

# The Individualist

A Pint-size Periodical of Pith, Punch and Perspicacity

5-1316

VOLUME FIVE

JULY, 1953

NUMBER TWELVE

## Visits Editor

Herodias Egretta was a recent visitor to the Steepletrap on Anna Maria Island, just off shore in the Gulf of Mexico. Herodias, in case it has slipped your mind, is that statuesque white bird—and this time we mean bird and not “bird”—more commonly known as the Great American Egret. He is about three and a half feet tall, according to the book, but this one looked taller as he peered in through the window at the everloving helpmeet and ye editor at their meager breakfast of ham and eggs, sausage, corn cakes, corn flakes, grits—the yankees think grits are something that get on you and crawl—toast, coffee, coffee cake and honeydew.

Maybe he'd been eating Wheaties made him look so big. On second thought, he couldn't have. His dentures aren't adapted to such food. Which explains, too, perhaps, why he passed up the corn the everloving helpmeet scatters around the yard for the smaller birds. She says if those birds would eat the corn this writer puts in *The Individualist*, they would be the best-fed birds in the world. But then, wives are like that. Being one of these strong silent men, we make no rejoinder. We suffer in silence, though the everloving helpmeet says there is precious little suffering and no silence.

But this was to be about Herry. He has black legs and feet and a yellow greenish-tinged bill. He oozes poise and distinction. He strides with unmatched dignity and, unlike most people, he has sense enough to keep his mouth shut. Except, of course, when he partakes of a dainty tidbit in the shape of a frog or lizard or small fish.

He just stood there gazing through the screened window, a not unamiable expression on his features. If he was worried about taxes, his social security check, the family jalopy breaking down, what is the younger generation coming to, and such mundane matters, he showed it not at all. We sorta envied him as he stalked majestically away. We hope he calls again—his tranquility sets such a beautiful example.

## It Gives Us The Creeps

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER says the Tennessee Valley Authority is an example of “creeping socialism,” which, of course, it is—except that it “creeps” by leaps and bounds.

At the time of its inception in the early 1930s the Tennessee Valley Authority was termed an effort to salvage the value and usefulness of the Muscle Shoals Dam on the Tennessee River. Electric power production was regarded as an incidental and secondary part of the functions assigned the TVA. In the succeeding twenty years the “incidental” function has become the giant tail that wags the dog. The Authority has gone in for steam generation of electric power, something never contemplated at the outset when the idea was

merely to sell the “surplus power generated at Muscle Shoals.”

TVA's annual report for 1952 lists “the additions to the power system capacity now being made,” showing that while hydro-electric capacity was being expanded by 736,075 kilowatts, steam generating plants under construction would provide more than five million kilowatts. The Authority's “installed capacity,” as of June 30, 1952, is given as 3,859,910 kilowatts. The “goal” to be reached by January, 1956, is 9,600,000 kilowatts. Starting with one hydro-electric plant with a capacity of 184,000 kilowatts, and costing \$47 million, TVA is now openly in the power business. At present it is operating twenty-six hydro and 11 steam plants. It is obvious that steam plants have nothing to do with flood control, the original purpose of TVA.

In the past twenty years federal power capacity has grown from 300,000 horsepower to 15,000,000. It now represents 12 per cent of the total power capacity of the country. It is tax-subsidized and tax-exempt, and it is being sold below production costs.

An early estimate placed the cost of TVA at \$310,000,000. It has already cost more than \$1,600,000, and present estimates place the final cost at \$2,500,000,000. Quite a creeper, the TVA, quite a creeper. And when you add the Central Valley, California, project, which was estimated to cost \$170,000,000 and will cost \$2,300,000,000 when it is finished—well, you can see what the government is doing with your money in the electric light and power business. And that, of course, doesn't touch smaller projects all over the country.

## Dollar Shortage

### WANTED

Eight Americans with incomes of \$50,000 a year or more, to subscribe \$500 each to a sustaining fund for *The Individualist*.

