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TOP OF THE MORNING

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

—Hebrews 12: 1.

Legion Acts Quickly

Wilmington Post No. 10, American Legion, deserves high praise for its promptness in seeking to have this vicinity designated as a test area, such as Michigan has been, for treating veterans with service-connected disabilities by physicians in private practice or provided with hospital accommodations, when hospitalization is indicated.

That no time was wasted is indicated by the fact that announcement of the plan in Michigan was first made on Friday and by Tuesday a conference among all interested parties had been called in Charlotte to determine what steps remain to be taken for placing North Carolina on the same footing.

It is reported that 153 veterans requiring medical attention were present in New Hanover county, of whom only three had been accommodated at the Veterans hospital at Fayetteville. If the new plan is set in operation, and the whole state included, as the Veterans Administration believes it should be, these 150, and other veterans to come, should be in a much better situation for medical care than they have been in the past—all because the Legion post got on the job quickly.

Furthermore, with the effort already under way to have Fort Fisher hospital designated for veterans, and with the deactivation of the Army Airport at Bluetenthal field, another hospital available, it is reasonable to think that either one or both will be utilized, since national and state authorities have been advised of the actual situation.

Up To Congress

The surest way to prevent wildfire inflation is to bring production of consumer goods up to meet consumer demands, which because of the money and bonds in private hands are larger than ever before.

The surest way to create run-away inflation is to increase the pay of union workers and through strikes cut production and service to a minimum.

Unless production is increased and unless individual revenue is held in bounds, the United States is in for a period of inflation that can end only in such a financial collapse as to make the 1929 depression seem like prosperity.

So long as there is only a limited supply of consumer goods to be purchased and excess cash is in hand for the buying, no price ceiling can prevent the greatest black market in the world, for no other people are so well fixed to squander as Americans.

These things are so obvious it is hard to understand why necessary steps have not been taken to keep the nation on a level financial keel—why Congress has

not enacted needed laws to keep labor on the job in the most trying period of the nation's history.

The strikes now in existence and the others soon to come are, in the final analysis, as menacing to the national security as when it appeared inevitable that Hitler should invade our shores. Why, then, should it be so hard for Congress to recognize a peril at home, when it was so quick to see the peril from abroad?

We do not know the answer. But one thing is certain. Congress must do something to halt union labor's increasing power and get striking workers back to work, as quickly as legislation can be enacted when it reassembles, or this, the greatest nation to emerge from the recent war, will be under labor's thumb and inflation will be in full swing.

A Thought For 1946

Thousands of sermons have been preached about the duel between David and Goliath, and platform orators have applied it time out of mind to their specific purposes, but another word or two concerning it seems due because of the snugness with which it fits the present situation, particularly in this nation which is as unprepared for great decisions as Saul and the hosts of Israel were unready to do battle with the Philistines arrayed against them.

For forty days these Philistines had sent Goliath forth to demand single combat with any warrior in Saul's armies, but none would meet him, until David, the eighth and youngest son of Jesse, sent by his father with supplies for three of his brothers in Saul's ranks, accepted the challenge with no other armament than a sling and five stones in his shepherd's pouch and with his first shot slew the giant and put the Philistines to flight.

Here was a youngster without mail or other protection meeting a champion in helmet and with a great sword in his hand. He dared not stop lest the giant rush him, nor could he flee for Saul's soldiers would jeer him. So he ran forward, fitting a stone to sling as he ran, and cast his shot at top speed with deadly accuracy.

But it is not David's skill, as much as his courage, that engages attention here. There was no faltering, no indecision, no weighing the consequences of failure, in that race toward Goliath. David had a job to do; it must be done forthwith and without a quivering nerve. David had five stones, to be sure, but he must have known that only one could be used. That one must go straight to the target. There was such a demonstration of courage and singleness of purpose in that combat as history has not elsewhere recorded.

