

THE UNION TIMES

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Government Interference

Disastrous to All Interests

(From Manufacturers Report)

If there is one cardinal error in this country it is the belief of educated and responsible citizens, in and out of office, that violation of the law, by them, for what they conceive to be good purposes, is excusable and ought not to be questioned. We find men all over the country who violate the Volstead Act, dealing with bootleggers, and yet they are horrified that other lawless men wield bludgeons at night and rob and kill.

The voluntary price control organization brought into being in Washington through the efforts of Secretary Hoover and the administration has "voluntarily" dissolved. The reason for this dissolution, we understand, is that eminent counsel advised that the whole affair has been illegal from the beginning, without any authority of law, but in defiance of law. It is just as lawless for government officials to combine with producers to keep prices down as it is for them to combine to keep prices up. The truth is that combinations to maintain low prices constituted one of the reasons why enactment of the anti-trust laws was considered requisite.

Another feature of this particular experiment in illegality, however, was the fact that governmental intervention probably increases instead of stabilizing coal prices. Seldom is there any trouble in the coal fields but that high officials at the capital rush into print and gravely inform the country that a frightful shortage is in sight. Instantly, timid citizens, fearful of the winter, plunge into the market and create an apparent shortage. There is at least one classic instance when a similar cry of shortage in another commodity did create such an immediate public demand that a real shortage promptly did occur. Enough of the commodity was sold, we hear, to last five years.

We think it is susceptible of proof that if the government had given to non-union miners the protection to which they were entitled under the law, those non-union miners would have produced enough coal to have prevented a fuel debacle and at prices within reason. Washington, however, where maintenance of law would have solved the problem, preferred to undertake a solution by repudiation of the law.

Likewise, it is notorious that the check-off has been declared illegal. Yet the government in Washington boasts that a truce in the coal strike was brought about by ignoring that fact and permitting a settlement containing the check-off.

For weeks the newspapers have been filled with stories to the effect that this or that official was assuring this or that industry that it might do this or that thing, in spite of the law, since the official felt that the results would be good. That means a government of men, not a government of laws. It means the substitution of the ipse dixit of a single person for the high authority of the statutes.

How can citizens whose facilities for education have not been of the best be expected to have respect for the law if men in high places, who ought to know better, flout the law when it suits their convenience?

Nor are men, when they get to Washington, content merely to ignore the laws. They insist, when any emergency arises, on the enactment of emergency statutes. For instance, the president himself rushed up to congress to demand that the law-making body quickly establish a great coal purchasing and distributing agency, a sort of United States Coal Corporation, to spend the money of taxpayers in commerce. And within two weeks his spokesman on the floor of the house was solemnly announcing that the president had changed his mind and did not any longer think such an agency required! Nevertheless, this experiment in socialism would have been attempted had congress been better disciplined. No wonder the country talks about half-baked policies!

Nor can farmers fail to notice that when they, in despair, suggested that the government might undertake to sell their products and save them they were coldly advised that the government could not venture into so radical an undertaking. It is as much a function of government to protect producers as to protect consumers.

Just now hysteria in favor of priorities is popular. The very word "priority" is undemocratic and ought to have no place in our economic structure, so far as transport is concerned. But even since traffic piled up during the war there has been a school of thinkers dedicated to the idea that it is a proper thing for the government to look over the fields and separate the sheep from the goats, determine what goods can move and what goods cannot move. The fruit-grower in the Northwest is just as much entitled to move his crop to market and save this year's income as some manufacturer is to secure coal. A democratic government ought to have nothing to do with preferences. It is getting so that before a man can engage in business with any hope of success he has to institute an inquiry to discover whether or not he is likely to be deprived of railroad facilities at a moment's notice. We are not far wrong when we say that priorities in this country have invariably worked grave hardship, disrupted general business, ruined many honest men, halted prosperity and caused a long trail of trouble. Two years ago they were invoked unnecessarily, as was afterwards acknowledged, we believe, and there is some good reason to suppose that they are unnecessary.

ly invoked now.

