

FACING THE FACTS

With Philip Pearl

No matter how tough the going gets, let us all remember always we are Americans. Let us remember that Americanism means tolerance. Let us leave hate and prejudice to Hitler, Stalin, Mussolini and their disciples in Europe. We don't want any part of that here.

This plea and this prayer is occasioned by widespread reports that discrimination is rearing its ugly head in American life. Americans of foreign birth or origin are feeling the effects of this country's honest and forthright indignation against the policies and practices of the European dictators. Just because a man's origin is German, Italian or Russian is no reason why we should assume that he agrees with Hitler, Mussolini or Stalin. As a matter of fact most of our citizens who trace their ancestry to these European countries are refugees, or descendants of refugees, from the very things we abhor. That is why they and their parents came to this country in the first place. They refused to submit to tyranny and oppression, they sought freedom and independence, they were men and women of spirit and that's why they came here. That is also why there are good and true Americans.

The American Federation of Labor recognizes no distinctions of race, color or creed. Its tradition, like the American tradition, is an all-embracing conception of men and women as human beings, free and equal and aspiring to better their lot.

COUNSEL FROM THE PAST

Two generations ago, a convention of the American Federation of Labor adopted a credo which we are now reiterating here because of its eloquent statement of principle and because of its particular applicability to modern problems:

"This session of the American Federation of Labor marks an episode in the progress of enlightenment unparalleled in the world's history. We meet in solid phalanx, regardless of

creed, regardless of dogma, with national pride, but without international prejudice. The world is our field of action and man is our brother. We not only proclaim, under the unadorned and untarnished banner of trade unionism, but live the principles of liberty, equality, fraternity and justice.

"Ours is an affiliation of men of like interests, and of a kindred spirit. It is the natural growth of a sentiment for unity that binds and seals the compact for harmony, fidelity and fellowship. Our cause demands that there is no worker so deep down in the abyss of misery and despair that we dare refuse to extend a helping hand in his uplifting; that there is no high pinnacle of grandeur to which the toiling masses should not aspire to attain.

"The trade unions are of, by and for the wage-workers primarily, but there is no effort which we in our movement can make but what will have its beneficial, salutary influence upon all our people. The misery of the past, the struggles of the present, and the duty for the future, demand that no effort be left untried, that all energy be exercised, and opportunity taken advantage of, to organize the toilers of our country upon the broad platform of the trade union, in full affiliation with the A.F.L.

"The dim, distant past, with all its plain and travail, must give way to the better and brighter future for which the workers have borne the burdens, and made the sacrifices that the people of our time, and for all time, may be truly free."

DON'T EMULATE THE DICTATORS

Let us not forget these inspired words and this noble example set for American labor by those who came before us. Instead let us apply their good counsel to our present-day problems.

We well remember the prejudices that were stirred up by the last World War, even the silly demands that opera companies cease playing music by German composers. Let us not repeat such mistakes now.

\$707,835 EXPENDED IN N. C. BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FROM JULY 1, '33 TO JUNE 30, '40

Loans and outright expenditures of the Federal Government in North Carolina from July 1, 1933 to June 30, 1940, amounted to \$707,835,000, according to a statement made by E. Leigh Stevens, Staff Representative for North Carolina, Office of Government Reports.

Loans totaled \$206,614,000 and grants-in-aid and other expenditures amounted to \$501,221,000. In addition, the Federal Housing Administration insured \$37,597,000 worth of housing improvement notes and mortgages in North Carolina.

The following is a detailed list of the loans made in North Carolina from July 1, 1933 through June 30, 1940.

Farm Credit Administration	\$87,940,000
Commodity Credit Corporation	24,603,000
Farm Security Administration	11,990,000
Farm Tenant Purchase	3,505,000
Rural Electrification Administration	5,478,000
Federal Reserve Board	1,600,000
United States Housing Authority	463,000
Public Works Administration	9,041,000
Reconstruction Finance Corporation	26,623,000
Home Owners' Loan Corporation	32,910,000
HOLC and Treasury	3,361,000

Total\$206,614,000

The expenditures and grants are as follows:

Agricultural Adjustment Administration	\$100,701,000
Farm Security Administration	8,148,000
Other Agricultural	12,030,000
Rivers, Harbors and Flood Control	8,186,000
National Guard	3,241,000
Civilian Conservation Corps	65,503,000
Indian Service	64,000
Social Security Act	11,843,000
United States Employment Service	1,071,000
National Youth Administration	6,558,000
Public Buildings Administration	4,790,000
Public Roads Administration	42,205,000
PWA Federal Projects	11,520,000
PWA Non-Federal Projects	22,751,000
Work Projects Administration	81,381,000
Veterans' Administration	55,826,000
Miscellaneous Expenditures under ERA Act	58,111,000
All other	7,294,000

Total\$501,221,000

Grand Total\$707,835,000

INSURED LOANS:

Federal Housing Administration:	
Title I	\$8,288,000
Title II	29,309,000
Total	\$37,597,000

Prejudice is much more blind than justice. It fails to face or recognize facts. Would it not be ridiculous for some Americans to vent prejudice against other Americans of foreign ancestry if both were in agreement on points at issue? Yet that is what is likely to happen if we lose our grip on realities and become hot under the collar. Just because we despise Hitler, Stalin and Mussolini, we should take care not to emulate them but to deal justly with our fellow men.



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