With so many momentous decisions to be made in the year we welcome today, ranging from atomic energy control to inflation, from relations with foreign and not wholly friendly powers to relations with neighbors next door and relatives under the same roof, the need is for more of David's courage, of fearlessness for the right, of nerveless accuracy against the Goliaths whose slaves we should be if we trembled as Saul's soldiers did before the Philistines.

Editorial Comment

GENERAL BOOTH

On the eve of her eightieth birthday, General Evangeline Booth of the Salvation Army was asked if she foresaw a better world. "We are already in a better world," she said. It is a better world than the one into which she was born in East London on Christmas Day over three-quarters of a century ago. The United States is a better country than it was when she came here forty years ago to become Commander of the Salvation Army. With the war drums now still, it is a better world than it was on her last birthday. Under the burden of our daily cares it is easy to compare the present adversely with the past. But we are making progress, as this indomitable woman, who has worked all her life in the service of her fellow-men, is in a position to know. There is abroad today, she says, a determined will for world peace and an end of oppression of all peoples. If she is not down-hearted at 80, why should we of many lesser years be discouraged.—New York Times.

AN OLD TREE IS CUT DOWN

One of the largest trees ever cut in Maryland—a tulip poplar—recently was harvested in Cecil county. Seven feet in diameter at breast height, it was 202 years old—There was no evidence of decay in any part of the tree, which was a seedling not many years after the birth of George Washington and some 34 years before Maryland's first governor took office.—Maryland Tidewater News.

Fair Enough

By WESTBROOK PEGLER

(Copyright, 1945, By King Features Syndicate.)
NEW YORK, Dec. 31—Challenged on a recent assertion in these dispatches that victims of outrage by unions, could sue them for slander, breach of contract or organized and directed assault or vandalism, I should like to present the gist of that interesting dissent, then I shall offer another opinion, by a judge, unexpectedly upholding my own belief. As a preliminary, let me say that most Americans including, I believe, most lawyers, think that neither an individual nor a corporation has any remedy in such circumstances. Thousands of victims have endured gratuitous abuse without protest, and the union executives reflect a belief that their unions cannot be held responsible.

My theory that they can be sued and punished has elicited the following discussion by an attorney in Washington:

"Your statement, unfortunately, is not correct, or to put it more accurately, is correct only to a very limited extent," he writes. "Whether a union is suable in its own name or as an entity is entirely dependent on the law of the particular state in which the suit is brought. In New York, for instance, unions can be sued in their own names. In a majority of the states, however, it is not true. Where it is not true, the only recourse is to sue individual members who may be difficult to identify. A suit against individual members who may not be financially able to respond to a judgment is a poor substitute for a suit against the union, itself, which, under modern conditions is ordinarily quite able to respond in damages.

"Not only is this condition chaotic because dependent on varying state laws but, to make it worse, the federal courts are required to apply the state laws. It has seemed to me that if unions are to function as entities and are to make contracts under which they assume definite obligations, they ought to be answerable universally in suits filed against them as entities in breaches of contracts."

The effect of the enforcement of the Wagner Act, is that the national government compels employers who are suable for breach of contract or other misconduct to make contracts with unions which cannot be punished for their own violations of those agreements. I do not know whether the Supreme Court ever had decided whether such contracts, entered by the employers only under government compulsion, are valid. Obviously they should not be but, considering the present makeup of the court, it is almost safe to assume that the majority, by some twisted reasoning, would hold that the parties were equals and that the employer must fulfill his obligations while the union need not. The combined effect of opinions written by Felix Frankfurter and by James Byrnes, in the teamsters' case, has been to confirm the vast powers of unions for evil and to hold them irresponsible and immune.

Coming now, however, to a recent decision of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in a libel suit by the Pullman Standard Car Company against Local 2928 of the C.I.O. Steelworkers, we find all three judges in agreement that the law of Illinois governs the case. On that basis they found that certain individual defendants who published a statement alleged to be false and harmful to Pullman's reputation could be sued. A decision of the District Court dismissing the suit against them was reversed.

Judges Kerner and Major held, however, that the Illinois law did not permit Pullman to sue the union, itself. They held that even though Congress did not intend to deprive a state of the right to determine who could be sued in its courts.

Dissenting and contending that the union may be sued, Judge Sparks wrote: "In 1845, Illinois enacted a statute that the common law of England, so far as the same is applicable and of a general nature, and all acts or statutes of the British Parliament made in aid of, and to supply defects in the common law . . . shall be the rule of decision" in Illinois. "Admitting that under the original rule a union was not recognized as a legal entity and could neither sue nor be sued, as such, he argued, however, that the British courts had since held the contrary and that the Illinois courts were bound to regard the steelworkers' local as a legal entity.

An English opinion which he cited, said: "The principle on which corporations have been held liable in respect of wrongs committed by its servants or agents . . . is as applicable to the case of a trade union as to that of a corporation. If the contention of the defendant were well founded, the legislature has authorized the creation of numerous bodies of men capable of owning great wealth and of acting by agents with absolutely no responsibility for the wrongs they may do. They would be at liberty to disseminate libels broadcast and their victims would have nothing to look to but the pockets of the individuals."

Judge Sparks pointed out that many citizens of Illinois had been compelled to deal with unions as legal entities "mug for their sorrow," and that unions make leases and contracts in their official names.

The union, he observed, had been given the right to act in its own name and, as an entity, to enforce contracts and had voluntarily accepted that status. Therefore it must be assumed that Congress intended that the employer could seek relief from the union in court.

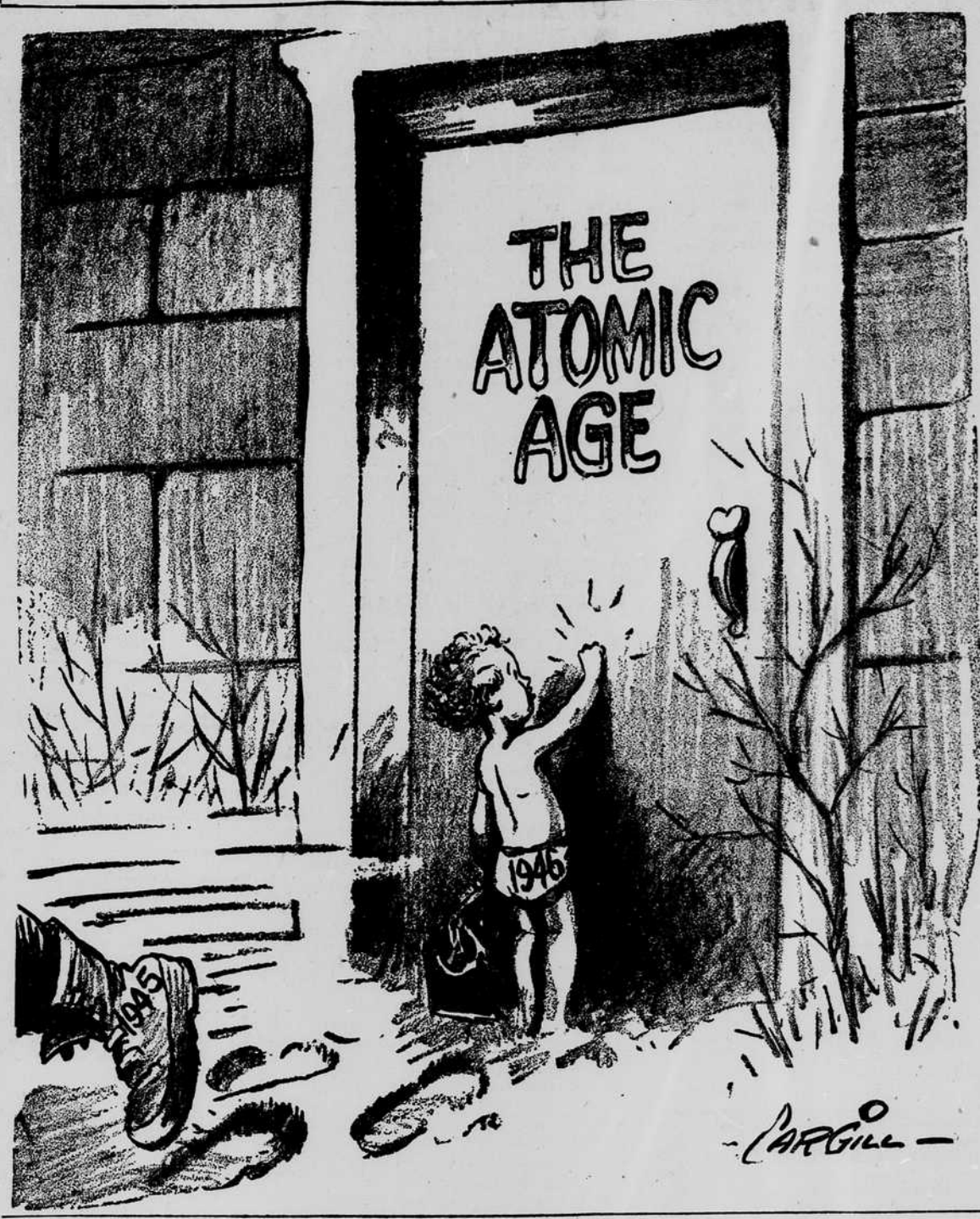
I seem to remember that the same contention has been advanced here, though in less stately language, several times in the last few years. And for answer I have heard only the paradoxical plea that the giant unions, with hundreds of millions in their treasuries, are so puny that they cannot accept equality in the courts but must have an advantage over a widow running a roadside hamburger stand, or a returned veteran who has been blackballed for criticizing some thieving boss-union leader and would like to sue the union for recognition of his right to work.