That tells the story. It's the first thing of its kind ever to appear in *The Individualist*. It will be the last. The next word along that line, if any, will be a note of thanks or notice of discontinuance.

Last year a group of friends, headed by the Honorable Lawson Purdy of New York, contributed \$500 to the work of *The Individualist*. Most of the contributors were persons of moderate means. Some, we are sure, needed the ten or twenty dollars they sent almost as much as we did. That was heart-warming—but embarrassing. It musn't happen again.

That is why the above appeal is addressed to people of means. Not only can they give without feeling any pain, they will get their money's worth in a big way. For the simple truth is—and our readers know it—*The Individualist* is fighting for the American way of life in which an individual can earn fifty

thousand a year—or ten times that much—if he has got what it takes. If the Collectivists win—and they are perilously close to winning right now—he can still have what it takes but the State will take what he has.

*The Individualist* has brains, punch, guts, and a sense of humor—if it does say so as shouldn't. It deserves support—organs such as *The Individualist* can't hope to make any money; they have to be financed.

If a few of our well-fixed readers see eye to eye with us on the support business—that'll be swell. If they don't—that'll be curtains.

## Sucker List

It isn't war that threatens civilization today, it's the breakdown of free enterprise. And it isn't the Communists who are doing the breaking down, it's the American people themselves.

Leaders in the scuttling are the colleges, churches and labor unions. Newspapers and magazines help in the dirty work by their acquiescence in what goes on. Big business does its part with tariffs and price agreements. Pressure groups—farmers, veterans, oldsters—further the undermining by their demands for a cut in what other people earn. And most of the rest of us sit on our backsides like the economic nitwits we are, and do nothing while our freedom is being taken away before our very eyes.

Free enterprise is the only system which permits expression of the rights and dignity of the individual. Robbed of those, the individual becomes a slave. If the robbing and enslaving is done by other individuals, he is a chattel slave, as in the Old South. If it is done by the all-powerful state, he is an economic slave, as behind the Iron Curtain. The results are the same. And slavery is not the earmark of civilization. It's the black eye. That's why the drying up of free enterprise would be such a blow.

## The Colleges

The evidence is indisputable that a majority of faculty members in many American colleges are collectivist minded. However learned in other lines, they are dumb as hell concerning economic cause and effect. They earnestly believe that we would all be better off if the government owned and operated the tools and machinery of production.

They haven't wit enough, those collegiate gullibles, to see that government is just a lot of other guys named Joe, most of whom have trouble enough running their own business and none of whom is smart enough to run other peoples' business for them. They subscribe to the Marxist doctrine, “From each according to his ability, to each according to his need.” They don't realize that human nature is such that, however pleasing such an arrangement might be to those who have the need, those who have the ability would never play ball except at point of a gun. Those mush-minded professors believe that profits

are wicked and that ownership is theft. And that's the doctrine they are sneaking into their class rooms.

The attitude of many educators is that it is none of the public's business what is taught in college class rooms. As Prof. Henry Steele Commager of Columbia University puts it, "The consumer has no rights in the educational market place." Bertrand Russell, a Briton but a favorite of American educators, who calls himself a "democratic socialist," writes: "It is to be expected that advances in physiology and psychology will give government much more control over individual mentality than they now have in totalitarian countries... Diet, injections and injunctions will combine from a very early age to produce the sort of character and the sort of beliefs that the authorities consider desirable... all will believe themselves happy because the government will tell them that they are so."

The National Educational Association has 450,000 members, 850,000 affiliate members. Their legislative program calls for *federal* aid to education, *federal* aid for higher education, *federal* social security and teacher retirement, *federal* income tax exemptions of annuities and pensions of public servants, *federal* funds for health and child welfare, *federal* funds for nursery schools and childcare centers, and *federal* payments in lieu of taxes on public lands. Can you imagine any of those birds voting the free enterprise ticket?