Mr. Ford is right, as Judge Gary has intimated, when he protests against a conscientious profiteering in the coal market. The Administration or Hoover plan is to control prices through the use of priorities. We believe that the employment of priorities has simply been ammunition for profiteers' guns. The feeling of panic which the government itself has created is responsible for coal bootleggers. It is their most valuable asset. Indeed, the moment responsible coal firms began to advertise that there was no need for a panic, that coal would be forthcoming and at reasonable prices, the speculative market began to tumble of its own weight.

We are not unmindful of extreme situations which may call for heroic remedies. But the employment of so drastic a measure as the priority, which virtually deprives some citizens of their property without due process of law is abhorrent to the American mind. We do not think that such a thing as a priority order should be permitted to issue until after public hearings. We are told that when it was suggested to an Interstate Commerce Commissioner that such a hearing be held before the first priority order was published, to establish the fact of whether or not an emergency warranting it existed, he simply answered that anybody who did not know there was such an emergency was a fool. There is reason to suspect that some of his own colleagues, who emphatically are not fools, came within his sweeping definition.

Nine out of every ten citizens, say, will give it as their opinion, if they have any, that the government bungled both strike situations. At times, indeed, the government made itself ridiculous. There was nothing novel in that. The government always makes itself ridiculous when it intervenes in matters properly outside its jurisdiction. The art of governing and the art of doing business are different things. Like oil and water, they do not mix. Nevertheless, the virus of interference is so subtle that even a man such as President Harding, who went into office detesting interference by the government in matters that were not of its business, is not two years in office before he is wheedled into the same old policy of intervention.

Half of all the trouble in both the coal and railroad strikes has been caused by the government. If the latter had done the one thing it ought to have done—respected the law itself and enforced the same respect from all others—fewer reputation would be in their nadir and industrial conditions would be vastly improved.

We come to the crux of the situation. The very use of priorities is an acknowledgment and confession that the transport facilities of the nation are inadequate; that the nation lacks the capacity to handle normal business. Preferential diversion of facilities is obviously no solution. It is merely a makeshift, and a mighty poor one. The answer is not abuse of the facilities available, but the creation of additional facilities. No politician proposes that cure. Instead, having seen the railroad industry bled white by regulation, congress assumes that the proper thing to do is to have more regulation. Two hundred thousand additional coal cars and a full supply of locomotives would be worth all the priorities that ever were issued. This additional rolling stock would, in terms of national prosperity, be worth many times its cost.

The world has reached the point where short-sighted and narrow statesmanship will not do. Old methods of waiting for crises to burst in full vigor and then solving them by emergency policies which inevitably are destructive of simplicity and efficiency in government can no longer be adhered to. We must plan far ahead. Our statesmanship, as never before, must be based on sound economics, not on popular quack policies. We are trying to build a permanent nation, a great empire of prosperity, not only a soul-magnet for struggling humanity, but a structure of prosperity so sound that it will give a new meaning to ideas of well-being and a new interpretation of what material happiness can be on earth. We should build permanent foundations, whereas the employment of priorities is our confession that we have not even caught up with the present, much less made any adequate preparation for the beckoning future.

Discover Giant

Fossil Oyster Shells

Brownsville, Texas, Sept. 29.—Giant fossil oyster shells, said by scientists to be more than 400,000 years old and some of them measuring more than three feet in length, have been discovered in a clay bank in Starr county, Texas, near a petrified forest.

The fossils were found in a clay and shell bank about 1,000 feet above sea level. Some of the specimens have been sent to the Smithsonian Institute and other to the public health service. Scientists declare that huge reptiles swam in the waters which covered the lower Rio Grande valley in the paleozoic age and that the large oysters lodged in the gravel banks along the seashore in what is now Starr and Zapata counties. Near the fossil bank are hundreds of petrified trees, some of them four feet in diameter. In this forest is a variety of oak now extinct in this part of the country.

The greatest granite beds in the United States are found in Maine. It pays to advertise in The Times.

