

Facing the Facts

With PHILIP PEARL

Adolph Hitler wiped organized labor off the face of Germany but he has not rendered it extinct.

This was revealed to the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor last week at its session in Miami by Frederik Stampfer, former Berlin editor and member of the Reichstag, who is now an exile from his native land because of his connection with the German trade-union movement.

Mr. Stampfer told about the dark days of the Nazi putsch when union offices were raided, their property and records confiscated and their leaders dragged off into concentration camps where they were executed immediately or condemned to a slow death by brutal forms of torture.

But some of the men escaped and today they are carrying on their work from Paris, from Copenhagen, from Switzerland and other havens safe from Hitler's avenging arm. They are spreading the truth about labor conditions in Germany—the pitifully low wages, the insufferably long hours and the forced labor which German workers are compelled to endure under the Nazi regime.

Mr. Stampfer, who is conducting such information work in this country in behalf of the German trade-union movement, also revealed that the truth is quietly being spread among the workers in Germany to confound Hitler's lying propaganda. He appealed for the aid of the American trade-union movement, as represented by the American Federation of Labor, in this campaign. It was quickly assured. The council instructed President Green to issue a call to all American Federation of Labor unions to contribute to this worthy cause.

CAN IT HAPPEN HERE?

It would seem that conditions which prevail in Germany and other totalitarian States could never happen in

this country. But there are signs that this may be a somewhat overconfident attitude. The Executive Council issued a solemn warning last week that the present policy of the Department of Justice in invoking the anti-trust laws against American Federation of Labor unions is a step in the direction of Government control of organized labor.

The Council pointed out that the Clayton Act which was adopted in 1914 clearly exempted farm and labor organizations from the provisions of the anti-trust laws. Yet in the last few months the Department of Justice has obtained twelve indictments against thirty-five American Federation of Labor unions charging violation of the anti-trust laws.

In the Council's statement it was explained that Mr. Thurman Arnold, the Assistant Attorney General who is in charge of the prosecution, is attempting to define what are and what are not the legitimate functions of a labor union and is seeking to make unions conform to his personal specifications.

If he is permitted to get away with this arbitrary and high-handed game, how far off is Government control of unions?

Fortunately, however, the American Federation of Labor is powerfully equipped to resist Mr. Arnold's efforts to place organized labor under the thumb of the Federal Government. The Council announced the issues involved will be carried to the highest court of the land and if the Supreme Court's ruling is adverse, Congress will be asked to amend the anti-trust laws again.

LEGAL JUGGLING

It is amazing how tricky lawyers can twist and misinterpret simple, declarative English. The Clayton Act was passed in 1914 at the insistence of organized labor because the courts had

been under the Sherman anti-trust law. Congressional committees consulted with Samuel Gompers and his associates. They deliberated together and chose language which seemed perfectly clear even to a layman. They drafted a law which declared that the labor of human beings is not a commodity and which provided in so many words that the anti-trust laws did not apply and must not be applied to labor and farm organizations. They thought their work well done and when the Clayton Act was overwhelmingly adopted by Congress and signed by the President, Gompers hailed it as the "Magna Charta" of labor. Yet look what the lawyers are doing with it today!

If this were a sincere move by the Department of Justice, the American Federation of Labor might be less resentful. But there is no question of doubt that the whole campaign was inspired by some of the C. I. O. "master minds" with the aid and assistance of fellow travelers in the Administration.

As the Executive Council said, it is noteworthy that all of the indictments to date are against A. F. of L. unions. Not a single C. I. O. union was investigated or indicted despite the sit-down strikes, the stay-in strikes, the quickies and the seizure of cities by Red-controlled C. I. O. unions. During all that time the Department of Justice never intervened.

The Council also reminded the public that the first batch of indictments against A. F. of L. building trades unions coincided with the C. I. O. drive to invade that field.

As a clincher, the Council revealed that Mr. Arnold is having the Federal Government intervene as a "friend of the court" to defend the position of a C. I. O. union against which judgement for \$700,000 damages was found under the anti-trust laws because it wrecked the property of the Apex Hosiery Company in Philadelphia in the course of a sit-down strike.

Mr. Arnold sees fit to indict A. F. of L. unions and defend a C. I. O. union in cases with these same issues involved! A pretty picture, indeed.

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TRUSTEE'S NOTICE OF REAL ESTATE

North Carolina, Mecklenburg County.

Under and by virtue of the power and authority contained in that certain deed of trust executed and delivered by Mrs. Montrose D. Phifer, widow, to the undersigned as Trustee, dated the 18th day of June, 1929, and recorded in the public register of Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, in Book 752 at Page 58, and because of default in the payment of indebtedness thereby secured and failure to carry out and perform the stipulations and agreements therein contained and, pursuant to demand of the owner and holder of the indebtedness secured by said deed of trust, the undersigned trustee will expose for sale at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at the usual place of sale in the Court House of Mecklenburg County in the City of Charlotte, North Carolina, at 12 o'clock, noon, on Monday the 18th day of March, 1940, all of those three lots of land lying and being in the City of Charlotte and more particularly described as follows: Lots 14, 15 and 16, in Square 9 as shown on map of the W. W. Phifer property recorded in the Register's office in Book 332 at page 95. Said lots fronting on the northerly side of East 15th Street.

This sale is made subject to all taxes, assessments or encumbrances which may now or in the future constitute a lien against the said property.

This sale will be held open for ten days for increased bid as by law required.

This the 4th day of February, 1940.

W. W. LAURENCE JONES, Trustee.

Feb. 15, 22, 29.

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NOTICE OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

State of North Carolina, County of Mecklenburg.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
J. J. Woodall, Plaintiff,
Vs.
Leslie Woodall, Defendant.

The above defendant will take notice that an action has been commenced in the above court by the above-named plaintiff against her for a divorce absolute on the grounds of two (2) years' separation and that she is required to appear before the undersigned and answer or demur to the complaint filed herein within thirty (30) days for the last issue of this notice or the plaintiff will ask the court to try the issue joined herein.

This the 5th day of February, 1940.

J. A. RUSSELL, Assistant, Clerk Superior Court.

Feb. 5, 15, 22, 29.

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