QUOTATIONS

Let no one imagine that a free democracy will be endangered by giving its youth a year of military training. The experience will be invaluable for needed discipline—too often lacking at home—for health, and for consciousness of the duties of a citizen.—The Rev. Ernest M. Stires, retired Episcopal Bishop of Long Island.

Our attitude toward Franco (Spanish dictator) was made quite clear in a speech I made some time ago. It has not been changed. We detest the regime.—Ernest Bevin, British Foreign Secretary.

THE CHILD DESERTER



Many Europeans Homeless As 1946 Opens Grim Winter

BY VIRGIL PINKLEY
UNITED PRESS STAFF
CORRESPONDENT

LONDON, Dec. 31. — (U.P.) — A shabby, sordid Europe enters 1946 facing the grimmest winter in 300 years, an extensive United Press survey showed today. Badly in need of a clean up and paint job the continent is lacking in spirit or optimism. At least 500,000,000 Europeans continue to live on war-time food rations which vary between 1,000 and 2,000 calories per day, well below the standard for North and South America. The survey revealed that 40,000,000 and 50,000,000 homeless as the result of a war fought in the front and back gardens of European countries.

In all parts of Europe, except possibly Sweden and Switzerland, there is practically no heat, fuel, clothing or transportation. Coal, electricity and domestic gas supplies are the lowest in history with no immediate prospect of improvement. Widespread use of sulfa drugs, penicillin serums and extensive health campaigns have checked threatened plagues of typhoid and typhus. However, tuberculosis, rickets and venereal diseases are definitely increasing. Medical experts worry about the health of children. In many countries such as Poland, Italy, Greece, Spain and Portugal hundreds of thousands of children are barefooted and only the recent mild weather has prevented serious outbreaks of influenza and pneumonia.

On the eve of 1946 millions wander homeless and more millions face famine, exposure and pestilence unless food supplies, heat and medical aid are miraculously increased during the next few months.

Britain can best be described by the phrase — "there's less of everything than a year ago and what little there is is far more expensive."

A definite black market is developing. During the war Britons abided strictly by the rules, but after six years they are willing to pay black market prices for the few comforts they can get.

There is less coal, electricity, transportation, clothing and housing here than at anytime since 1939. Queues are longer and there is less at the end of the line. Food rations have been reduced twice since V-E day and clothes once. The labor government's plans to improve life are as yet ineffective due to the lack of essential manpower, raw materials and shipping.

