

THE FRONTIER

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Economic Highlights

The NRA is at the crossroads. That is the opinion of almost all qualified Washington observers now. It is likewise the opinion of many high up in government. General Johnson recently said that a reaction against the blue eagle has set in, that it must be met by a new readjustment.

There is a growing feeling on the part of many business men that the NRA is tending to delay, rather than accelerate, the work of recovery. They feel that it has laid down rules of business procedure that are unnecessary, unjust and inimical to industry. That it has made its talons felt in fields that should be of no interest to government. When the blue eagle controlled wages and working hours, and was of social significance primarily, they were with it; when it soared into the realms of management and said what-was-what concerning routine matters, they started flying the other way.

The attitude of business didn't cause a great deal of concern on the part of NRA officials. They thought it was unavoidable that certain toes be stepped on. Now, however, other government bureaus, set up by the President for the most part, are becoming NRA's severest critics. The Federal Trade Commission, for example, has protested against what it calls monopolistic practices in the steel industry—made possible by the steel code and the abrogation of the anti-trust laws. The National Recovery Review Board has reported back to the President that the codes put small businesses at a disadvantage, give big business all the breaks. The Consumer's Advisory Board, which is a part of the NRA set up, has made an exhaustive report on the operation of the oil code, says that motorists are getting stuck to the tune of hundreds of millions a year as the rise in oil prices has been out of line with wage increases in the industry. And in the south, where they fear that the NRA may be used to destroy the wage differentials that have always existed between southern and northern workmen, they are saying that Sherman's march to the sea wasn't any more dangerous to southern interests than is the NRA.

First result of all this was that Mr. Roosevelt appointed a Cabinet committee to study the way industry is using its NRA-given price-setting power. Early reports indicate that price policies of some 200 codes may be changed. At the moment, if one big unit within an industry reports a price for a product, all other units usually fall in line. And the consumer is beginning to growl.

In addition, there is growing criticism of General Johnson, his methods, his organization, his assistants. A high court test of NRA constitutionality is coming soon. Its a crucial situation, and it vitally affects all the Roosevelt recovery policies, inasmuch as NRA is the heart which keeps them going.

Once again the question of silver has jumped into the national spotlight. The impetus behind the present drive to force up the price of the metal is the slowness with which farm prices are rising. Farm spokesmen want modified inflation, via the silver route, in order to bring agricultural prices up to what they say are necessary levels. And persons connected with the mining industry are naturally with them.

All-America Bridge Champion



David Burnstine and Shepard Barclay

ANNOUNCEMENT of the "Big Ten" in contract bridge for the past year shows David Burnstine of New York as the Champion of champions. He heads the list of Collier's all-America team by a wide margin. In the photograph he is shown with Shepard Barclay, bridge editor of Collier's, who makes the official selections from the year's tournament winners. Burnstine is the living answer to the question of whether

bridge can be learned from books. He began studying bridge eleven years ago, reading everything he could find in the Boston Public Library. He started applying this book-knowledge and has now completed the greatest winning year in the history of the game. He holds a greater number of championships than any other living player. He is 34 years old and pronounces the last syllable of his name "steen."

Then, beginning in 1935, the federal government would buy silver in the world market at the rate of 50,000,000 ounces a month, not stopping until one of two things had been achieved—the upping of the commodity price level to the 1926 standard, or the establishment of a world market price of \$1.29 per ounce for the metal.

Proponents of this and similar measures say that higher prices for silver will increase purchasing power, raise commodity prices to the level which the bulk of existing domestic debt was incurred, and thus bring recovery. Opponents say that it would make a great and unnecessary gift of money to silver producers, would undermine confidence in the dollar, and invite uncontrolled inflation.

There is the issue now. Mr. Roosevelt has said little on silver, except that he is opposed to anything as extreme as the Dies bill, and the belief is that he is seeking a middle road that will be reasonably satisfactory to all concerned.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

By Frank P. Litschert

One of the favorite arguments of the free traders and those who desire to promote foreign trade by reciprocal agreements with foreign nations is that our tariff, and the tariff barriers of other countries, have strangled our foreign trade and resulted in the depression. The fact is that they have gotten the cart before the horse. In the United States our tariff has been based on the cost of production at home and abroad. In Europe tariff barriers were raised as a result and not as a cause of the depression.

