



Fortunately Most People Have Sense

By T-BONE SLIM

War is not so much a yen to destroy small nations as it is to destroy competitive industry that is not a part of the major setup.

With wars, these major bozos hope to manufacture (create) a demand for their products by shelling unauthorized competition into kingdom come. Sweet babies, eh?

That seems to be the main industry in a capitalist world—sabotage to gain monopoly over the self-appointed liberty to skin the workers.

The name of the raiding nation is immaterial. The ultimate result is the same: industry disrupted or raided nation enslaved to disrupt others' industries.

And it's all done in the name of world trade monopoly—not as a nation, but as the exploiters' one big union. Nations, however, perish, as they have throughout the ages. And finally comes the day when things are so rotten a new system will be the order of the day.

What will that system be, a codified system of laws to strengthen the exploiters of man and materials? Will it be more martyrdom, massacre, ministries etc. in a macabre death dance to the grave?

Or shall it be a join-all commonwealth—each according to his capabilities without fear, favor or phenagling, or failure?

History proves that idolatry of the great winds up in ruins of the glory that was, shattered humanity, skeletons marching to the grave.

Evidence of this appears in our own fair lands and people are talking of various forms of dictatorship as a result of frail diet and frailer prospects. But I do not believe that the powers-that-be can defend a defenseless program with programs of intolerance or bigotry. An empty cupboard is not susceptible to off-key melodies . . .

I propose: Begin from the beginning, all over again, in a Workers' One Big Union. Build your rules carefully upon demand only and make no mistakes—let your head travel only as fast as your feet. Build not for tomorrow but for today. You ain't the whole sum and substance of intelligence. Other builders follow you and they might not like your handiwork. Just tend to your own affairs now and they will tend to theirs then.

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How long are the workers going to stand for their production being stuck up as a target for confirmed war makers? Not long, I hope.

It takes 90 days to stick up an industry; it takes nine seconds to destroy it—one bomb will do it. And workers pay for both. Not much percentage in that.

No, you're not going to amalgamate all the differecent GREEDS into a WHOLE and make of them an altruistic generosity. It was tried.

The thing to do is to organize your own country and set a good example. If you cannot set a good example, forget the whole thing and let her slide as she looks—hellward.

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Never try to reach the top too soon—your hat may blow off.

That which you see about you is

the product of capitalism. If you do not like it you are probably a worker. If you like it you are probably a parasite. Derelects of capitalism strew the sands of time. Shall we censure them—"the man with the hoe"? Chide them? Chasten those already chastened? Or shall we organize and put skids under the cause of all these wrecks?

Believe me, John Workox is just as good a soapboxer as the best politician that ever escaped Harvard, including Ham. Fish.

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England wants to govern Germany and Germany wants to govern England. Why not swap governments—it's bound to improve, and it cannot get worse.

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Even I in my humble way deign to glance back at the days when the elder Morgan tried to gain control of the Transatlantic lines. It was in the long-ago when fare across the pond was \$8 and many of the lines went "bust." Morgan himself almost lost his pants in the game, the only time his ample trouser were endangered.

As forgiving as I am, and as forgivable as Morgan was, I must say his moves at that early date were not the altruistic moves of brotherly love. "Am I my brother's keeper" didn't enter into his calculations. It was "Me," "Me," "Me."

Have a look. If 130,000,000 people in this country say "Me," that minute organized society ceases to be and civilization ends. Consider well then, ye savants, do you want to put your destinies into the hands of the disorganizers and apostles of disorganization? Individualists?

That is the main consideration but there is another one and the facts here are selfevident. Organized society has stood up to the present date in spite of disorganizers because the disorganizers and their retainers have been—out with it, Slim—an ignorant minority and because of the well-known good sense of the great majority.

"Great estates ruined Italy," said Pliny in the good old long ago and never a man to this day has called him a liar on any statement.

Then gets up Tiberius Gracchus who didn't give a damn whether he was hung now or later and said, "Men of Rome, you are called the lords of the world, yet have no right to a square foot of its soil."

Whatever became of those lords? Someone must have foreclosed on them. There are other lords who imagine they will succeed by omitting the mistakes of the past. The bigger they are the harder they fall.

Life is just one long row of upsets to those whose spoon strays into another man's dish, be the dish empty or full. Retribution is the greater when the dish happens to be empty and the owner doesn't know what became of the mush.

THE END