### The Churches

Thinking, if you could call it thinking, runs along the same lines in the field of religion. The notorious Federal Council of Churches, whose leaders vie with the Daily Worker in denouncing free enterprise and defending Soviet Russia, has merged with other groups in what is called the National Council of Churches of Christ. But it retains its legal charter, and its aims, its program and its leadership remain unchanged. The affiliations and views of many of its leaders are matters of record.

Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam of the Methodist Church, was president of the Federal Council of Churches until that organization put on false whiskers. He is president of the World Council of Churches which, at its Amsterdam convention, adopted the infamous manifesto which classed capitalism with Communism and called for the rejection of both.

You can get a whiff of the World Council from its letter to member churches in which appears this passage: "All people in privileged countries, particularly Christians, must strive to enter sympathetically into the social demands of the needy. *From each according to his ability, to each according to his need* has its roots in the teachings of Jesus."

In his book, "On This Rock," Bishop Oxnam writes: "We must distinguish between the spent forces about to relinquish power and the dynamic forces about to take power. We must become aware of the underlying trends: namely, from competitive struggle to cooperative endeavors; from selfish nationalism to sensible internationalism..."

In the same book we read, "In the society that is passing the driving force has been the pursuit of self-interest; the chief rewards

have gone to the owners of the means of production... Atheism was rampant."

Bishop Oxnam voices similar views in his book, "Labor and Tomorrow's World." "Man," he writes, "must find a way so to change his conceptions of property and of sovereignty as to insure peaceful passage from an order whose primary purpose has been the making of profits and the owning of property, to an order in which the primary purpose will be the making of personality and maintaining the supremacy of the common good."

It is a matter of record that Bishop Oxnam has associated himself, often in an active capacity, with ten or more organizations which have been proved to be Communist-inspired red fronts, including the notorious National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, which a congressional committee calls "a direct agent of the Soviet Union, engaged in traitorous activities under order of Stalin's consular service in the United States."

Bishop Oxnam, of course, is not the only joiner of known red fronts from ecclesiastical circles. Here are some others and the number of such groups with which they have been hooked up:

Roswell P. Barnes, Fed. Coun. Sec., 9; John C. Bennett, Union Theo. Sem., 3; W. Russell Bowie, Un. Theo., 15; J. Henry Carpenter, Fed. Coun. Sec., 5; Allan Knight Chalmers, Min. Bdwy. Tabernacle, N. Y., 12; Jerome Davis, Former Prof. Yale Divinity School, 22; Charles K. Gilbert, Episcopal Bishop, N. Y., 5; L. O. Hartman, Methodist Bishop, 10; Wm. Lloyd Imes, N. Y. State Coun. of Churches, 12; E. Stanley Jones, Fed. Coun. speaker, 2; Eduard C. Lindeman, Prof. Columbia Un. 16; Halford E. Luccock, Prof. Yale Div. Sch., 13; Francis J. McConnell, Methodist Bishop, 27; Reinhold Niebuhr, Prof. Un. Theo., 14; Edw. L. Parsons, Episcopal Bishop (ret), 18; Edw. Mc. Poteat, Former president Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, 9; Guy Emery Shipler, Ed. The Churchman, 12; Henry Van Dusen, Pres. Un. Theo. Sem., 4; Harry F. Ward, Prof. Un. Theo. Sem., 27; Luther A. Weigle, Dean Yale Divinity School, 12.

Here is what some of the above-mentioned lads have had to say: "Is it not probable that the greatest event of the 20th century thus far is the Soviet Revolution, and all it has meant to human welfare?"—Jerome Davis. It is my conviction that one cannot be a Christian if he must function within a society where self-interest and personal profit are the dynamic of industrial life."—J. Henry Carpenter. "When the Western world was floundering in an unjust and competitive order... God reached out and put his hand on the Russian communists to produce a juster order and to show a recumbent church what it had missed in its own gospel."—E. Stanley Jones. "The Soviet Union is progressing and growing up economically and politically... while capitalistic society is starving and going down."—Harry F. Ward.

