

# Whisperings Of Unrepentant But Hungry Berlin Become Desperate

By NAT A. BARROWS  
Times Foreign Correspondent

BERLIN, July 23.—A spirit of desperation is arising rapidly from the whisperings and complaints of hungry Berliners.

Fed by personal suffering but utterly unassociated with any deep sense of responsibility for Germany's ruin, the rumbles of impending trouble can be heard by anyone who takes the trouble to listen for them. Bitterness over the muddled food distribution is bound eventually to explode unless the Anglo-American-Russian military governments un-

scramble the red tape and evolve an effective solution.

To obtain a cross section of opinion, I have canvassed entire blocks of average Berliners—housewives, children, former wehrmacht and luftwaffe men and minor city officials. The results are both discouraging and alarming.

Not one of 53 Germans to whom I talked expressed or even hinted any feeling of guilt or responsibility for the plight in which Germany now finds itself. Long exposure to Goebbels propaganda has insulted them from

ability to see Germany's defeat and ruin in the proper perspective.

But the whine of despair and disillusionment stem from something deeper than mere self-pity. It is an absolute fact that the majority of Berlin's 3,000,000 inhabitants are acutely hungry.

Old people are fainting on the streets. Women constantly stop the passerby, muttering "essen, essen—eat, eat." The yellow faces of the people mean hunger indeed.

In the Moabit district of Charlottenburg, a wehrmacht veteran

of the Russian front, said bitterly: "If we'd known it was going to be like this, we would never have surrendered. We would have disobeyed orders to lay down arms and kept on fighting. Anything would have been better than this."

Leaning on a table edge, her face lined with both hatred and despair, she said: "If we'd known it was going to be like this, we would never have surrendered. We would have disobeyed orders to lay down arms and kept on fighting. Anything would have been better than this."

They told those mothers

things may be better next autumn.

Those were Germans who said

that—petty little office-holders

put in there by the Russians and

left by the British.

They're so impressed with their little jobs and their own importance that they can only think of getting extra ration cards for their own friends and looking out for themselves."

In the Schönenberg area of the American sector the writer interviewed nearly all the tenants of an apartment house. The story was the same: Lack of any sense of guilt;

a reasonable complaint about food distribution; a feeling that leadership is missing.

The universal complaint is that the system of placing food ration cards in five categories is unfair.

The housewife is in the lowest classification because she does not work in the rubble piles, passing bricks and debris. The Russians, who began the system and the British and Americans, who have carried it over into their sectors, underestimate the energy needed to stand in long food queues and keep up homes.

There is no enthusiasm for

politics. The five daily newspapers, now printed in Berlin, not only look like the old Nazi papers

and are not being told the relation between their present suffering and Germany's initial responsibility.

3. Berliners are meek and servile in their plight but the minute they assume minor political power, they become the same old arrogant, blustering bureaucrats.

It is not a pretty picture, but it is one we have got to face promptly—and intelligently.

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## Green Attacks Labor Bill As Repressive of Rights

By WILLIAM GREEN

President, American Federation of Labor

WASHINGTON, July 23.—The Ball-Burton-Hatch bill seeks to turn the clock back in America. The three young senators who sponsored it seem to have forgotten the century of economic oppression which preceded the decade of industrial democracy the nation has enjoyed since the enactment of the National Labor Relations act. Their proposal would strangle that charter of labor's freedom and return American workers to economic slavery.

Repressive legislation, like the Ball-Burton-Hatch bill, has no place in our country. Its effect would be to create unrest and resentment. Instead of promoting better industrial relations between workers and employers, it would provide ammunition for those who seek to convert the workers to Communism.

Industrial peace will be attained in America only through organization and through free collective bargaining. When I say organization I mean organization of employers as well as workers. When and if free collective bargaining is sincerely accepted and applied by thoroughly organized labor and industry, the chief causes of recurring industrial strife will disappear and stabilized industrial relations can be established.

### Fear Encroachment

The greatest deterrent to this goal is increased government encroachment upon the field of collective bargaining, as is proposed under the Ball-Burton-Hatch bill. The great need of the post-war period will be to prevail upon the government to surrender controls over collective bargaining—not to increase them.

Before attempting to analyze the provisions of the Ball-Burton-Hatch bill, I would like to discuss its professed aims, its genesis and the methods being employed to ballyhoo it.

The big argument used to promote this legislation is that its purpose is to "protect" the public. I challenge that claim. Its real purpose is to protect employers who are unwilling to obey the law and wish to continue using mailed-fist methods against their workers. No law which deprives workers of their basic rights is a protection to the American people. On the contrary, it is a threat to their democratic heritage.

### Quotes an Expert

In support of my assertions, let me cite the impartial judgment of Senator Wayne B. Morse, of Oregon, on this legislation. He declared it was "slanted from the employers' point of view." Senator Morse has no connection with organized labor. In fact, he represented the public on the National War Labor board before he was elected to the senate on the Republican party ticket. His views are especially significant because he is an expert on labor-industrial relations.

