth disease known as pyorrhea, certain forms of haemorrhagic nephritis, and several other diseases against which medicine was helpless are seemingly being cured by ascorbic acid.

"This is the most striking since these pathological conditions have not been thought to be connected with lack of vitamin," Professor Szent-Gyorgyi explained. "The curative effects suggest that humanity is suffering much more gravely from a lack of vitamin C than has hitherto been supposed."

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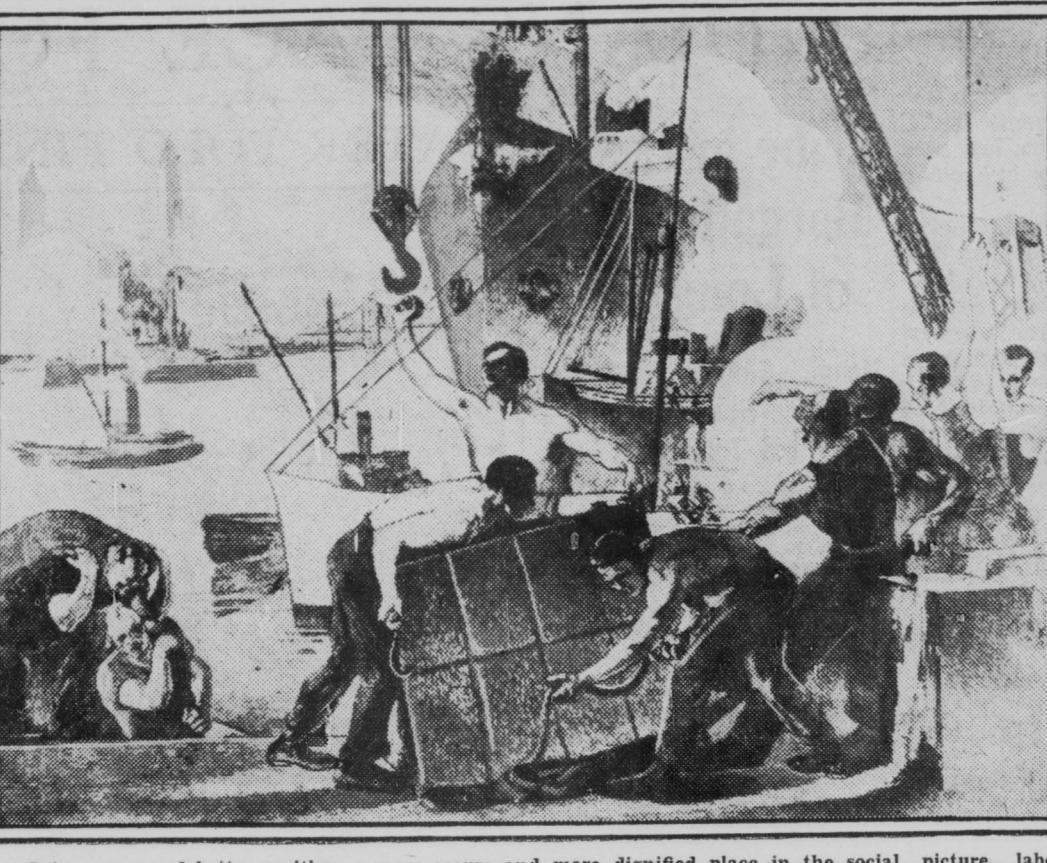
By United Press

SYNTHETIC VITAMIN C CURES HAEMOPHILIA, SCIENTISTS INFORMED

ABERDEEN, Sept. 8.—Synthetic vitamin C, or ascorbic acid, in the first actual experiments on medical patients, is producing striking and unexpected disease conquests, the British Association for the Advancement of Science was informed today by Professor A. Szent-Gyorgyi, the Hungarian chemist who played a major role in the artificial manufacture of this important vitamin.

The nerve of brass monkey. She is equally at home in straightening the tie of a newspaper man, bawling out office boys, attending a stag party uninvited, or talking to the President.

