

Freedom

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Government has committed more crimes than it has prevented.

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Threepence

Korea: Ammunition Shortage? RICE & THE COLD WAR

RECENT revelations in America about the shortage of ammunition in Korea may give pause to those simple folk who think that governments enter war with the simple, untrammelled aim of winning them. Those cynical (utopian), realists, the anarchists, have sometimes suggested that other questions enter into it, for example, the need to keep the wheels of industry turning with consequent maintenance of stock exchange levels: the need to try out new military equipment, train soldiers and officers, and so on. Here is General Van Fleet:

"Washington, March 22.—General Van Fleet, former Eighth Army commander, has told Senators that he once had to issue 'no shoot' orders to his gunners in Korea because ammunition supplies were so low, it was disclosed here today. In May, 1951, the Army's artillery supply dumps in Korea were empty, he said. This was revealed by the publication of evidence which General Van Fleet and others gave in secret before the Senate armed services committee earlier this month.

"The General maintained that there was a critical scarcity of ammunition that exists today, and there is not an adequate amount to take care of a situation that might develop." He understood the situation was better now than when he left Korea last month, but he made it clear that he disagreed with his superiors about how much ammunition the troops should expend and what the Army's mission in Korea should be." (Times, 23.3.53). General Van Fleet obviously is a simple man, almost a man in the

street, one could say, and seems to think there should be enough bullets to poop off at the gooks. But another U.S. general, one obviously with a more practical mind, showed a greater grasp of the situation:

"General Collins, Army Chief of Staff, told the committee he considered that under present policy there was enough ammunition in Korea to cope with the forces' limited tasks. He said the Army's position was dictated by political or diplomatic policy, and not by the military." Times, 32.3.53. Perhaps it will not be long now

before a general will be realist enough publicly to acknowledge that the Army's position was directed by economic policy and not by the military. Even now, however, it is plain that simple honest-to-God soldiers like General Van Fleet are quite out of date. "Stormed at by shot and shell, bravely they fought and well" may be all right for such as he, but simplicity really is not enough. One has to realise that Army red tape is, in reality, the ticker-tape of the stock exchange.

RICE is the only staple food known to half the world's population, and, at that, they do not receive nearly enough of it. Very often, too, rice-eaters cannot obtain their favourite grain, except on the black market, and are compelled to subsist on millet, cassava, and other substitutes. This alone causes widespread dissatisfaction with any form of Government which allows such a state of affairs to continue. More serious still, more people die when rice crops fail than from earthquakes, floods or war. To quote the noted American economist, Dr. J. Norman Efferson:

"Because of its world-wide importance, rice is as important as the atom bomb in the present world conflict. The

powers that control the major surplus rice areas are the ones which will control at least one-half of the world's population." The Communists have realised this vital fact from the beginning, and have played upon the West's apparent indifference to the plight of eastern peoples with great skill. The march of Communism is no mere bogey in the countries of Asia. It is fact.

Previous to the war, there were five major rice-exporting countries: Burma, Indo-China, Thailand, Formosa and Korea. Is it coincidence that these five countries, now, are either in the toils, or so closely threatened that they live always in the shadow of fear? Burma, whose pre-war exports of rice totalled three million tons annually, last year exported one hundred thousand tons. The whole of the world's rice trade has decreased by from three to four million tons annually. Indo-China, especially the French part of it, is at war and exports very little rice although the French are still precariously clinging on to the rice-growing areas. Thailand is utterly dependent upon what happens to the French. If the Communists win, Thailand rice will go to feed Communist countries. Formosa, with Chiang Kai-Shek and his Nationalist Chinese in possession, is in no position to think of exports, and Korea is torn by war.

