

## LIFE WITH THE EXPERTS

*{This department, dedicated to the thoughts of sundry prophets, solicits contributions from readers. Please attach the actual clipping or other documentary source of the prophecies that went sour. — THE EDITORS.}*

CORNELIUS V. STARR, publisher of the Shanghai *Evening Post & Mercury*, on October 4, 1940, in a New York *World-Telegram* interview:

Regardless of her bombast, Japan will under no circumstances risk actual war with America. . . . Why am I so sure the Japanese leaders are conscious of their own weakness? Because old and intimate friends among them still in positions of authority have repeatedly told me so.

PROF. ALBERT BUSHNELL HART, Harvard historian, in an Associated Press article on January 19, 1941:

I don't believe there is any likelihood of this country entering the war as long as she keeps Britain supplied with the arms and ships she needs.

SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS, upon the announcement of the Stalin-Hitler Pact on August 22, 1939:

A pact of non-aggression between Russia and Germany will be a great reinforcement for peace in Eastern Europe. At the same time, it is a lie to suggest it leaves Germany a free hand against Poland or anyone else.

SENATOR GERALD P. NYE, as reported by the Associated Press on February 27, 1941:

A very substantial number of U. S. Army troop transports now are assembled in Pacific Ocean ports, waiting to carry our troops to the Far East war theatre. Some of the troop transports were originally scheduled to sail from our shore about Feb. 28, 1941.

OSWALD GARRISON VILLARD, in a speech at Rutgers University on December 19, 1940:

The United States is not in the slightest danger of invasion either by sea or land or air, or for years to come, and therefore we do not have to rush with our defense plans.

WAR CORRESPONDENT JOHN O'DONNELL, in an NBC broadcast from Paris on November 26, 1939:

The hour of the inevitable armistice will arrive without the world witnessing a blood bath.

REAR ADMIRAL YATES STIRLING, JR., retired, in a United Press dispatch on September 15, 1939:

Don't be the least bit surprised if Italy abandons its support of Hitler.



Groups of people like this, meeting in blacksmith shops, in taverns, stores, and on street corners, demanded that the Constitution be amended to guarantee certain rights. Among these are Freedom of Speech... Freedom of the Press... Freedom of Religion... Freedom of Assembly.

## **To these Four Freedoms . . . add another**

**R**ANKING in importance with these freedoms is another that Americans have added . . . Freedom to Plan One's Own Future.

Nowhere on earth is a man so free to plan his own future as he is in America. Of all the world's life insurance, 70% is owned in the United

States where men, women, and children enjoy to the fullest the right to pursue happiness and security in their own way.

*This right is not something that just happens to be in the air we breathe. Men had to fight to wrest it from the forces of oppression.*

Today, these forces are at work against us again. They have thrust upon us a fight that requires more on our part than the will to win. Victory requires tanks and planes and guns and battleships, huge armies, munition plants, and all other implements of total war.

To build enough of these things, fast enough, takes money—unheard-of sums of money. And the United States Government needs that money right now . . . today!

Your life insurance companies, through investment in Government Bonds, are helping to fill Uncle Sam's war chest. You also can help by buying all the U. S. Savings Bonds and Stamps you can...every week, every month! Every Bond you can buy is urgently needed to help defend America, and all its people, including you and your family! Make every payday, Bond day. U. S. Savings Stamps may be purchased at any Metropolitan Office, or from any Metropolitan agent.

*This advertisement is not copyrighted. Individuals and organizations are welcome to reprint it in the interest of American victory, with or without credit to Metropolitan.*

## **Metropolitan Life Insurance Company**

**(A MUTUAL COMPANY)**

**Frederick H. Ecker, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD • Leroy A. Lincoln, PRESIDENT**

**1 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y.**



## BEHIND THE LABOR CRISIS

BY BENJAMIN STOLBERG

THE most powerful labor leader in America today is not Lewis or Murray or Green, but the President of the United States. He is that partly because he is a wartime president, but mainly because for nine years he has been the leader of the New Deal, which has partaken in the factional struggles of our labor movement. Mr. Roosevelt's unique role in American labor became dramatically clear when he was asked by the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations to head a seven-man committee, of which the other six are equally divided between the two federations. For what they wanted, to use their own words, was "peace without unity" — under the protection of the White House.

The President christened the committee the "Consolidated Labor War Board." Its jurisdiction is vaguely all-inclusive and its functions are informally omnipotent. At its first meeting on January 6, according to the *New York Times*, it "raised for discussion the ques-

tions of war production, labor supply, wage policies, priorities, and rationing." Which is quite a program. But the Board discussed everything in general because it has nothing to do in particular. Its only "consolidating" feature is the spectacular absence of John L. Lewis, whose spirit of opposition is ever present. The sole purpose of creating this labor kitchen cabinet was to keep Lewis from gaining greater control over organized labor with another *blitz* for "unity and peace." The Board is simply a device to hide, even from itself, the bitter factionalism and confusion which is keeping labor from a united drive for victory.

When we think of organized labor, we usually think of the AFL and the CIO. But actually we have four labor bodies, and the war has sharpened their outlines.

Of these, the busiest is the aggregation of the various labor agencies in the government. For the duration, the most important is the National War Labor Board.