111 cigarettes. They are GOOD! 10¢

Oxen Scarce in the U. S. A.

Chicago, Sept. 29.—"Times do change," is the unanimous verdict of officials of the American Electric Railway association who searched three months for a team of oxen to be used in connection with the annual convention here October 2-6. "When someone suggested an ox team to show the stages in the progress of transportation everyone agreed that finding oxen would be easy," said Secretary James W. Welsh.

"But when we began to look for them we couldn't find one. Ezra Meeker, an Oregon trail pioneer who drove an ox team about the country in the interest of good roads, was appealed to but his team was stuffed and on exhibition in Seattle, Wash. "We asked stockyards officials, wild west shows and many others. Eventually we heard of one blind ox in Phillips, Wis., and, after getting the entire city interested in the search, we located a yoke near there."

Together with the pageant showing old and new types of transportation, the convention will hear addresses from all living former presidents of the organization, many of whom ran horse car lines, according to plans. Trackless transportation, taxes and public relations are subjects included on the program.

German Potash Mines Incur Heavy Obligations

Berlin, Sept. 29.—Unless the coming six years see a radical improvement in the value of the mark, Germany's potash industry probably will be seriously embarrassed in liquidating stock shares held abroad which must be paid in currency of the country from which the capital was subscribed. Other industrial concerns are said to be bound by similar obligations contracted during the war.

The potash mines of Wintershall, Alexandershall, and Saxon-Weimer are reported to have taken up 10,000,000 marks capitalization each at that time, repayable in 1928, at the rate of 1,220 Owise francs to every 1,000 marks. With the fall of German currency it would require today no less than 3,050,000,000 paper marks to fulfill these agreements. This sum exceeds, it is said, the total capital of all the Wintershall mines. Owing to scarcity of labor in the potash fields of the Werra valley, in Central Germany, a large number of university students are spending their vacations working in the mines. Many of them are housed in barracks.

Stray Dogs of Berlin To Have New Home

Berlin, Sept. 29.—Stray dachshunds and other waif canines of German capital are gleefully wagging their tails at the prospects of a new 2,500,000 mark pound which the city has decided to erect as their special "pension de luxe."

Not only are the innocent victims of the official dog-catcher to "have their day," but the latter himself and his staff are to be provided with a new residence costing 2,650,000 marks. Neukoelln will be the site of the palatial new pound.

"Water" Chess Diverts Berlin

Berlin, Sept. 29.—Water chess is the latest diversion to hit Berlin's sporting life. A game recently was played in the large pool of the Stadium, the capital's leading sports center. A board of wood underlaid with cork was used. One of the requirements of the match was that neither player leave the water except after stated intervals of two hours each.

CANDIDATE'S CARD

I hereby announce myself a candidate for trustees of the Union graded schools, District No. 11, and pledge myself to discharge the duties to the best of my ability. L. E. McAlpine.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for election as school trustee, Union Graded School, District No. 11. If elected I will do my best to fulfill the obligations of the responsible position. Wm. C. Lake.

I hereby announce myself a candidate for election as a trustee of the Union graded schools, District No. 11. If elected I will do my best to fulfill the obligations of the responsible position. B. B. James.

The friends of C. T. Murphy announce him for reelection to the office of trustee of the Union Graded Schools, District No. 11.

SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENTS

MEN WANTED—To sell our goods in country territory. Why work for others when you can have a business of your own with steady income? We sell on time and wait for our money. Team or auto needed for country, no outfit needed in city. Experience unnecessary. We train in salesmanship. Mention this paper. 1tpd

SPECIAL FOR SATURDAY and Monday—Jersey Giant Potatoes 30c peck or \$2.65 bag. Fine yellow and white onions 5c per lb. or 10 lbs. for 40c. Gibbs Grocery. 1496-2tpd

LOST—On streets of Union today, a long, straight gold pin set with pearls and rubies. Finder please return to Mrs. Ida Baker, E. Main street. 1495-Jt

GRAIN DRILL FOR SALE—Eight row Hoosier drill, latest improvements; used only three days; under shelter all the time when not in use. Price reasonable. Bernard Fant, Santee, S. C. 1496-6tpd

WANTED—To rent or buy a baby bed. Apply to Mrs. Josie Hughes Brabson, W. Main street. 1497-2tpd

COAL—\$13.50 per ton delivered. Phone your orders early to 103. Consolidated Ice & Fuel Co. 1495-6t

MONEY TO LOAN on city or country property in large amounts on easy terms. S. E. Barron. 1406-1f

I HAVE a small quantity of good seed wheat for sale. D. J. Gregory, Union, Route 3.