Conditions which confront other European countries are told in the following highlight dispatches from United Press correspondents, trained observers in their respective countries:

Tenry Shapiro, Moscow: Food rationing continues, but it is slightly less rigid. Bread rations are adequate with the possibility of a minute increase next month. The meat and sugar shortage remains critical. A first category worker gets 900 grams of sweets per month in the form of sugar candy and biscuits depending on the availability, and one kilo 200 grams of fats, including butter, lard and vegetable oil. Te devastation of more than 1,000 towns and tens of thousands of villages has resulted in a housing crisis in which hundreds of thousands live in ruin, dugouts and tents. A corner room in Moscow is worth a small fortune. Moscow is warmer than Paris or London due to the plentiful supply of wood and peat, but a coal shortage necessitates electricity rationing—in some districts it is available only between dusk and dawn. The Soviet Union is free from major epidemics, but drugstores could use more drugs and medical supplies such as cotton, iodine, aspirin and bandages.

Charles Arnot, Berlin: So far sacredness of life, and of the times in which we live.

Our highest ambitions rarely reach the level of Thy plans for our lives, O Lord; and we pray that in this New Year we may have the insight and the courage to dare to be all that Thou hast designed for us. Amen.

Q. Several months ago I tried to get a loan to buy a house. It suited my needs perfectly, but when I asked approval of the purchase by the government representative, I turned it down. He said the price was too high. Since then I have looked at all the available houses in my town but they are all about the same price. I understand now that you can pay more for a house under the new GI Bill passed by Congress. What do you advise me to do? I still want to buy the house I selected first.

A. The new law does not say that a price has to be "normal" in order to be approved for a guaranteed loan by the government. As long as the price is

doctors have successfully fought epidemics and almost 2,000,000 Berliners have been vaccinated against typhoid. Except for the Russian gift of 40 pounds of coal per person in October there has been no fuel for homes. Food rationing is set at a bare subsistence level.

Leo S. Dishar, Prague: The Czech diet average between 1,000 and 2,000 calories daily but it is radically short of proteins and fats. Fruits and vegetables do not exist, eggs are reserved for small children and the very ill and everything edible is rationed. Prague is overcrowded. Coal, electricity and gas are short and there is no hot water.

Ralph Forte, Madrid: The recent record breaking drought ruined the harvest and unless hundreds of thousands of tons of wheat can be imported from the United States and Argentina a severe food shortage looms for February. Food obtained legally by ration card would hardly keep a strict vegetarian alive and the black market flourishes. Cost of living is highest in years. Health is generally good.

Dudley Ann Harmon, Paris: The Frenchman faces the New Year wearing a six-year-old suit and working 24 hours a week due to the shortage of coal and electricity.

The food supply is minutely improved over last year when the town dweller went through the winter months without meat and fats. Today he receives 200 grams of meat a week. Bread rationing resumes tomorrow. Some families live in cellars or temporary barracks. Small quantities of coal, wood and sawdust take off the chill.

Robert Meyer, Rome: Hundreds of thousands are homeless and others live in wrecked buildings and caves. Harvest was the worst in years. There are no children's shoes. Tuberculosis, rickets and venereal diseases are increasing.

"reasonable" it is all right. Make another application for the loan and the chances are, if all the prices are up in your city, you will get the approval under the new law.

Q. Early in the war I enlisted with the Canadian Air Force. Since then I have been honorably discharged and have returned to my home. I want to go to college but they tell me in Canada I have to attend school there to get Canadian education benefits. A friend told me that under the new GI Bill I can now attend school in the United States. Is this true and how does it work?

A. Under the new GI Bill passed by Congress, Americans who served honorably with any Allied Army during World War II are now eligible for the benefits of the GI Bill of Rights.

Q. My son was attending college under the Army training program but he was never able to get any benefits under the GI Bill of Rights when he got out. Does the new law change this?

A. No. Questions will be answered only in this space—not by mail.

Mines laid by Nazi submarines closed the entrance to New York harbor for a 30-hour period in November, 1942.