Do the rank and file church members know what their leaders are saying and doing? Of course they do, no one could be that dumb. Do they care? Obviously not. Or at least their local preachers not only don't care, they like it. It was only a few weeks ago that the

Baltimore-Washington Methodist Conference gave Bishop Oxnam a rousing vote of confidence. And what was their answer to the charges that the Bishop is trying to substitute socialism for our free enterprise system? "A lion needs no defending." Perhaps the logic of that answer escapes you. It was too much for us, too, but you can lay ten to one that the Bishop will continue to carry on.

### The Labor Unions

"Monopoly" and "free enterprise" are mutually exclusive terms. Where you have one, you do not have the other. It would be as sensible to talk of a "free slave" as to link monopoly with free enterprise. If a man is free, he is not a slave. If he is a slave, he is not free.

The biggest monopoly in America today is the labor monopoly. Organized labor has an iron-fisted grip on most of the country's major industries. Phil Murray was able to close every steel mill in the nation. Enemy bombers could never have done that, but Phil Murray did—overnight.

It is a matter of record that practically all labor leaders of importance are socialist-minded and, in many instances, strongly Communist. On the executive board of the CIO a few years ago were the following top men in labor with notorious Communist affiliation records: Lewis Allen Berne, Donald Henderson, Joseph P. Selly, Julius Emspak, Grant W. Oakes, Eleanor Nelson, Joseph F. Jurich, Ben Gold, Morris Muster, Harry R. Bridges, Ferdinand C. Smith, Lewis Merrill, Abram Flaxer, Michael J. Quill, Joseph Curran, Reid Robinson, E. F. Burke, Frank R. McGrath, and others.

The names of 513 labor leaders were on the petition for the release of Earl Browder a few years ago. When the Daily Worker, the most abusive and violent Communist publication in the country, celebrated its 20th anniversary, 144 CIO leaders, representing 25 of the 39 international unions in the CIO, saluted it in a congratulatory message.

David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, says that "The history of the ILGWU has demonstrated that the workers can be entrusted with the task of running industry in the interest not only of the working class but of society in general far better than the present masters of industry who, blinded by profit, would rush on to suicidal death."

Dubinsky, who, as a good Socialist, hates profits, boasts that the treasury of his union holds \$165 million. What for?

These labor leaders don't call themselves Socialists, much less Communists. They are "social planners." They want the government to take over and manage "the jobs that are too big for private industry." Such is Walter Reuther's idea.

In his admirable book, "The Road Ahead," John T. Flynn writes: "Mr. Reuther and his economic consultants believe that the automobile industry should be planned. At present, the General Motors Corporation, for instance, makes the most elaborate plans for operating the General Motors Corporation. This, Mr. Reuther thinks, is sheer nonsense. The automobile industry must be planned as a whole, and these plans must be made not by the managers of the automobile industry,

but by representatives of management, representatives of labor and the agents of the State. This group, in which management would of course be a minority of one, would then study the whole industry, determine how many automobiles ought to be made and what types—that is, what income groups—and how many each producer would make, what prices would be charged, what wages would be paid to labor, what hours labor would work, what management would get and what investors would get and, as part of the department of compulsion, what priorities in steel and other materials each producer would get and then, of course, over all this would be the power of the government alone to see that the plans were carried out."

That will give you a rough idea of where organized labor stands with respect to free enterprise. Its leaders are out to choke it at the earliest possible moment—and don't let anybody tell you they aren't making progress.

The foregoing material concerning the churches came largely from the American Council of Christian Laymen, 121 W. Washington Avenue, Madison 1, Wisc., an organization that abundantly deserves your support if you are a churchman—unless, of course, you are a pinko churchman. In that case, don't write.

So now we have covered, though we haven't begun to do the subjects justice, the colleges, the churches and the labor unions. As for

### The Rest of Us

one word will do.