What is the position of those countries who relied upon imported rice prior to the war? India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Malaya are all members of the British Commonwealth of Nations, between them numbering over five hundred million people. Their position is dangerous, to say the least of it. India has twice been saved from savage death-rolls by the importation of thousands of tons of grains—not rice—which had to be rushed into the country in English and American ships. Pakistan is barely self-supporting. Between them they number over four hundred million people and, on balance, they cannot feed themselves. Moreover, their populations are going up rapidly, while their rice production is going down. During the last year of British occupation, India produced 37½ million tons of rice. In 1951, with some millions more people to feed, the crop realized 35 million tons. Ceylon, a small island of 26,000 square miles of territory, has approximately 20,000 square miles lost to the jungle. In the other tiny area she has a population of nearly 8 million Australia—and the proud distinction of possessing the highest birth-rate in the world. Yet she produces only 50% of her rice requirements, and is exporting rubber, a valuable war material, to Communist China, in exchange for rice, so desperate is her position.

—HARRY WILLIAMS in Rural Economy, March 1953.

FOREIGN COMMENTARY

When the Truth is as Immoral as a Lie

THE particular concept of the truth expounded by Hitler in *Mein Kampf*, and the double-think of the Communists and their followers have helped to create the myth that in the democracies, at least, we are told the truth; that we enjoy the confidence of our politicians, and because we have only one ambition: peace, we have nothing to hide from the world. This concept that some politicians are truthful and the remainder liars and rogues is itself the biggest lie of all. We do not mean that politicians are rogues and liars all the time, but that when they are truthful and virtuous it is for the same reasons as when they are liars and rogues; that is to say, when it serves their political ends, and advantage. Clearly the creation of the myth that the statesmen and politicians of one's country are honest men makes the acceptance of a lie as being the truth a relatively simple matter. And in the democracies the ever growing anti-communist propaganda machine is being geared to this very end. By building up the conviction in the minds of the public that every utterance by a politician East of the Iron Curtain is a lie, one is at the same time creating a psychology of acceptance to all that is said by those politicians of the West as being the truth. Let us hasten to add that behind the Iron Curtain the same process operates, with the same results!

A former member of the Comintern has explained how in Russia a lie can be transformed into the truth, by quoting a cynic who pointed out that a lie when uttered by one man, simply remains a lie; that when repeated by thousands becomes a doubtful truth; but that once repeated by millions acquires the stamp of an established truth. The Communists are, as he points out, adepts at this technique, but are the democracies, with their millionaire Press any more innocent in this respect? Perhaps there is one virtue distinguishing the West from the East; that in the West the truth will eventually out. But that generally happens so long after the perpetration of the lie that it is of interest mainly to historians and members of the older generation who can still dimly recall the event. And all they can do in the event is sadly shake their heads at the thought that what they were convinced was the truth was just another lie after all!

LET us now illustrate the foregoing thoughts with a concrete example contained in a recent release by *Worldover Press* (an independent

American news agency). We quote the item in full:

"On Feb. 13, 1945, American and British planes bombed Dresden, considered previously a non-military target, killing some 100,000 many of them women and children sent there by Germans for safety. Last Feb. 11, the U.S. State Department released, in Germany, records 'revealing' that Russia had specifically requested the bombing, to prevent German reinforcements from possibly reaching anti-Soviet troops. Reason for the release: Russia was organising a hate-America campaign for Dresden's eighth anniversary ceremonial, blaming the U.S. for the raid.

"But why the long delay by Washington? The policy seems to have been, 'The less said about Dresden, the better.' *Worldover Press* broke the whole story of Russia's chief responsibility as far back as March 3, 1950, and told of posters periodically used by the Russians to put all blame on the U.S. The story's official release, so late, not only negated its value as counter-propaganda, but has made few friends among the Germans. British officials, who gave the facts to W.P. at Berlin in 1948, then pointed out that many Germans knew them, and were bitter because of Allied acquiescence in Russia's request, also finding it hard to understand why the city was virtually destroyed by obliteration bombing for a very limited military objective."

Throughout the war we were told in this country that unlike the Nazis, we only bombed military targets, and convincing air photos were published in the Press to prove this contention. This we know was a lie.