It is generally known, although the free traders like to minimize the fact, that our foreign trade comprises less than ten per cent of our total trade. In other words, we sell more than ten times as much to ourselves as we ship abroad, even in normal times. Now if the tariff has destroyed our foreign trade, then why is it that our domestic trade has declined in proportion as much, if not more, than our foreign trade?

The fact is that our present tariff law has had nothing to do with the decline in our foreign trade. The decline resulted from the general depression, as did the decline in our domestic trade. Even the party now in power recognizes this. Although the Smoot-Hawley tariff was denounced by the now-majority party in the last campaign, it has not been repealed.

And, significant enough, our foreign trade is now increasing. It is increasing with the same tariff rates that we had when our foreign trade was decreasing. The reason it is growing now is that business is picking up all over the world. According to a report recently issued by the United States Chamber of Commerce, our domestic exports last year were greater than those of any other nation and our imports were greater than those of any other nation excepting only Great Britain. The majority of our import and export domestic lines showed a great improvement over the record of the year previous. The year 1933, according to the report, marked the turning point in world trade, just as it marked the turning point in our domestic trade and the domestic trade of other leading nations. The report continues:

"One of the encouraging features in

of our goods, but that our importers must pay more for what they buy abroad since they must buy with cheaper money.

But our increased trade cannot be accounted for by the arguments of the money theorists for the simple reason that our imports have increased even more than our exports. The Chamber of Commerce report shows that while 67 per cent of our export lines showed gains in 1933, 70 per cent of our import lines did likewise. It seems, therefore, that our world trade is increasing for reasons other than tariff reduction or cheap money. What is the answer? It is simple. Our world trade declined for four years because business was bad all over the world. It is increasing now because business is getting better all over the world. You don't have to be a tariff authority or a money expert to figure that out.

Random News Bits

A fine statue of William Jennings Bryan was dedicated on the banks of the Potomac river near Washington, D. C., and a sparkling address was delivered by President Roosevelt in which he extolled the great commoner. Governor C. W. Bryan, of Nebraska, was an honored guest at the ceremony.

Mrs. George Korab, of West Point, has been singing in the First Congregational church there since she was nine years of age and now her record is 56 years.

Scrapers, snow plows and shovels were used in "rescuing" snow fencing buried in sand by violent winds, not only in Nebraska, but in several surrounding states.

THE CIRCUS

A fellah made the suggestion the other day that this city construct a huge water tower on the banks of the Elkhorn, keep it full of river water and lay master pipes to the four corners of the city, giving residents the privilege of paying for pipes to carry this water to trees and gardens. His idea is to conserve household and fire water.

Some folks try for heaven,
Others buy and sell—
Some come eleven
Hot prospects lie in Yell.

Has anyone, anywhere, at anytime thought to thank the millions, is it 20,000,000, of people of German blood in the United States while the World War was on for their perfect behavior, in most cases, under very trying circumstances? It is the truth, the five year olds of that number of people, had they wished, could have paralyzed this country, burned every

railroad bridge, fired the country from stem to stern, utterly destroyed it, but to their credit they did not. A very few foreign spies pulled a very few tricks for their native land, that was all. The Germans in this country, well, they are the salt of this part of the earth.

Son: "Mama, what's field and track meat?"

Mama: "Those who make tracks in farmers fields, I guess."

Here's how one man started seven breaks in a leg-bone to healing right away: he found another man whose leg had been broken eight times. The seven break man says his leg was half cured as soon as he heard of the other fellow.

Detective found that stolen livestock always is turned over to a fence.

Wall street must lead to Agony avenue.

