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MONDAY, JULY 23, 1934

The Bulgarian's coup d'etat was pulled off at 5 o'clock in the morning. The deposed government thought it was the milkman's horse.—Des Moines Register.

"Nationwide steel strike threatened." Going to strike while the iron workers are hot?—Omaha World-Herald.

The Housing Program
 The "man on the street" is intensely interested in how he may take advantage of the housing program which the Roosevelt administration has inaugurated.

The information is not immediately at hand, but these facts will doubtless soon be available.

It is known that the assistance must come through the regular agencies. That means the banks and building and loan associations will be asked to co-operate to the fullest extent in providing help.

The housing program is most worthy. Whether it will reach out and assist thousands who still live in unsanitary and inadequate homes is problematical. The Journal-Patriot hopes to give its readers every assistance by furnishing the most specific information available on developments in the program.

A Drama Of Life

We pick up the morning papers and read of tragic accidents costing the lives of dozens and think little about it. Yet when little two-year-old Bobby Connor disappears, we follow the story for several days.

His discovery unharmed only adds to the mystery.

The point of interest is how intensely interested we become in the fate of an individual, while thinking little of the fate of a whole group.

We have only to mention the names of Floyd Collins, the Lindbergh baby, Marian Parker or a dozen other individuals to bring to mind how a nation was stirred as they paraded across the pages of the newspapers.

These are the little dramas of life. The Connor episode is only one of these.

Strikes

It is impossible to give an accurate or full picture of the strike developments in the nation today. Almost each hour brings a new turn of events. Before this appears in print, the major strikes may be ended or near the point of arbitration.

But the point at issue remains the same whether the present labor disturbances are settled quietly or continue to the detriment of society as a whole.

General Hugh Johnson, vigorous NRA administrator, seems to have hit the nail on the head when he termed the attitude of labor and capital downright foolish.

For one thing capitalists should take labor into their confidence. Any business which is not welching on its employees should not hesitate to show its laborers—at least the leaders—the records on its financial condition.

As we see it, that is a certain way to end labor unrest. A business that is not prospering cannot afford exorbitant wages, nor can it operate on 30-hour weeks. If shown that the business is not making a fair return on the investment, labor should—and we trust would—hesitate to make unreasonable demands.

On the other hand, capital does not deserve unearned dividends. Capital does not make exorbitant dividends. It is labor that produces the extra dividends. If a company is making good financially, the workman deserves his part.

Capital has an opportunity to render a real service in this emergency by taking labor into its confidence. Labor in turn has an opportunity to take a reasonable attitude in the light of the actual facts.

This idea is new to us. It may have occurred to others. But whatever may be its age or youth, it seems reasonable. It occurs to us that it has great possibilities. It seems that here is food for thought.

Electrocutions

Those of us who read newspapers regularly and who would just as soon raise our breakfast as our newspaper, notice that during the past few months electrocutions have been almost a weekly occurrence at North Carolina's penitentiary.

However, we are missing the point and electrocution is failing in its purpose. We venture to assert that not one out of ten criminals of the lower type in Wilkes county know anything about how many people are being put to death or much of the horrors of electrocution.

Capital punishment, as we all know, has two purposes—to punish offenders and to deter others who may be criminally inclined.

Everybody knows there is an electric chair and that occasionally someone is put to death but serious thought about capital punishment rarely ever enters a criminal's mind.

The Book

By BRUCE BARTON

IN THE WILDERNESS
 John drew great crowds. He must have been a powerfully dramatic figure, his leathern girdle about his loins, eating his locusts and wild honey, and denouncing the eminent Pharisees and Sadducees as a "generation of vipers."
 Who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father; for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.
 Jesus felt the contagion of the movement. He also went to John and asked to be baptized, and John looking up and seeing Him on the bank uttered a noble testimony to the sort of boy and young man that Jesus must have been:
 I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?
 It is noteworthy that no sense of guilt or shame appears to have had a part in His religious experience at this point. He did not argue with John about their relative fitness to baptize each other. He felt that the spirit of devotion which was in Him demanded some outward expression, and John's way, through baptism, was the way that presented itself.

