

NEW YORK, March 21.—Getting ready to go on a vacation is a fearful strain, because, first of all, there is that business of making up your mind. I wish it were possible just to go to a ticket window and say: "Send me on a vacation wherever this money will take me. Oh, and don't forget a return ticket."

At first I thought of making a two-weeks' tour of American race tracks, but it's a long jump from Miami to Hot Springs, Ark., and the next spot after that is Houston, Tex. Of course, the fortnight could be used to improve my mind, but I don't think I'll do that.

Unfortunately, it is wholly impossible to pick any date at which nothing is happening concerning which you think you ought to be writing. For instance, I'd like to get into the campaign to urge all American colleges to stay away from the Heidelberg festival. There is even less excuse for our being represented there than at the Olympic Games.

A Yale correspondent tells me that Heywood Broun invariably wears a Nazi uniform when addressing what is still called the faculty, although 130 of the original 200 members have been replaced.

These Lewis' Confusing

AN assistant professor of economics at the University of Oklahoma has a right to feel that newspapers and newspaper commentators are doing less than their full duty in keeping their readers acquainted with happenings in the labor world. At any rate he writes:

"Occasionally I give my classes an incidental test on general information. The first thing on the test was 'Identify (1) John L. Lewis; (2) Sinclair Lewis; (3) Joe Louis. . . . Fifty papers were selected at random and graded. Every one of the 50 students knew rather definitely the identity of Joe Louis. Thirty-eight of the 50 identified Sinclair Lewis, most of them rather vaguely, but they at least knew that he was a famous American novelist. Only eight of the 50 had any recognizable idea of the identity of John L. Lewis. . . . One answered this by writing, 'John L. Lewis is a United States Senator with pink whiskers.'"

Now what right have I to be in Houston betting on race horses when potential readers near at hand, and college students at that, think that the president of the United Mine Workers of America has pink whiskers?

Ball Clubs Well Covered

I HAD thought a little of embarking down to Florida and watching ball players at the training camps, but there would be no utility in that, since the doings of the professional athletes are much more fully and ably reported than the activities of the labor leaders. Prof. Willite of Oklahoma found that "many of the students gave minute details about Joe Louis. They knew his height, weight and color. They also knew how many fights he has had and how many of his opponents he has knocked out."

"It is not," the professor adds plaintively, "a reflection on college students so much as it is on our contemporary American civilization. We devote an enormous amount of time, energy and enthusiasm to trivial matters and neglect things that are really important."

I wish I had not come across that letter just before taking a vacation which originally was to include a few days for longshots at Hot Springs and maybe a week in Hollywood. For instance, if I were not going away just now, I could write a long column on play which really is important. When I first saw "Saint Joan" I thought it was the finest play written by any living author. After visiting the revival I am confirmed in this opinion. Moreover, the play profits now by the performance of Miss Katherine Cornell as Joan, and it will be a long time before we will see a better piece of acting.

Roosevelt Appeal May Bring Results

BY RAYMOND CLAPPER

WASHINGTON, March 21.—There are indications that President Roosevelt's appeal to business leaders to co-operate in their respective industries toward accelerating re-employment may bear some fruit.

Directors of the United States Chamber of Commerce, planning the program for the annual convention of the Chamber here next month, have placed re-employment at the head of the list of major problems to be considered. Without venturing into a detailed discussion of policy, the directors have joined in a formal declaration emphasizing the "growing necessity" of concentrating national effort and resourcefulness upon revival, in order to end continuing requisitions for relief. The directors recognized that this can not be accomplished either by government or by business management alone.

This declaration is a thin piece of meat for any one to sink his teeth into, yet it recognizes that business has a direct interest in attempting to bring about re-employment. So long as re-employment is deferred, the cost of relief is the penalty. If business can thus link up its pocket interest with the humanitarian interest of the government, a basis of practical co-operation may be found. At the moment it is a fragile link. Yet if the Administration and business can suspend their running exchange of epithets, and find a common area in which they can operate under a truce, both sides might find it to their advantage. But that will require more self-control on both sides of Lafayette Square than we have seen of late.

ONE important factor in judging the maneuvering of European powers over Hitler's reoccupation of the Rhineland is the opposition of French public opinion to war. This opposition is reported from a number of sources, official and unofficial—but not in press dispatches from European capitals.

French politicians sought to lash up public sentiment, but without success, so it is reported here. They are said to be convinced that French sentiment will not support a war over the rearming of the Rhineland. Should Hitler cross as much as three feet into French territory—that would be something different.

