

Report On Albea Is That Condition Is Improving

Reports coming from the Veterans Hospital in Columbia, S. C., are that Councilman Albea is making rapid progress toward recovery. The crutches have been discarded, also the "walking stick" and that it will not be very long before he will be back with us again. His friends have been much concerned over Brother Albea, who has undergone a long siege and much suffering, but is now in good spirits and fine fettle.

A WIFE'S SOLILOQUY

You're far from an Adonis; you're fat and rather bald—Just an average husband is what you would be called. You fall asleep while reading and goodness how you snore! The jokes you keep repeating quite often are a bore. You grumble at expenses and wonder "what's the use?" Then indulge your family at the least excuse. You're not a Wall Street wizard, a genius or a star, But I am now confessing I like you as you are!

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Facing the Facts

With PHILIP PEARL

This is one session of Congress the organized labor must keep its eye on. It now appears certain that the legislators, or law, doctors are planning an immediate operation on the National Labor Relations Act.

The American Federation of Labor and its four million members are deeply interested in this operation. We intend to stand by and see to it that the proper diagnosis is made, that only the diseased parts are cut away. We will insist that healthy tissues be substituted for infected tissue, but we will refuse to permit amputation of any vital organs.

Remember, the American Federation of Labor sired the National Labor Relations Act. It is our baby. Unfortunately, it fell into the hands of the wrong government—the present National Labor Relations Board. This board, unwise, impractical and irresponsible, was totally unfitted to bring up the child properly and it sickened it. Therefore, we say to Congress—change the government. Give us a new National Labor Relations Board. And adopt certain fundamental rules for the guidance of the new board and any future board so that it will not lead the law astray again.

It is a comfort, at any rate, that Congress at last has determined to act. The conduct of the National Labor Relations Board and its staff has become a national scandal. The complaint and warnings submitted by the American Federation of Labor at the last session of Congress has been fully corroborated by events. Even the Supreme Court of the United States has put its finger on the unfairness of the present situation.

CONGRESS HAS THE REMEDY

Erroneously, the Supreme Court's decision in the Pacific Coast Longshoremen's case has been interpreted as a defeat for the American Federation of Labor. That is not so. The court merely pointed to a serious defect in the law as it now stands. It said that Congress did not give the Circuit Court of Appeals the right to review certification orders by the board.

If a union is injured by an unjust certification of the proper collective bargaining unit, it can commence suit in a court of original jurisdiction, the Federal District Court. This is being done in the Longshoremen's case but it is a long and expensive process. Therefore, as the Supreme Court said, the remedy lies with Congress.

Congress has the remedy in its hands. It is contained in the amendments sponsored by the American Federation of Labor which were in-

roduced at the last session of Congress by Senator Walsh and Representative Barden.

These amendments were drafted with great care to cover every defect in the law and its administration which has arisen since its enactment. Some of them are too technical to explain to the layman in the brief space allotted to this column. But we feel it may be helpful and instructive to reiterate here the key amendments for the adoption of which the American Federation of Labor will fight with all the resources at its command at the session of Congress. Here they are:

THE PROGRAM

1—Bargaining Unit—This amendment provides that employees in a plant must be accorded their right to decide for themselves the unit in which they are to be classed for the purposes of collective bargaining. For the board to decide the proper unit without letting the workers choose, is to deprive them of the fundamental and self-representation and self-determination. By assuming such authority in the past, the board has seized the power of life and death over trade unions. That is very dangerous. It is the first step toward government control of unions and in some countries has led to Government dictatorship. We are fighting now to restore and preserve the freedom of workers and the independence of their trade unions. There is nothing in this amendment to prevent workers from choosing a plant-wide, industry-wide or nation-wide unit for collective bargaining. There is nothing in it for legitimate industrial or semi-industrial unions to fear. There is nothing in it that can upset established systems of collective bargaining. The amendment merely affirms the right of workers to decide for themselves who their representatives shall be. This is a fundamental and inalienable right. An underhand attempt has been made to steal it away. The amendment will circumvent this conspiracy.

2—Labor Board—This amendment abolishes the present National Labor Relations Board and its present administrative setup. It will substitute a new Federal Labor Board of five members to be appointed by the President. Only in this way can we get the thorough house-cleaning which all fair-minded persons now realize is necessary. Only in this way will it be possible to obtain fair, just and impartial administration of the law. The present board has lost the na-

Meeting of Typos Held Sunday, Jan. 7

The regular monthly meeting of Typographical Union, No. 388, was held Sunday, and while the attendance was far below the average, there were enough present to make the affair one of much interest. Reports of committees, discussion of various subjects of interest to the membership and the regular routine was gone through. All in all 388 got off to a good start, with prospects of a good year in view. Letters of appreciation were read from those who received Christmas remembrances from the local. President Stalls presided with Secretaries Sykes and Beatty at their posts.