A NICE four room cottage on Sardinia road, and near City cemetery. This is an attractive house and a very large lot, nearly acre, wired in, and running water. This is the Kohn place. This nice and attractive little home can be purchased for \$1,800. Suitable terms can be arranged on both these pieces of property. S. E. Barron, selling agent. 1476-1f

HOME FOR SALE—A six room house, practically new, and attractive, sewerage, water and lights, on Blassegame street in West Union, a nice locality and desirable place to live, price only \$1,500. S. E. Barron, selling agent. 1476-1f

FOR RENT—One 5-room house. Lights and water. Located on Mabrey Ave. Apply to Mrs. M. J. Mabrey. 1484-1f

FOR SALE—466 acres land, three miles from Union, junction two top-soiled roads, one the Appalachian highway, and Southern railway runs through it. Half mile from Boham station. Has 200 acres wood, well watered, eight-room dwelling, barns, fine well water. Two good tenant houses. Good stand for country store and fine sites for building lots. To be sold to settle an estate. Good terms and price to prospective buyer. Apply E. G. Evans, Sr., Pendleton, S. C. 1495-3t

FOR RENT—Two upstairs rooms, furnished. Apply to Mrs. J. E. Kirby. 1488-1f

OATS—Fulghum, appler, red and abruzzi rye. Peoples Supply Co. 1496-4t

FOR SALE—Several new and second hand automobiles at bargain prices. Nicholson Bank & Trust Co. 9-6 Wed.-Sat. ft

FOR RENT—Large, commodious garage located on Gadberry street equipped with lights and sewerage connection. Has lathe machine with electric motor. Surrounded by streets except on one side. Gas tank and pump, also stand for washing cars. For terms and rental see W. S. McLure. 1427-Sa-Tu-1f

Taxi From Lockhart to Union

Leave Lockhart at 8:30 a. m. Leave Lockhart at 1:30 p. m. Leave Union at 11:00 a. m. Leave Union at 4:30 p. m. Leave from monument at Union. 1496-4tpd J. L. Hames.

Notice

A regular meeting of the Union Shrine Club will be held in the Masonic Temple Tuesday, October 3rd, at 8 o'clock p. m. Business of importance is to be brought before the Club.

Every Shriner in Union County is fraternally invited and urged to be present. By order, C. C. Sander, President.

Attested, Wm. C. Lake, Sec'y & Treas. 1496-6t

Sawyer & Kennedy Attorneys and Counsellors at Law No. 33 Main Street Union, South Carolina Engaged in the general practice of law. We no longer represent the Union-Beaufort Mills Co., the Union Manufacturing & Power Co., or the Union & Glenn Springs Railroad Co.

The "Book of Evangelists," upon which English kings took their coronation oaths was found in oak boards 1100 A. D.

Forest rangers in Minnesota carry portable pumps for use in forest fires.

WINTERSMITH'S CHILL TONIC SOLD 50 YEARS—A FINE GENERAL TONIC

TO THE PATRONS OF UNION SCHOOLS:

Now that your children's eyes have been examined by your doctor, remember that if he does not make a specialty of this kind of work, that I am prepared to fit glasses. I give my whole time and attention to this work and guarantee satisfaction. I am here at all times to make good my guarantee.

Let me name to you some of your neighbors or friends who are satisfied users of my glasses.