For further evidence, let us investigate the genesis of this legislation. The research was financed by a group of employers and employer representatives. The drafting of the bill was entrusted to a lawyer who has played both sides of the economic fence in pursuit of fees rather than principles. Never at any time before the bill was introduced was any qualified representative of labor consulted or asked for advice. Yet labor is chiefly affected by the bill's provisions.

### Question Sincerity

These circumstances cause labor to question the sincerity and good faith of the Ball-Burton-Hatch bill. We feel just as suspicious about it as the American people would be

## Slain Major, a Key Nazi, Revealed as Allied Agent

By ROBERT MUSEL

United Press Staff Correspondent

IN OCCUPIED GERMANY, July 23.—He was killed when the allied armies were only a few miles away. But Baron Major von Schlage, an allied agent, played to the end such a dazzling game of make-believe that the Germans trusted him with one of their most vital airfields.

The story is still being fitted together, with some parts missing, but it seems to be true. In Belgium last December the Armée Blanche, or Belgian underground, offered to point out von Schlage's grave.

Much later in Metz, Security Officer Lt. Carlos Helmer of Los Angeles, Cal., said he had investigated the incident and considered it authentic, unless some trustworthy Belgians were unaccountably lying.

Von Schlage, descendant of a good German family with a fine military tradition, rose to command the airdrome near Chievres, Belgium, through sheer ability. This was a very important field because from it sweep the North sea shipping lanes.

But the Germans, including the vaunted gestapo, didn't know that von Schlage was an allied agent brilliant enough to help the United

## LEAVES BUTLER TO BE NAVAL CHAPLAIN

Lt. Harold F. Hanlin, assistant professor in Butler university graduate school of religion and acting pastor of Norwood Christian church, will leave tomorrow for chaplain's school at William and Mary college, Williamsburg, Va.

Lt. Hanlin will be commissioned in the navy Friday at Chicago.

If Herman Goering were to propose an amendment to the United States constitution.

Thus far, the chief interest displayed in the Ball-Burton-Hatch bill has been manifested by a few powerful newspaper publishers who have devoted large quantities of space to laudatory comments despite the shortage of newsprint and despite the fact that no immediate action on this legislation is contemplated.

The excitement of these newspaper publishers over this legislation is marvelous to behold, but not contagious so far as the public is concerned. That isn't surprising, for these publishers have been against everything the public has voted for over a good many years now.

The more I study the Ball-Burton-Hatch bill, line by line and paragraph by paragraph, the more objectionable features I discover.

### Lists Objections

But I can summarize the major faults as follows:

ONE: It proposes compulsory arbitration. The wage earners of America will never accept this restriction upon their freedom. Compulsory arbitration has been opposed by the trade unions movement since its earliest days as a step toward involuntary servitude. We will not give up that fight now.

TWO: The bill would revive the nefarious practice of permitting courts to issue injunctions against labor. That practice was killed by the Norris-La Guardia act.

THREE: The right of contract is seriously impaired by the bill which would prohibit labor and management from entering into voluntary closed shop agreements except on an arbitrary and unworkable percentage basis.

FOUR: The bill would nullify important protections of the Wagner act and limit its scope by exempting small employers from obligations required of industry engaged in interstate commerce.

### Rights Known Now

Let us consider the final and very significant factor. Since the passage of the Norris-La Guardia act and the National Labor Relations act, the courts have been called upon to decide and interpret the various provisions of these laws.

It has been a tedious process, but it has resulted in establishing clearly the rules of the game. Labor and industry know their rights and obligations under the law and can proceed with their post-war plans on a confident basis.

But picture for a moment what would happen in the post-war period if the Ball-Burton-Hatch bill were enacted. A brand-new series of prolonged court tests would have to be undergone. The constitutionality of the measure would be challenged.

### Sees Confusion

Its effect on existing labor laws would have to be interpreted. Meanwhile, labor and industry would be thrown into confusion and uncertainty. The chances of speedy recovery in post-war America would vanish. Does the Ball-Burton-Hatch bill merit taking such risks?

It is difficult for me to believe that even the sponsors of this legislation feel that it has any possibilities of being enacted. Their purpose, then, must be to put organized labor on the defensive in the post-war period when vigorous action will be needed to establish an economy of plenty in America, with justice for all. Labor will not be sidetracked from this objective.

## Corporal Jim Is 'Feeling Fine'

PT. WORTH, Tex., July 23.—Cpl. Jim Newman, still cheating, spent a restful weekend and was "feeling fine," his mother said today.

Mrs. O. F. Newman told reporters that Cpl. Jim had taken nourishment for the first time in several days and that the family doctor seemed encouraged despite his prediction that death hovered near.

The 25-year-old corporal, victim