### SUCKERS!

### Peace, It's Wonderful

The United States has never lost a war nor won a peace. The truce that seems to be at hand in Korea as these lines are being written is not peace by the widest stretch of the imagination, but it may well be the nearest thing to peace we'll see in our day. And have we won it? Not so you'd notice. If we haven't lost our shirt, it's because we've given it away.

It's the United Nations that is supposed to be fighting the war in Korea—the United Nations and the South Koreans. They are fighting against the North Koreans and the Chinese Communists. The supposition is correct but for the trifling fact that Soviet Russia, one of the largest nations in the United Nations is, to all intents and purposes, fighting on the enemy side—which would make the United Nations appear less than united—and the further fact, if it is worth mentioning, that the United States is the only member of the United Nations that has done anything that amounts to a tinker's damn to help the South Koreans. We have been in it three years, we've spent billions and we have suffered something like a hundred thousand casualties. So it is not out of turn for us to speak of what happens in Korea as "our" loss or "our" gain—except that there is no gain.

By the truce terms, as they have been outlined so far, the Commies are getting everything they asked for. And the United States has been guilty of a humiliating backdown that will live to plague us through history for centuries to come. We encouraged enemy

troops to desert to our side. We gave our solemn assurance that they would be protected, that under no circumstances would they be repatriated against their will.

So now what are we doing? We are not turning those prisoners loose, as we should have done long ago, though our ally, Syngman Rhee, had the good sense and decency to let 27,000 of his prisoners fly the coop a few weeks back. We are to turn them over to a commission of foreign nations, and we agree that the Communists may have four months to "persuade" them to go back to their homes. If the prisoner can't be "persuaded" in that time, then the commission will decide what to do with them.

The one thing about the whole miserable shenanigan this paper can't understand is why the Communists want four months for the "persuading." A dozen words or less would do—and they wouldn't take much time. Here's the ultimatum: "If you don't come home, all your folks will be shot." And the prisoner knows, of course, being a deserter, that if he *does* go home, *he will be shot*.

A fine guarantee, that one of ours turned out to be, didn't it?

### Pity The Poor Farmer

SEC. BENSON asked cotton farmers to raise not more than 12.5 million bales this year. So, knowing that cotton prices would be supported at 90 per cent of parity, they are producing an estimated 15.3 million bales.

What will the government do to prevent a similar catastrophe next year? Withdraw price support? Don't be silly! With all them votes? Next year there'll be allocating. Cotton acreage will be cut. Farmers will make up on other crops—price supported, of course. Goober berries, say. Then there will be a surplus—so to speak—of goober berries, which the government will buy at 90 per cent of the parity price. Then there will be goober berry allocation—and the farmers will come back to cotton.

That makes it tough on the farmer. Half the time the poor guy doesn't know what he will have to grow to get his government hand-out—or what it is they will pay him for not growing.

The taxpayers and consumers are much better off, the lucky stiff. They *know* who it is will have to dig up the billion bucks the politicians will hand over to the farmers. They don't have to guess.

### Worthwhilers

We are getting tired of telling people what they ought to do. In the first place they won't do it. In the second, they've got a right to do as they please so long as they don't hang one on the other guy. So-o-o, what follows is a list of things we like rather than a list of things you should do. You do as you please.

First, there's the Freedom Clubs, Inc., 5119 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles 27, Calif., "A Mobilization of Americans to Preserve FREEDOM UNDER GOD." Ourselves, we can't think of a better objective. According to the brochure, "Freedom Clubs, Inc., is a non-partisan, non-profit organization founded on the principle that Liberty and Responsibility are inseparable. Men who have been unwilling

to accept Responsibility have inevitably lost their Liberty. Whenever people have come to depend upon the Government, they have been subjected to increasing control and regimentation of their lives. Freedom Club Members believe that Human Freedom is a priceless gift, worth more than life itself—they have pledged to accept their Responsibilities of Citizenship in a Free Society."