It was a wonderful day for Him. He had made His decision. He had put the old life behind Him. John, His popular and powerful cousin, had recognized His inherent power. From thenceforth, He would be a carpenter no longer, but a preacher like John, rebuking men for their sins, calling them to repentance. The day ended, night fell, and with it came the reaction. He went away into the wilderness and remained for more than a month in solitude, tortured by questionings and doubts. He felt power stirring within Him. How should He use it, and for what? The Gospel narrative dramatizes that period of self-searching by the appearance of Satan in persons with a three-fold temptation.

And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.
 The temptation to use His power for material success—money, comfort, ease.
 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple.
 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down.
 The temptation to achieve cheap fame by performing wonders.

Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;
 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.
 The temptation to become a political leader, to use the popular discontent and His strategic position as a working man's leader as a tool for His own advancement.

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Borrowed Comment

COST OF CANDIDATING
 Those candidates who have successfully run the gamut of either one or two primaries have put behind them their chief hurdle, perhaps, but even after their election in November, they will be able to sympathize with another runner for office who turned in the following truthful report of what it cost him to get elected:
 "Lost 1,349 hours of sleep thinking about the election, lost two front teeth and a lot of hair in a personal encounter with opponent; donated one boar, four shoats and five sheep to country barbecue; gave away two pairs of suspenders, four calico dresses and five dollars in cash; kissed 126 babies; put up four stoves; kindled 14 fires; walked 1,676 miles; shook hands with 9,508 people; told 10,101 lies and talked enough to make in print 1,000 volumes; attended 16 revivals and contributed \$50 to foreign missions; made love to nine widows (five grass, four sod); hugged 49 old maids; got bit by dogs 39 times, and was elected by 353 majority."—Exchange.

Senator Erickson, of Montana, who fell asleep while presiding over the senate, is still being congratulated on his presence of mind.—San Chronicle.

Riches are sometimes embarrassing, says an economist. Well, we will have to imagine our embarrassment.—Greensboro (Ga.) Herald-Journal.

The ever cynical Atchison Globe knows some men who think they are in business because they read trade journals.—Detroit News.

This Week In Washington

Washington, July 17. (Anto-caster).—When the Secretary of the Interior, Harold Ickes, called his staff of 4,000 employees together the other day and warned them against "soldiering" on the job, it sent a cold chill down the backs of nearly half a million Federal job-holders, even though the thermometer in this hot and humid city stood at 100 degrees in the shade. The idea that the departmental staffs are expected to do any real work in the summer is shocking, even to the seasoned civil servants. To the recent political appointees, who got on the Federal payrolls because they were efficient workers in the campaign of 1932, it is almost paralyzing. What sort of a reward is it, anyway, to have to do some work as well as drawing a salary?
 The idea is gaining strength here that Mr. Ickes is about as efficient an administrator, within the sphere of his department's activities, as has been seen in Washington for some time. He intends to get things done if everybody in his department has to sweat to get 'em done. What started him off on his disciplinary program was an incident that occurred when he went into the office of a minor bureau assistant and saw the occupant of it with his feet on his desk, reading a newspaper and smoking a cigarette.

How Work Drive Started
 The young man didn't know Mr. Ickes by sight, so when the Secretary of the Interior asked, mildly: "Is this the way you usually receive visitors?" the nonchalant reply was: "What's that to you?"
 Then the Secretary identified himself, and one young man in the Federal Service has been shaking in his boots ever since.
 That incident started Mr. Ickes on a quiet tour of inspection of the Interior Department. He found, as he told his assembled staff, many men and women in the cafeteria, after the time they were supposed to be at their desks, eating their breakfasts on Government time. He found many others spending more time in the rest-rooms than in their offices. Some of the feminine employees had got the feet-on-the-desk habit. Those things, he told them, must stop. The heads of departments and bureau chiefs are working overtime, days, night and Sundays, in all of the Federal offices, and he expected the subordinates to at least put in a full day's work. The hours are not onerous, seven hours a day for five days a week, and he didn't see any reason why they couldn't stand that amount of work.

Mr. Ickes, however, reckoned without the Washington climate. Every new administrator who comes to Washington, especially from the North, always tries to speed up the Federal machinery. Hundreds of earnest men have tried it ever since the National capital was established in the swamp on the banks of the Potomac. All that any of them have ever succeeded in doing was to wear themselves out and finally succumb to the climate.

Air-conditioning Essential
 Some of the new Federal buildings are air-conditioned, equipped with modern mechanism to keep the temperature and humidity at a comfortable degree all the year around. But none of the old ones and not all of the new ones have yet set up this modern method of enabling people to work in comfort. Both houses of Congress have air-conditioning systems, and so has the President's private office. Mr. Hoover had that done when the structure was rebuilt, after the fire that destroyed it in 1930.

Now President Roosevelt is

Relief Workers Meeting Planned

Will Meet in Boone Friday To Discuss Rural Rehabilitation

Raleigh, July 21.—NCERA farm and vocational agriculture teachers will meet in Boone July 27 to formulate plans for a fall and winter farming program under the rural rehabilitation division of the NCERA. The meeting was called by George Ross, state director of rural rehabilitation, and R. H. Thomas, state supervisor of agricultural education.

Counties to be represented at the Boone meeting are Alleghany, Ashe, Wilkes and Watauga. Aims of the program which is to be launched in the district embraced by the above counties, and in all sections of North Carolina, are to increase the vocational ability of farm families not on relief by teaching them better methods of planning and producing food for an all-year-round supply and better methods of curing, storing and preserving foods.

The program also is aimed towards giving instruction on rural problems and assisting in planning local rural rehabilitation programs by planning rotations, farm layouts, terracing, pastures and other land improvements and instructions in new and improved practices for both agriculture and local industry.

The vocational agriculture teachers, farm and garden supervisors, and case workers in each county will direct the work of the program and its supervision.

having his offices enlarged, and the whole wing of the White House will be air-conditioned. Some parts of the new Commerce building, the offices occupied by the Secretary and some of the higher officials, are also so equipped, but Congress has never been willing to appropriate money to extend the system to entire buildings.

Under the present Governmental system, whereby the President is handed a few billions to spend about as he pleases, it is expected that a fair slice of the Public Works Administration funds, which Secretary Ickes manages, will go toward removing the last excuse of Government clerks for loafing on the job. Not that it will put an end to loafing, but they will have to discover new excuses. No business institution in the world operated for profit could keep out of bankruptcy if its employees did not work two or three times as hard as most of the Federal civil servants ever work.

The City Beautiful
 The completion of the new Post Office Department building adds another to the majestic group of structure which are making Washington what its planner dreamed, more than a hundred years ago, the most beautiful city in the world. A good many Republican leaders are getting pretty sore, however, over the claims being broadcast by Democratic partisans that the present Administration is responsible for all the new architecture. So far all that the Democrats have done is to continue to carry out plans which were completely formulated years ago, and to finish some of the buildings which had been begun under the previous Administration.
 Some of them are not quite finished yet. The contract for window-shades for the new Post Office Department got tangled up in Government red tape somewhere, so Jim Farley and his aides keep the glaring sun out of their offices by the simple, if not decorative expedient of pasting sheets of typewriter paper on the window-glass!
 The temperature of the moon goes down as low as 400 degrees below zero.

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Chevrolet June Sales Highest Since June 1929
 Detroit, July 17.—Chevrolet's record-breaking sales continued their advance in June, shattering all monthly records since May, 1931, and achieving the highest June total since 1929, officials of the Chevrolet Motor Co. announced today. Retail sales for the month, as compiled from dealers' reports, were the basis of the announcement.
 The showing is considered especially notable in light of experts' predictions that automotive volume in general would fall off some 12 per cent during June. Instead of receding, Chevrolet sales showed a gain of more than 12 per cent. Dealers credit Chevrolet's new low prices, which took effect June 2, with upsetting the prediction so far as Chevrolet is concerned, and paving the way for this substantial increase.
 Cotton production in Egypt this year is expected to be double that of 1933.

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