The Doctor Says— DIABETICS NEED MUCH TRAINING

BY WILLIAM A. O'BRIEN, M. D.
The physician who diagnoses diabetes in his patient plays the most important role in the outcome of the disease. The patient should be told quite frankly the nature of his disease, the fact that it probably will last his lifetime, and the necessity for continuous scientific care. The new diabetic has many things to learn, and a hospital stay is helpful in getting a good start.

Every case of diabetes is an individual problem. Management of the disease is not difficult, but it is time-consuming. Purpose of diabetic treatment is to prevent loss of sugar through the urine, to prevent an abnormal breakdown of protein and its conversion into sugar, and to hold fat metabolism in check. Proper treatment will make the patient look well, feel well and enjoy life. All diabetic patients must be taught to test their own urine and keep themselves sugar free.

Good diabetic management is based upon proper diet. Although various diets are used, there is one point on which all agree; that is to keep the total calories down so the patient stays slim. When overweight is corrected, diabetes improves. The various diets also are in agreement in mineral, protein and vitamins recommended; the only variation is in amounts of fat and sugar prescribed.

Diets vary with age, sex, weight and occupation of the patient. New diabetics usually are started on a simple diet and alterations are made as indicated.

Insulin is given to diabetic patients to compensate for deficiency of the pancreas. A normal person secretes a small amount of insulin at all times, and a large amount when he eats starch and sugar. The average diabetic patient injects a single dose of protamine insulin each morning, which works slowly, lessening the danger of insulin shock resulting from an overdose. Hunger, weakness, sweating, trembling and apprehension are signs of beginning insulin reaction, and unless the condition is corrected, loss of consciousness may follow. A small amount of sugar by mouth usually will correct the condition.

The Literary Guidepost

BY DAVID TAYLOR MARKE

DEMOCRATIC EDUCATION. A Report on the Colleges, by Benjamin Fine (Crowell; \$2.50). Whether higher education? This is a question of more than passing interest to all citizens at a time when the GI Bill of Rights has focused attention on the American college.

The nation's educators agree themselves divided on the answer. Some, led by Dr. Robert M. Hutchins of Chicago, would like to see college curriculums adhere to a study of the classics. Others, led by Dr. John Dewey, advocate a system of education that would be more immediate and practical. To throw further light on the problem Dr. Fine has made a survey of 5,000 veterans who have returned to college, to determine what they want from their education. He has polled, too, parents and high school students to learn their views.

Dr. Fine's extremely readable analysis and his conclusions are perhaps best epitomized by the following anecdote:

A professor and ferryman were rowing at sea, when the professor asked:

"By the way, did you ever study Latin?"

"No," came the answer, "I never did."

"Too bad," said the professor, "one-quarter of your life is gone. . . Did you ever study philosophy?"

"No," the ferryman replied.

"Too bad," said the professor, "half your life is lost. . . Didn't you ever take a course in early Greek civilization?"

"No; not even that."

The professor shook his head sadly. "Three-quarters of your life is gone."

"By the way," interrupted the ferryman, "did you ever learn to swim?"

"No," the professor replied, "I never had time for that."

"Too bad," said the ferryman, "your whole life is lost. The boat is sinking."

GERMAN EDUCATION AND RE-EDUCATION, by Susanne C. Englemann (International Union Press; \$2).

The re-education of Germany is today one of the most crucial problems we face. But unless we understand the German educational background we are doomed to failure. Dr. Englemann's analysis of German education from the time of the Empire is concrete and accurate. It is of interest to everyone concerned with the causes and cures of aggressive militarism.

POLKA DOT TIE TRIPS OFFICER IMPERSONATOR

BOSTON, Dec. 31.—(U.P.)—James Hemingway, 19-year-old Negro from Washington, was given a suspended three-month jail sentence today for impersonating an Army corps captain.

The policeman who arrested Hemingway testified he became suspicious when he saw the youth wearing non-military hip boots and a polka dot tie.