And in this instance the Germans were telling the truth! Now that the enemy is Russia, the Americans are trying to counteract that lie, which the Russians have turned to their advantage, by revealing the true motives for the bombing of Dresden, because they hope to gain a political advantage at the expense of the Russians, by so doing. But in this case the truth is double edged. It places the main responsibility for the initiative of killing 100,000 Germans with the Russians, but an equal responsibility rests with the British and Americans who agreed to this plan and executed it. And, understandably, the relatives of those killed and the surviving victims make little distinction between the criminals behind the bombing. And what of the airmen who carried out the bombing? What reasons were they given when they were being briefed and saw the plans of Dresden which indicated that there were no military targets to destroy? Were they so involved in living a lie that they could be convinced that rows of houses were in fact armament factories and ammunition dumps?

We agree with those cartoonists who portray the Stalins and Hitlers, the Titos and Francos, the Himmlers and Goerings with their hands stained by the blood of their victims. Perhaps the day will come when they will have the courage to portray the politicians of the democracies without gloves. LIBERTARIAN.

2,800 Detained in Kenya Raid

In large-scale security operations in the Pumwani native location at Nairobi during the week-end, 2,847 people have been detained. More than 1,600 of them are persons wanted by the police, mainly in the Nyeri and Fort Hall districts. Combined forces of troops and police carried out raids and detained Africans who did not have the

special passes, issued less than a week ago, authorising Kikuyu and Embu tribesmen to remain at Nairobi if employed in the city.

Durling operations in the Fort Hall district yesterday six Mau Mau men were killed, six were wounded, and 14 captured when security forces came into conflict with a number of small gangs.

The Governor, Sir Evelyn Baring, with his chief military staff officer, Major-General Hinde, and the member for agriculture, has carried out an all-day aerial reconnaissance over the forests of the Aberdare Mountains and Mount Kenya, to see what control measures had been carried out regarding concentration of forestry and sawmill labourers by moving them into villages instead of leaving them scattered throughout the forests. (Times, 23.3.53.) Without comment.

Are we still waiting for you to renew your subscription to FREEDOM?

MANPOWER DISTRIBUTION

INFORMATION analysed in the *Economist* recently showed that in October, 1952, Britain had 22,146,000 persons in civil employment; 4,111,000 were in "basic industries," 8,630,000 in manufacturing. The "basic industries" were taken to include transport and other services; the primary occupations of mining, quarrying, agriculture and fishing accounted for only 1,995,000—barely 9% of total manpower. This compared with 7,969,000 in "white-collar" jobs—distributive trades and professional, financial and administrative services—nearly 36% of the total.

LONDON MEETINGS

Due to a misunderstanding, last Tuesday's IAG meeting at the Garibaldi Restaurant could not be held.

The lecture announced for March 31st will be the last at these premises.

See back page for meetings from April 7th.

Overcrowded Schools

OVERCROWDING in primary schools has become so serious, according to the T.U.C., that buildings condemned long since have been reopened, classes expanded, and the average age of entry raised by two months. A survey conducted by about one hundred trades councils was submitted to the T.U.C. General Council, and the council declared its concern "at the amount of overcrowding in primary schools and at the lower standards of education which are resulting from makeshift measures to find school places."

From this survey "the main features that emerge are the widespread makeshift arrangements that are bringing in their train bigger classes, worsened teaching conditions in unsuitable premises, and a heavier strain on teachers."

What the T.U.C. calls "the most desperate measures of all" have been the reopening of condemned schools. Two trades councils mention the continued use of condemned buildings, two others the reopening of primary schools previously closed and condemned, and another two the use of huts dating from the First World War.

In Birmingham, the survey says, the average class in a primary school consists of 47 pupils and there are 4,800 temporary classrooms.

Hitch-hikers Please Note

LUXURY rides for lorry and van drivers, with heaters and radio, are provided by a range of new Bedford commercial vehicles announced at the Vauxhall works, Luton, yesterday.