There's a lot more that would interest anybody willing to put up with The Individualist—which is something countless millions of Americans are *not* willing to do, at least not \$2 worth. But you'll have to find out about it yourself. If you like what you learn, it's the Freedoms Club that will get the \$3 dues, not The Individualist, but this is such a fine outfit we hope you'll take it upon yourself to find out more about it.

### Wisconsin's Shrinking Violet

You've guessed it, that means Senator Joe McCarthy. Of course he ain't nothin' of the kind, but so many other people are calling him what he isn't, that we just sorta slipped into it ourselves. What Joe McCarthy is is set forth in a temperately written study of the gent by Kenneth Cole, Professor of Political Science, Northwestern University. Joe gets eight pages of careful analysis, and he comes through hitting on all cylinders, pulled up, and sitting on his laurels—in a manner of speaking.

The brochure is put out by Freedom Clubs, Inc., and you'll have to put out ten cents to get a copy. 'Sworth it.

### Stand-by Controls

This is a six-page multigraphed copy of remarks prepared for the Senate Banking and Currency Committee by Paul Van Middlesworth. Says Paul, "I live and make my living as an independent small businessman in Richmond, Indiana... I come before this committee to question the necessity for the Economic Stabilization Act of 1953."

We would add that Paul is a lad as knows his stuff. If his question didn't set the committee members thinking, it was because they weren't thinking that day. And if not, they missed a swell opportunity. The speaker showed up emergency controls for the economic monstrosity they are. You can probably get a copy of these tart remarks by addressing Paul Van Middlesworth, 211 North 11th St., Richmond, Indiana.

### Change Your Life

This is about a book. The book's full title is "Change Your Life Through FAITH and WORK." It's the best damn thing of its kind we've read in a coon's age. Maybe you don't need spiritual help. On second thought that couldn't be true. *Everybody* needs spiritual help. Some people just don't know they do—and those people are poor indeed. We don't want to brag but ourselves, we need it more than most. And we got it from this book—loads of it.

In the very preface it says, "I say with all the honesty and simplicity I can possibly command, prayer works. Man is not a hopeless jellyfish controlled by outside forces nor yet a brute controlled by mere animal desires. Dr. Alexis Carrel wrote, 'Prayer is the most wonderful form of energy that one can generate... the only power in the world that

seems to overcome the so-called laws of nature."

Mere words, maybe, but the further along you get in this book, the harder the words will hit you, and the more they will help you. You can get a copy for \$2 from Dodd, Mead & Company, 432 Fourth Avenue, New York, but personally we'd sorta like to see you send \$2.20 for an autographed copy to the author, Stella Terrill Mann, 1266 Wesley Avenue, Pasadena 7, Calif. The extra 20 cents is to cover handling, not for the autograph, but we think it would please Mrs. Mann to have you send the order to her, and after reading her wonderful book, we'd like to see her pleased.

#### Half Truths and False Assurances

The next on the list of works we won't say you should read but only that you'll miss a whale of a lot if you don't—is a handsomely printed 67-page pamphlet the full title of which is "State Department Half Truths and False Assurances," which half truths and false assurances concern the U. N. Charter, Genocide Convention and Proposed Covenant of Human Rights. The brochure—our copy was in the fifth printing, and no wonder—is a scholarly but none the less astounding expose of one of the most frightening efforts to undermine our Constitution that has ever been made. If the perpetrators of this gigantic conspiracy get away with it, *the United Nations can make laws for us that will supersede our own laws.*

This small book is written by Frank E. Holman, past President of the American Bar Association. We have forgotten who sent us our copy, and we are just now getting around to reading it. If we weren't naturally so sweet mannered, we'd say why the devil don't people who publish things of this kind stick in an address and a price so folks will know how to go about getting a copy. The preface winds up: Seattle, Washington, September, 1952. Frank E. Holman, Past President of the American Bar Association. Probably a letter thus addressed will get through. How much the book will cost, we don't know but this we do know—it will be worth it!