Yours For Better Eyes for the Children,

F. C. DUKE STATE LICENSED OPTOMETRIST.

For Electric Wiring and Electric Fixtures

You will do well to consult me. Expert workmanship, good quality of materials and at reasonable prices. Get my estimates before placing your order.

W. T. SINCLAIR

DEVOL MOTOR CAR FINISH. Brush on the finish that takes off the years. ON the road, the age of your car is a secret. It is judged by its looks. Are you proud of it? Has it a dull, dingy appearance? Why not make it glow and glitter again as though it never had a birthday? You can do the job yourself—and at small cost—with Devol Motor Car Finish. This product is self-leveling and "sets" so smooth that the car looks professionally refinished. Extremely durable—rust-preventing—made in standard automobile colors. Devol Products are time-tested and proven—backed by the 168 years' experience of the oldest paint manufacturing concern in the U. S. Founded 1754. Stone Hardware Co. UNION, S. C.

The Occasion Now at Hand

The seasonal movement in the Autumn is normally toward increased business volume. And it is obvious that prices are showing a tendency to rise. That tendency has accompanied the development of new business cycles in the past. The essentials for continued business improvement are at hand—but they must be used wisely and with care. During this critical period, every business man will do well to co-operate closely with his bank.

"Large Enough to Serve Any—Strong Enough to Protect All."

CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK

Palm Beach Suits Cleaned. We can clean and press your Palm Beach suit very quickly these days. We have the equipment and the know how. Give me a trial. Will appreciate it as much or more than any one else. Phone 167 and we will call promptly and return your suit looking like new.

H. W. EDGAR Undertaking Parlor. Calls answered day and night. Prompt and Efficient Service. Day Phone 129—Night Phone 311.

AUSTELL'S SHOE STORE. FOR BETTER SHOES. Phone 167 and we will call promptly and return your suit looking like new.

Hames Pressing & Repair Shop. Nicholson Bank Bldg. Phone 169 and motor cycle will call. Mrs. Ella M. Wellman, of Augusta, Me., has a hobby of collecting pitchers, and at the present time has an assortment numbering more than 700.

Greece seems bent upon having a king. Constantine, now the crown prince, but a king they must have. What they really have seems to be a military dictator ship and that will be a hard master.

The fine fair days are delighted, but the fall gardens have gone past remedy. There will be very little "greens" for the average table in this county. Sorry this is so, but it cannot be helped.

By reason of good long dry days along with intense heat, the boll weevil did not do the damage expected this summer. But let no one suppose that this will always be the luck. We need now to begin planning for stalk destruction. We should, as soon as the cotton is gathered, plow the stalks under with a disk harrow. How many farmers of the county will be wise and do this?



Our cat says moderation in eating prolongs human life.

Our cat says boosters are not boosters.

Our cat says woe prolong misery but settle few questions.

Our cat says obedience is the beginning of education.

Our cat says love is patient, lust impatient.

Our cat says those who sow not need not expect a harvest.

Our cat says gluttony is the mother of many distorted dreams.

Our cat says ten truths will not overtake one lie.

Our cat says advancing age displays many signals.

Our cat says safe investments promise modest returns.

Our cat says the censorious spirit never builded a town.

The Granting of Divorces Making Fiume Famous

Fiume, Sept. 29.—This city counts a population of 50,000; 15,000 of them received decrees of divorce in the years 1920 and 1921. Divorce seems to be one of the most flourishing of the local industries, and it is making the city famous.

The reason is that the severance of the marital bond is easy here, and people desiring freedom flock to Fiume from neighboring states where divorces are not granted. Anyone can get a divorce in Fiume who has lived in the city long enough to acquire the rights of citizenship.

Complications, however, occasionally arise. The case is still remembered of an Italian woman who acquired the citizenship of Fiume and divorced her husband, who remained an Italian subject. Shortly after her divorce she remarried and returned to Italy, where she was promptly imprisoned for bigamy, the Italian law considering her divorce null and void, her husband being and Italian, and, as such, not entitled to divorce.

As early as 1840 there were 425 paper mills in the United States.

Gold fishes should fast one day a week.