Among unusual experiences are two related the other day by Walter McNichols. Walter told of a companion, and of the two of being out north one night when heavy clouds overhead that were super-charged with energy about to explode. In crossing two little canyons it was noticed that in spitting, a peculiar fire illuminated the saliva to the astonishment of the men. Once out of the canyons, the phenomenon ceased. After walking through the canyons it was noticed that was the only places the illumination appeared.

The other oddity was noticed when McNichols was working out at the ranch of Patrick O'Connor, 10 miles southwest of O'Neill, when the Hanford plant here operated a steam engine. McNichols says the vibration caused by that engine were sensed by feeling and hearing at the ranch mentioned whenever the engine was in operation, 10 miles from it.

Dillinger's father asking newspaper folk the first thing and invariably, the question: "Is John safe?" should be answered right away. Yes John is safe, but—

The fellow who said "what one needs doing this job is a strong back and a weak mind" must have had both.

A colloquialism used here, and one that often brings a smile to the stranger, is when we say "over north" or "over south." Other places they say "up north" or "down south" or "south

of here." Small town folk back east often say "well, guess I will go over town." That should be a poor way to go up-town. So we are all alike, after all.

Her tombstone told a story
The life of Bertha I. Kann,
In language brief, yet flowery,
"I was the wife of a man."

Wife: "Do you like the big butcher?"
Husband: "With all my heart and stomach."

Wife: "Why so?"
Husband: "Because I never sausage such baloney in me life."

Maw: "Why do girls want to take sun baths at a colony?"
Paw: "The son shine there is hotter."

Kid McFuddle in a huddle
'Cause he lost his cash,
Used his noodle in Yankee Doodle
And lives on a rich moustache.

"Tickets for the great concert, tickets, tickets, come on everybody; greatest thing this side of Baffin's Bay. That's why we are yelling 'tickets' so you cannot enjoy the acts in the big top. This stuff here is child-play compared to the concert. Come one and all, see Ponderous Petersen knock out Huge Hunkadora. "If he should only knock him out, and do it for keeps.

EXECUTOR'S SALE

I will offer at public sale on
Saturday, May 12, 1934

commencing at 2 o'clock P. M., all the household goods in the residence of the late Mrs. C. K. Ernst, consisting of:

Good range, heating stove, electric washing machine, kitchen cabinet, 2 tables, chairs, beds, springs, mattresses, dressers, glass cupboard, lawn mower, hose, and other articles too numerous to mention.

TERMS—CASH

JOHN ERNST, Executor
JAMES MOORE, Auctioneer

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on **VALUE**

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"Standard quality plus our service means longer life for your car, pleasanter driving for you."



3 FINE GASOLINES

STANDARD RED CROWN SUPERFUEL Always the leader in both quality and popularity—now let out another notch to provide more live power per gallon, more mileage and economy. **18¢ gal.**

RELIANCE For dependability at lowest price **17¢ gal.**

3 FINE MOTOR OILS

ISO-VIS "D" The anti-sludge motor oil **25¢ qt.**

POLARINE Popular as ever **20¢ qt.**

RELIANCE Low priced but safe **15¢ qt.**

STANDARD OIL SERVICE
at these Standard Oil Dealers and Stations

STANDARD OIL SERVICE STATION
5th and Douglas, O'Neill

What's Back of
The Telephone Company
that Serves you

— so that you can talk anywhere, clearly, quickly and at the lowest possible cost.

Lift your telephone receiver and you are in connection with the Bell System—a System that provides telephone service through 25 companies in the United States, all interconnected to form a nation-wide network.

The Northwestern Bell Telephone Company is one of these companies. It operates in Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota.

The parent company of the Bell System is the American Telephone and Telegraph Company. Its scientists, engineers and other specialists constantly develop new and better telephone equipment to improve service and devise better ways of handling telephone calls and of conducting the various phases of the business.

Because this Company is a part of the Bell System it has the use of all the improvements—all the new methods and equipment that are perfected by the American Company. Behind your telephone is this national organization—with national resources—for the development and improvement of telephone service.

This Company's policy is to provide the best service at the least cost to the public consistent with fair treatment of employees and the financial safety of the business.

NORTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY