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Business Before Country

Powered by war friction, the spotlight has been turned on the faults and shortcomings of America. Few agencies, institutions and even few individuals have escaped the glare of the tell-tale light. It is hard to believe that Americans would intentionally sell their country short, but working under cut-throat practices we have about sold our birthright for a mess of pottage. We have placed business before country and money before principle.

We don't like to think that the Standard Oil magnates, the General Electric, the Aluminum Company of America and a large number of other giant firms deliberately hamstringed American industry and forced this country into a second rate position when it came to matching the war effort in Germany. Recent light thrown on the patent system and cartel agreements would indicate that industrial leaders saw only the mighty dollar. They gambled with the fate of their country. They restrained trade by monopolistic maneuvering. Americans paid through their throats for any advancements they gained, one report stating that an article costing about \$5.50 per unit for manufacture was sold for more than \$500 to satisfy patent rights and cartel agreements. We not only surrendered our research gains, but we also made no claim to research gains advanced by other nations, Germany in particular. Every dollar gained for investors under the system is calling for many thousands today, and those dollars are coming from every group. When the final accounting is made, the investors or stockholders will have lost more than they gained, and the other millions will have spent billions that could have been saved had it not been for international maneuvering based on financial gain and void of principle. And those manipulators have the audacity to talk about slow-downs by workers in our war industries.

Bailey's Record

Playing the role of a people's democrat for the present, Josiah W. Bailey is seeking re-nomination and reelection to the United States Senate, but in doing so he does not pledge his efforts in representing the common masses for long. It is a habit with Mr. Bailey to hop on the wagon just prior to the primary and wander far, far away from the common people once his security has been established for another six years. Seeking reelection six years ago, Mr. Bailey told in a speech in this county how he had aided in clearing the roads of the Hoover cart. Those who had studied the record knew he was boasting of a task well done but virtually without his help.

Mr. Bailey has been in the Senate almost twelve years. Not a single constructive act done in the name of humanity is traceable to his efforts during that time. He has, for the most part, played the role of a self-appointed critic. He did not favor aid to the hungry. He dodged or otherwise refrained from going to the aid of a struggling agriculture. He kept company with another class.

At the present time Mr. Bailey is representing the people, possibly because the wishes of the people coincide with his own. But let Mr. Bailey say now and say in a loud voice where he will be and what we will do with this upheaval is ended and the peace is to be written and the readjustments are to be made. Will Mr. Bailey cuddle up in the corporation camp and ignore the common masses? Will he represent Josiah Bailey or will he represent his people, the common masses? Judging from his past record, Mr. Bailey will be a dangerous man for the common people to have in the United States Senate in a post-war period. His brilliancy is so often mentioned, but his power there will only able him to serve a selfish group better without bringing condemnation down upon his head from the common masses.

In R. T. (Dick) Fountain, Bailey's opponent in the coming primary, the common man has a real friend, a dependable friend, a friend who may not captivate Washington in a religious disguise, but who will be found on the right side when the entries are made in the record.

Mr. Fountain has very little money to invest in a campaign. If he had had money in

years gone by he would have been seated in high public office and not counted out by vote stealing in good old democratic North Carolina. Reputable historians will, in years to come, throw some interesting light on North Carolina politics, and then the people will know that much of the democracy about which we so loudly boast was little more than a controlled or dictated democracy.

North Carolina has a chance to start cleaning its senatorial house, and if action is not taken in that direction now it is highly probable that the common people will regret their indifference in the years to come.

Controlling The Floods Of Hatred

By Ruth Taylor.

When the snows melt on the far off mountain tops and the spring rains begin to fall, then those who dwell by the great river watch for flood waters. What may be life-giving streams to great parts of our land are devastating torrents to other sections. Flood control is a vital subject to those who dwell in the lowlands through which the rivers course.

The government engineers have made great strides in averting the damage of flood. They have built great walls to wall off the rivers; they have reforested great tracts of land to absorb the excess water; they have built great dams to hold back to torrents and to control their flow into other areas so they may make fertile great wastes.

All this is most essential—but even more necessary today is a system of hate control. As the fortunes of war wage and wane, and as grief and loss touch us more and more closely, there is growing in this land of ours increasing hatred and bitterness. Shall we let this flood warp and destroy much of what we hold dear?

We need to build walls of understanding to hold the hatreds out. For mutual understanding leads to mutual trust and in trust there is no hate.

We need to reforest the scarred places in our minds—scars caused by hatred, bitterness, despair and intolerance—to reforest them with understanding, compassion, friendliness and love.

We need to dam back the floods of hate with bulwarks of education—education in positive democratic living, in putting into practice in our everyday life the things in which we believe.

We need to divert the stream of hate into useful channels, concentrating it on an ideology, not on peoples or races—hating only the evil act or quality. Our hatred must run between such concrete walls of our wills, that we will not be guilty of either injustice or intolerance to any member of any group merely because of his race or crede or color, no more than we would want him to be guilty of these towards us. Thus and only thus can we control the flood waters of hate.

100 Plans For Post-War World

Smithfield Herald.

Here we have been laboring under the impression that all energy is being devoted to the task of winning the war but the Twentieth Century Fund Survey points out that more than one hundred governmental and private agencies are at work on post-war planning.

The survey shows that thirty-five governmental agencies, thirty-three private, eleven industrial and financial, sixteen trade associations and seven rail and highway, water and other transportation agencies are now busy formulating plans to lick the peace.

Certainly, it is intelligent to seek to devise a procedure to avoid the mistakes of the past and we hope that some of the agencies now busy will be able to protect the interests of the general public in whatever happens after the war is won.

The trouble with almost any private organization is that it tends to over-emphasize the importance of its group and overlooks the rights of other sections of the population. It may be, with so many at work, something like justice will be recommended, at least.

A Breach In The Home Defense

Christian Science Monitor.

War plays subtle tricks. It strikes where least expected. Sometimes the attack is far from the field of battle, as when war sends its spearhead of hysteria deep into the juvenile mentality and young gangs run amuck.

Recently a band of 13- to 16-year-old boys were apprehended for a series of nearly fifty robberies. This happened in a city in Massachusetts. It is not an isolated case. Similar things are happening all over the Nation.

Juvenile delinquency is on the climb. In England during its first year of war, juvenile delinquency among children under 14 jumped 41 per cent.

There is an undercurrent of tension these days. The children sense it. Older brothers are off to war. Parents are occupied with war work or civilian defense jobs. Relaxation of discipline occurs in many homes.

Everyone seems to have "war work" except the youngsters—these 13- to 16-year-olds. They are old enough to feel the war, too young to have a part in it.

Fortunately the danger to the community is recognized. Settlement houses, youth organizations, public playgrounds, and camps are speeding up a major offensive against the menace of wartime delinquency. It will take concerted effort to mend this breach in the home front.

Here, surely, is an opportunity for a civilian defense job of the most vital sort.



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