Designed for payloads from 20cwt. to five tons, the vehicles have three-seat cabs insulated against noise. A special three-point rubber mounting cushions the unit against any bumps or side movement.

A test showed that the 20-25-cwt. truck, which has adjustable seat, "no-draught" windows and four-speed synchromesh gearbox, is, as cosy and comfortable as many modern cars.

News Chronicle, 19/3/53.

FOR POPULAR CONSUMPTION

MARSHAL TITO'S visit has had an almost ludicrous side which has scarcely been concealed from the public. Yet at the same time the official accounts have been just as serious and grave in their pompous phraseology as if they were really to be taken seriously.

The police precautions—"fabulous" as one respected newspaper called them—themselves set a high comic level. "Hours before the Marshal was due to leave," wrote the *Observer* on its front page, "there were policemen above and below ground in all possible approaches to Westminster. The total mounted steadily, as more and more blue columns poured out of the conveniently adjacent gates of Scotland Yard. In the end, policemen outnumbered the crowd on the Embankment by about three to one, their cordons making a desert of Westminster Bridge and of wide stretches of riverside roadway." It is small wonder that a radio comedian got his best laugh of the evening with the crack: "Join the Police Force and see Marshal Tito!"

Despite all this the Marshal himself, speaking on Westminster Pier, and addressing, presumably, the assembled coppers, said: "I wish to express once more . . . my thanks for the hearty welcome extended to us and I send my warm greetings to the courageous people of Britain." To round off this idiotically meaningless piece of pageantry here is the sober *Observer* again:

"The people, including small children on their fathers' shoulders, waved. Tito, in the splendid uniform of a Marshal of the Yugoslav Army, waved back, with a smile broad enough to penetrate the river mist. Nobody broke through the restraint of the last few days sufficiently to raise a cheer, but the parting was unmistakably amiable."

We have italicised the last sentence which shows that the British talent for understatement is sometimes very much needed!

The official handouts meanwhile speak of "full agreement on all outstanding issues." Tito was "deeply impressed," etc., and sent a telegram to Churchill about the "great success of our talks," and one of formal courtesy to the Queen. Much has been made of renewing friendships made as comrades-in-arms in the last war. In 1946 a bare six years ago "Mr. Churchill has a heart of stone . . . he is only interested in his imperialist aims . . . Churchill hates our country . . . has shown himself the standard bearer of the warmongers. . . ." (See *FREEDOM*, 21.3.53) and so on, and so on. Now it is "existing ties of friendship and alliance" which are "lasting," and "we stand shoulder to shoulder in the defence of peace."

George Orwell, in a conversation with some of the editors of *FREEDOM* just before his death, discussed his ideas for a study of the use of political clichés already sketched by him in an essay on "Political English," and in the sections in "Newspeak" in "1984." His thesis was that political language was now constructed with small and meaningless emotional images so as to inhibit thought and meaning instead of serving as a vehicle for them. Tito's visit would have provided him with much material — some of it culled, no doubt, from the *Tribune*.

It is necessary to debunk this ridiculous palaver, with its wide understanding, deep friendship and *vice versa*, which no one believes, and no doubt prepared long in advance since whatever is the actual nature of the discussions (supposing they had any) between Tito and Churchill, the official facade has to be one of agreement—shoulder to

LIBERTARIAN FEELING IN INDIA

IT was one of the favourite objections to Indian independence that "the Indians couldn't govern themselves." Some British critics (as tactfully as international diplomacy allowed them) have pointed to one or another aspect of Nehru's government in support of their past objections to the inevitable. It is, however, quite certain that such faults as belong to the Congress Government are largely those it inherited from the Empire. The centralisation of power into the ruling few is one that runs quite contrary to what the Indians really want, for there is a substantial objection to being governed at all.