Nutritional Ills Hit Growing Crops

Lack of Vital Elements in Food Causes Loss.

CHICAGO.—Growing crops suffer from nutritional diseases which are the counterpart of rickets, scurvy, pellagra and beri beri among human beings, a report by the Middle West Soil Improvement committee sets forth.

"With crops, as with human beings, these diseases which threaten health and life are caused by a lack of vital food elements and by dependence on a one-sided diet," the report declares.

"Plants, like human beings, flash tell-tale distress signs when deficiencies in diet menace their existence.

"From the experience of the crop season just closed, farmers may determine how the lack of important plant foods in their soil spelled the difference between profitable yields and poor, unthrifty crops.

"For example, corn which lacks nitrogen develops a streaked, yellow leaf. The yellowing starts at the tip and progresses along the mid-rib. When corn is starving for potash, the edges of the leaves are scorched and a spotty, yellow streaking spreads over them. The plant produces chaffy, low-quality ears of poor feeding value.

"Millions of dollars were lost this year, as in the past, from wheat and oats which lodged because of a lack of phosphorus, potash, or both of these elements.

"Signs of plant food starvation are easily detectable on legume crops. Alfalfa and clover which desperately need potash develop white spots around the edges of the leaves and then spread like measles over the entire surface. Unlike measles in human beings, this ailment is usually fatal, for the leaves turn yellow and die.

"With crops, as with human beings, the cure for diet deficiency lies in providing fertilizer containing the correct plant food elements properly balanced to insure vigorous, healthy growth. The three essentials for soil fertility are nitrogen, phosphorus and potash. Each has a job to do. None can do it all by itself. The healthy development of the plant is dependent on all three."

Niche Is Given to Eagle Chosen for Coin Model

TAMPA.—A bald-headed eagle which served for 28 years as model for the emblem of the United States on coins, currency, bonds and other official federal documents, now adorns a wall in the Tampa post office.

The big, mounted eagle, whose picture was reproduced on billions of dollars of money and certificates, was presented to post office officials here by Col. Frank Burke, former Tampan and executive aid to the chief of the United States secret service.

A plaque giving a history of the bird hangs beneath the cypress roost in the post office on which the bird now rests. It relates that the eagle was captured on Prince William sound, Alaska, and presented to the National Zoological park in Washington. The eagle died in 1911 and was stuffed and presented by the bureau of engraving and printing.

tion's confidence through its own fairness and it must go.

3—The right of the board to abrogate valid collective bargaining contracts between bona fide labor unions and employers must be clearly defined and restricted.

That's the story. If Congress enacts these progressive and constructive amendments, it will earn the thanks of the whole organized labor movement and the nation.

Ann Page

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Travel in United States Near Record Proportions

WASHINGTON.—Travel in the United States has approached record-breaking proportions this year, but attendance at many national parks has been sharply reduced, according to figures released by the department of interior.

The American Automobile association attributed the increased travel to the New York and San Francisco world fairs, and blamed the drop in park attendance to an increase in the number of parks charging fees for admission, automobiles, motorcycles and guides.

Parks where such fees are charged for the first time this year, reported that in the 10 months ending July 31, 1,612,477 persons visited there parks compared with 1,757,227 in the same period last year, or a drop of 8.2 per cent.

Attendance at parks where fees had been charged in previous years but were unchanged by this year's ruling totaled 1,671,622, as compared to 1,499,149, or an increase of 11.5 per cent over last year. However, parks still free of all charges gained 19.7 per cent for that period, with an aggregate total of 1,112,993 for 1939 and 929,618 in 1938.

Full-Blooded Indians to Be Extinct in Five Years

ORLANDO, FLA.—F. B. (Flying Cloud) Zahn, graduate of the Carlisle Indian school and nationally known interpreter, believes that the full-blooded Indian will be extinct within five years.

Zahn said that Indians rapidly are being absorbed by the white race through intermarriage.

"They have not long to live as a racial entity," he predicted. "The time will shortly come when the Indians will be nothing but a memory."

Zahn says that actually the Indian is not a "red man" but a "copper man" whose origin had been established as Mongolian.

"Dress an Indian like a Chinese or Japanese and you would swear he is an Oriental," he said. "Dress a Chinese in Indian garments and you will take him for an Indian."

TAKE A BOW!

We know a successful tree surgeon who has several branch offices.

Some States are so heavily in debt in building roads that their highway bonds are two and three times more than the combined value of all cars in the State.

Gold Is Mined Easy Way Without Pick or Shovel

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA.—Kenneth Bennett, a shopkeeper of Creswick, has given up golf for gold mining.

His mine is on a piece of land he owns just outside the town. As mining is only his hobby, he does not believe in making hard work of it, and he has worked out the following system:

Go out to the mine, put a stick of gelignite in the bottom of it, climb out and wait for the bang, and climb in again and pick up the pieces.

No pick and shovel work about that. The other week he brought up a nugget worth \$250.

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