Probably it is natural that Robby should not be popular with other women in the administration. NRA secretaries play up to her because she is powerful in personnel matters. But she has few close friends. Miss Perkins resents her constant presence during conferences with Johnson while Mrs. Roosevelt is slightly aloof—though Robby is invited to



Into a new and better position, a more secure and more dignified place in the social picture, labor moves irresistibly today . . . The above splendid mural painting by A. J. Bogdanow, "Modern Commerce," gives something of the feeling of this new spirit of progress for labor.

Fair Enough

by
WESTBROOK PEGLER

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Sept. 8.—President Roosevelt, Mrs. Roosevelt and a party of about fifty went on a picnic yesterday. The expedition was supposed to start rolling at 11 in the morning and everybody was out in the automobiles lined up on the Albany Post road, in front of the new Old Nelson House on time. The Boss—people in this circle often refer to Mr. Roosevelt as the Boss—did not show up until about 11:20, however. By that time there was a small and mildly curious gathering along the curbs on both sides of the street waiting to have a peek at him. Mr. Roosevelt, being one of the locals in this region, does not draw much crowds hereabouts as he does on his travels elsewhere in the country.

Presently his car, a big open job with the top down, came rolling into town from his estate up at Hyde Park, followed by another one like it in which the secret service detail were riding. Whenever the train slowed down the secret men were out on the running boards and whenever there was a full stop they were on the ground and standing by his machine. They were not pestiferous in their attention but very alert and agile and always there just in case. Your correspondent has got their names but will skip them as it seems that the least desire of a secret service man is to become well known. Perhaps this is a manifestation of that insidious censorship which Senator Schall was complaining of in his recent exchange of mash-notes with Mr. Roosevelt.

They're All in Training

THE motor train went down the Post road a way, then turned off on a road to Bear Mountain Bridge and over the Hudson to the mountain where Major Welch the superintendent, climbed in with the boss and led the way up the new road to the top. The view from the top of the Bear is very beautiful, although typical of Green mountains and the people all seemed most impressed by the fact that such wild country full of deer, beaver and fish exists so close to Broadway and Forty-second street.

Up on top a lot of men were building a stone tower which will be used for weather and fire observation and many of them were naked to their belts. It was noticeable that they stripped like athletes in training, being lean in the ribs, flat in the belly and tanned the color of gravy. They seemed to like the Roosevelts real well, but though most of them leaned on their tools briefly to look over them, they did not knock off work to do any cheering.

That came later down at a CCC camp where a lot of men, mostly young ones and also athletes, are making a lake which will be called Boxy pond. At the pond as the President rolled in through a lane in the trees, they came a-running to look him over and snipe camera shots of him. Work didn't quit entirely, however.

The Gals and Mrs. Roosevelt

THE picnic was a box lunch provided by the newspaper reporters and their wives of the presidential detail who figured that they had been the guests of the Boss and the Mrs. so often at picnics and whatnot that they ought to be allowed to take a turn. Mr. Roosevelt sat in his car enjoying this open air soft-touch or free meal, and talking with Mr. Joe Eastman who had a hen on the nest—something important about the railroads. He takes his work around with him.

After the CCC camp, the Boss and picnic party went on to the women's camp organized by Mrs. Roosevelt for girls who find themselves plumb up against it. This is not so much a work-camp as an off-the-street club and vacation resort. Girls who are up against it have a much worse time of it than men, as they can not moomch dimes on the city streets without being seriously misunderstood.

The faces, seen individually, were joyous and it seemed they are just as devoted and grateful to Mrs. Roosevelt as the men had been to the Boss.

Both going and coming, the trip was impromptu, so far as the people along the lines were concerned, so there were no crowds and those people who did see the President of the U. S. A. in their midst had to look fast.

The parade broke up back at the new Old Nelson House. The Boss went on to his house at Hyde Park and the journalists dashed into the telegraph room to tear off some living human documents about Joe Eastman's hot railroad story. All expressed themselves as having had a most enjoyable time.

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Your Health

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

HARDNESS of hearing has long been recognized as almost inevitable in old age, but you can forestall it considerably by eating properly and keeping your system in good condition.