This has been recognised by many sources. In his famous walking tour of India, Acharya Vinoba Bhave ("Gandhi's successor") has appealed for land reform by consent rather than by legislation. It is remarkable how this movement has spread, and in State after State land has been given up by landowners for the campaign "Land for the Landless." According to the *Times of India* (15.1.53), Mr. Shankarrao Deo (walking through Rajasthan on behalf of Vinoba Bhave's movement) has found a vast spontaneous response "from big jagirdars to peasants with holdings of not more than half-a-bigha." At a large meeting, Mr. Deo declared, "The first and primary task of any Government is to provide food to its people, imparting of compulsory primary education comes next." It is clear that the movement is not libertarian, that it clings to the Statist illusion, but at the same time it is providing what the State has failed to provide; namely, land being equitably distributed so that food may be available. Vast masses of rural India cannot eke out a living on the land it tills: the Congress Government still vainly seeks a means of providing them with sufficient land out of the vast amount of untitled land ready for cultivation. The Bhoodan Yagna ("Land for the Landless") movement has at least broken the deadlock in providing the basis of land reform.

So far 40,000 people have received land which has been donated. Fifteen thousand acres were given up during the tour of Rajasthan (which lasted only a month). Many landlords are moved by the appeal made on Gandhian lines, such as helped to fight Untouchability and Imperialism. This is particularly true of the small peasant landholders who have given their mite. It is also true that many big landowners have been moved by fears of "communism"—the fact that they will give fuel to C.P. propaganda if such a state of affairs continues. Many others, too, are afraid that they may have to give up land forcibly to a squatters' movement to expropriate the land—better to give a few acres to reformist non-violence than lose the lot to revolutionary confiscation. However such views are also reflected on and within Congress—but still the Government has not acted, and this voluntary movement has.

Communities of Work

NO one after a brief acquaintance with the "Communities of Work" (see the descriptive articles in *FREEDOM* for 19/1/52 and 26/1/52) would conclude that France is a decadent country. Yet their movement is such a tiny part of French society, and such a recent development, that it is impossible to forecast how effective an influence it can be. The annual conference, at Lyons in October, brought together about 400 persons, representing perhaps 50 communities of work, or "precommunities" or groups interested in learning about the movement. I got an impression of vigour, devotion, pride in the discovery of social devices that bring results in organisation, management education.

This is an important achievement—the perfecting of a democratic economic structure which gives support to altruistic motives, and greater opportunity for their expression. In the industrial communities especially there is a feeling of

relief at having left behind the deep-rooted injustices of the employer-worker relationship in France. They feel free to grow into a unity that still keeps a proper place for individuality. There was also, throughout the discussions at Lyons and in the communities visited, the only partly understood pleasure in the rediscovery of community, overcoming of traditional French individualism, experiencing the growing power of a group that has achieved a character and integrity of its own. The determination to hold the ground gained, both in the area of community and in the economic field, was the more significant in view of the serious differences of outlook that became clearer as individual communities were visited.

For the variety of forms and philosophies and purposes existing among the communities of work is so great as to raise the question whether they can collectively be called a "movement" at all. So long as these often startlingly diverse "communities" can hold to a clear concept of the few guiding principles on which they are agreed, their movement will continue vigorous. If any one social or religious philosophy should seek to become accepted by all, disintegration will begin. The existence of a movement exemplifying mutual respect and freedom among varying ideologies becomes the more important as civil liberties continue to suffer attack in France. In the struggle for freedom the communities of work proportion to their numerical insignificance.

At the time of the Indian elections, we drew attention in these columns to the Naga Hills where nobody voted. This tribal area of Assam has made the formation of a district council impossible. Its autonomy would have been questionable, being subject to the approval of the Governor of Assam (an old move that is a legacy from Britain!). While other parts co-operated in the establishment of councils and participated in the elections, the Naga tribesmen still refused to do so. Now we learn that the Naga National Council has demanded an independent Nagaland (covering 10,000 square miles and a million people), including not only the Naga tribal area but all the Naga areas in other districts and states. "If Pakistan could have self-determination, why not us?" In an article in the *Indian People* (27.12.52) Ram Gopal says significantly, "The Nagas are agitated and raise political agitation on smallest provocation. They would have you believe that there is something like Nagaim which is neither socialism nor communism, but a philosophy of life all its own."

This Nagaim is a libertarian philosophy as the unanimous boycott of the elections showed. They have rejected, not only parliamentary representation, but also municipal government, and are the first people in the world to have carried through such a successful boycott. In their further elaboration of "Nagaim" we trust that they will maintain this stand, even in an independent Nagaland.

Self-Help

The Community Project scheme in India is a constructive side of this spirit of independence from government that cannot be eradicated from India. We quote from a report:—

"The Dhuri Community Project scheme in Pepsu has got off to a flying

start after overcoming initial difficulties.

"A mere hundred days after its inauguration, villagers in the area have derived inspiration from it. The spirit of self-help has come to stay. Dotted the landscape are numerous signs of the popular will to build a new village.

There are now 26 co-educational schools with more than 13,000 pupils, 50 new wells, 500 acres of reclaimed waste land, 60 small but significant approach roads newly built and the foundations for a fine new hospital where only a mosquito-infested cesspool was to be seen a few days ago.

"Two notable events of the last month in the Project area were the clean-up of Uppla-kheri village and the filling up of a dirty village pond near Amargarh village. The pond was levelled up to provide a site for a new maternity hospital.

"Uppla-kheri was cleaned entirely by the students, staff and the Principal of the Malerkotla College and the villagers. On the day of this clean-up campaign was born the idea that earth from a nearby mound could be used to fill up the cesspool near Amargarh.

"This idea was brought before a joint meeting of the neighbouring villagers' development committees. Details were worked out and workers from every village in the neighbourhood took turns to remove the festering eyesore from their midst. Today, the mound that was a landmark for decades is a thing of the past. Instead, the hospital in prospect will bring new health to those who had the vision to work for it.

"The Project is expected to make good headway in the forthcoming months as the villagers seem to be eager to work it out. Youth welfare associations have been formed in 30 villages. Their first big social event will be a youth rally on Republic Day. Ten co-operative societies

have been constituted in different villages. Consolidation of fragmentary land holdings in 51 villages is yet another achievement made since the inauguration of the Project.

"The Community Project covers an area of 340,253 acres of land of which 274,391 acres are cultivated, 4,007 acres are now fallow, 37,675 acres are cultivable waste, 24,126 acres are not arable and 56 acres are forest land.

"The total population of the Project area covering 307 villages of Malerkotla, Dhuri and Payal tehsils is 2,52,611 and the cost of the Project is estimated to be about Rs. 65 lakhs.

"The work done during the last three months consisted of digging 490 compost manure pits, opening of model farms to show the actual working of the latest agricultural techniques, formation of development committees to associate villagers with the various schemes and reclamation of more than 500 acres of waste land. Two hundred acres of land have been treated with rat-bane in a campaign to grow more food per acre and save more grain from the depredations of rats.

"Village level workers of the Project have demonstrated to the peasants how to sow vegetables in ridges for abundant produce, how to have green fodder available all the year round and how to break up crusty top-soil with the bar harrow. Demonstrations have been arranged for reclamation of alkaline soil. To extend this kind of work, a batch of 30 village level workers is under training at Nabha and another batch will be sent up in February.

"The Project authorities seem to be determined to make the Project a success by rendering concrete service to the farmer at his door-step. This is having the desired psychological effect. Wherever a farmer showed unusual enthusiasm or initiative, his holding was converted into a model farm."

INTERNATIONALIST.

History of Krupps

Continued from last week

ONCE again Krupp is undergoing a lean time. He has only 24,000 employees working for him. At the beginning of the century he had 50,000 and during the war several hundreds of thousands, besides innumerable slave labourers. Of the latter many died of starvation and from bombs, there being no air-raid shelters provided for them. The only help the East European workers got was from German workers, quite a few of whom used to divide their small bread ration with them. Even to do this was dangerous, because if the Gestapo heard of it the perpetrators were liable to be arrested and thrown into a concentration camp. Mutual aid being punished with the concentration camp is one of the most inhuman things I have ever witnessed (not only being a witness but a defendant as well). It is something

which would no doubt have been incredible to Kropotkin.

It has always been the policy of the Krupps to impress upon the workers the idea that the Krupps would take care of them in their sorrow and trouble. The real aim of this policy is to have steady and submissive workers who never go on strike or make trouble. Steady workers workers able to execute high grade precision work were an absolute necessity to Krupp, for without them he could not keep up the quality of his armaments. It took a good artisan a long time to reach the required standard of efficiency, therefore, when a trained worker quit, it was always a loss to Krupp. He never tried to keep his workers with the bait of high wages, something he could have done without difficulty on account of the high prices he obtained for his armaments. Krupps' workers were paid the average wage—sometimes even less—workers in other industries often getting higher wages. For instance: the workers in the cutlery industry received wages which were about 25% more, in spite of working at the most only four days in the week. They earned sufficient to live and for the rest stayed at home saying, to hell with the boss! The cutlery workers were the most independent and best paid workers at that time in Germany. They proved to Krupp that high wages did not induce steadiness and submissiveness, but on the contrary made workers more independent and recalcitrant.

Out of these observations the Krupp pension scheme was born, which turned out later to be a mere pie-in-the-sky system. This scheme was based on the well known fact that when workers are old and unable to work many of them are forced to live on charity. Since 1890 there had existed in Germany a pension scheme for workers after they had reached the age of 70. It was a scheme whereby the state paid pensions out of the contributions paid by workers during their employment and exists to this day. But no one was or is able to live on this pension, a single man or woman perhaps being able to exist on dry bread and potatoes, but not a man and wife. The Krupp scheme provided an addition to the state pension. It enabled old workers to exist even if they were married and sometimes provided them with enough to put a little butter on their bread. Krupp also secured his employees submission by sending their undernourished children into the country during the summer at his expense. But the children often complained to their parents and asked them to take them home again.

During Krupp's heyday, at the end of the last and the beginning of this century, he paid this additional pension to his workers. But all this changed during the 1914-18 war. During peace time Krupp had to court the good will of the workers to make them submissive. In war time the reverse happened. Force of circumstances made him the arbiter of their fate. Any worker who was recalcitrant or dared to take a day off found himself on the battlefield a week later. One of the thousands of foremen and engineers had only to report such a recalcitrant to the management and the worst happened. The government considered that work in the Krupp armament factories was as important as fighting at the front, so Krupp's workers were tolerably safe from such a fate providing they were sufficiently hard working and submissive. During the war Krupp had as much power over his workers as any general on the field of battle had over his soldiers.

The defeat of Germany brought about a fundamental change in the relations between Krupp and his workers. The imperial army was abolished and the new republican army was only a fraction of its predecessor. Only a greatly reduced amount of armaments were required and Krupp needed but a small section of his previous employees. Therefore the Krupp pension scheme was abandoned, though it had proved a good investment during the time Krupp had needed workers. The workers for the most part were angry and depressed by this action, not expecting such trickery. With the abolition of the pension scheme the attitude of Krupp became like any other big lord of industry. So strikes occurred, one of which, in 1928, lasted several months.

Then came Hitler. He gave absolute power to the industrialists over the workers as well as a royal present in the shape of a 25% cut in wages. Krupp's fortunes flourished with the rearmament drive and this time he did not need to court the good will of the workers. But the scene has changed again and Krupp needs their good will in order to fulfil the expected big orders for armaments from the German and foreign governments—and at present there is no dictator in Germany to compel the workers into submission. Therefore Krupp has partly re-introduced his pension scheme in order to attract them. Most German industrialists give their workers an addition to the state pension after they have worked for them 30 to 40 years. Krupp, however, pays more than the others, which on the average amounts to about a 25% increase.

WILLY FULANO.