This explains why French leaders, knowing that Hitler is preparing for war in the spring of 1938, are willing now to let the Rhineland question go into negotiation—this plus the pro-peace pressure of great Britain and the understanding that Soviet Russia would not come to France's aid unless Hitler attacked.

THUS it would appear that public sentiment is making a contribution to peaceful settlement of differences—in countries where it has an opportunity to function. In contrast is the situation in Germany where Hitler has supplanted public opinion with dictatorial propaganda and coercion. He offered a constructive 25-year non-aggression pact but accompanied it with ruthless scrapping of Locarno, reoccupation of the Rhineland—a piece of grandstand swashbuckling intended to further glorify him in the role of usurper in Germany. Now Berlin dispatches report that his March 29 Reichstag "election" will be a farce registered on ballots which provide no space for a negative vote. You vote for the Nazi candidate or not at all.

WHILE other seekers after the Republican presidential nomination are talking, cocksure of all the answers, Gov. Landon is holding his tongue and studying. One question to which he is devoting much thought is unemployment, and how industry can absorb the labor surplus. As part of this study he has just finished reading the new book "Rainbow" by Donald Riehberg, former head of NRA.

The Indianapolis Times

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 1936

Second Section

Entered as Second-Class Matter
at Postoffice, Indianapolis, Ind.

INDIANAPOLIS, THE CITY OF SMOKE

\$5,000,000 Wasted Each Year by Improper Handling of Furnaces

This is the last of a series of articles on smoke conditions in Indianapolis by Arch Steinle.

BY ARCH STEINLE

TAXPAYERS of Indianapolis spend \$2200 yearly to rid the city of a \$5,000,000 annual waste that pours out of its chimneys, lowering resistance to disease, injuring buildings, destroying realty values, depreciating merchandise, and increasing laundry costs.

The \$2200 is the salary paid to the lone city smoke combustion engineer, George R. Popp Jr.

Mr. Popp collects half his salary in fees. He supervised the installation of \$339,091 in new heating equipment in 1935.

Yet under the Indianapolis Smoke Code, as passed in 1925, Mr. Popp should have an assistant and four smoke inspectors aiding him in enforcing the city's ordinance, it is contended by Roy R. Johnson, secretary-manager of the Indianapolis Smoke Abatement League.

Smoke abatement experts of the nation declare that \$5000 should be spent for enforcement of smoke ordinances for every 100,000 persons. It is estimated by Mr. Johnson that between \$15,000 and \$20,000 should be spent to reduce the city's chimney-sweep complexion.

William F. Hurd, city building commissioner, and Mr. Popp's boss, agrees that \$15,000 would do much toward cleaning up the city.

UT at this juncture Mr. Hurd

and Mr. Johnson detour on the methods of attaining a smokeless city.

A check of officials of 78 American cities shows the following factors contributing to the discouragement of smoke abatement activity.

A careless operation of heating equipment; lack of proper fuel-burning equipment; poor fuel; lack of enforcement facilities; lack of education about proper methods of firing, public indifference and buck-passing.

"And," said one smoke abatement zealot, "all of these factors are present in Indianapolis."

Mr. Johnson urges stricter law enforcement and adherence to the city smoke code. He seeks amendment of the present code to make the small home owner amenable to the crime of smoke violation which under the Indianapolis code imposes a fine of \$2 to \$500 for each violation.

He urges the incorporation of the Ringlemann chart as sufficient to determine a smoke violation.

Under the Indianapolis code, an umbrascopic, or series of shaded glasses, is used by Mr. Popp to detect a smoke violator.

UT Mr. Popp says the average

homeowner and unskilled fireman builds a fire wrong nine times out of ten when using Indiana soft coal.

He is the correct way: Cover the grates with several inches' thickness of raw fuel. On top of this raw fuel place paper and a liberal amount of kindling. After the kindling is burning briskly, add a small amount of fuel, taking care not to smother the blaze. When the coal below the kindling is well ignited, more fuel may be added with care that the blaze is not smothered.

It is to be regretted," Mr. Hurd says, "that every owner of an apartment building or public building does not know he is losing money in trying to burn ordinary soft coal by hand firing. Using a stoker and Indiana coal, he can unquestionably save money in his annual fuel bill, save the feelings of his neighbors and the appearance of his and other buildings and prevent polluted air which is a menace to health and destructive to property."

Mr. Popp, in relating the many needs for diplomacy in enforcing the Indianapolis ordinances, tells how even the suggestion that a boiler should be fired with a stoker brings back the reply, "What stoker company are you working for?"

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