#### Ain't It the Truth

Such might well have been the title of another brochure which we liked immensely, and it probably would have been if we, in our low uncouth way, had had anything to do with it. The real title is "Our Four Great Faiths," and the 11-page pamphlet is written by a railroad president, no less, W. G. Vollmer, head of Texas and Pacific Railway Company. It's a pippin. The Four Faiths are Faith in God, Faith in Ourselves, Faith in Our Fellow Men, Faith in Freedom. A free copy of this little gem may be secured by writing J. B. Shores, Director Employee and Public Relations, Texas and Pacific Railway, Dallas 2, Texas.

#### Karl Marx Was Nuts

This dandy little 18-pager is by Samuel B. Pettingill. The Honorable Sam has been writing dandy little pamphlets, and dandy books, for lo these many years and he has lost none of his cunning. Being a gentleman, and polite, he calls the present small opus, "Where Karl Marx Went Wrong." Maybe you think you know where the hairy-chinned apostle of many of our teachers, preachers and unioneers went wrong—and maybe you do know—but the

author presents his facts in such a highly interesting manner that we are sure you will find his work well worth asking for. And that's all that's necessary. It's for free—and it's published by The Foundation for Economic Education, Irvington-on-Hudson, N. Y.

#### The Counter Revolution

Another that registered with us is titled as above. Its subhead is, "American and Foreign and Domestic Policy and Economic Aspects of National Defense." It is prepared by the Editorial Staff of American Institute for Economic Research, Great Barrington, Mass. The authors stand out for the reason that they know far more of the true nature of taxes, and of how the government should be financed, than do most economists. We'll guarantee that you will learn a lot from this handsomely done brochure that you didn't know before—and it will be distinctly worth the effort—and the dollar it will cost you to get a copy. Send the buck to American Institute for Economic Research, Great Barrington, Mass.

#### Another Pair

Two more and we are done. Then we'll leave you to spend your own money—except, of course, don't forget to hold out two bucks for your Individualist renewal, which will, for most readers, be due in August.

These two are "Victims of Social Leveling," by Leonard Read, and "Delivering the Goods," by Benjamin F. Fairless.

Mr. Read's 19-page pamphlet is a peach of a short job on the significance of the Marxist tenet, "From each according to his abilities, to each according to his needs." You might think you know that subject pretty well already—and if you've been reading *The Individualist*, you probably do—but Mr. Read's little masterpiece is just the sort of summing up you'd need to prepare yourself for a discussion with your "liberal" friends on the "evils" of capitalism. With its aid you needn't leave the other bird even his pinfeathers.

A copy may be had for the asking. The Foundation for Economic Education, Inc., Irvington-on-Hudson, N. Y.

Next, and last—we've got to leave room for an electric belt ad we are hoping to get for this issue—is copy of a hot-stuff speech delivered a while back by Benjamin F. Fairless, Chairman of the Board, United States Steel Corporation. The talk was titled, "Delivering the Goods," and that's what the speech itself was. It tells a good deal about the steel industry, and particularly about U. S. Steel. Needless to say, it doesn't heave any brickbats in the direction of either, but what he says is true and to the point, and well worth reading by people who keep themselves well informed. It's by a leader who has captained considerable industry, and you can have a copy of the whole thing by applying to J. Carlisle MacDonald, Assistant to Chairman, United States Steel Corporation, 71 Broadway, New York 6, N. Y.

#### BREVITIES AND LEVITIES

NEWS HEADLINE: "Dictator Peron Moving Toward an Argentine Police State." He'll probably make it all right; he hasn't far to go.

SEC. BENSON is to conduct a poll to get the farmers' views on U. S. policies. He will ask them about government price supports—whether they

should be at present rigid high levels or on a flexible basis—subsidies, two-price systems under which surpluses would be offered abroad at cut-rate prices, price insurance, production controls, farm loan requirements and soil conservation. There is one question you can bet your sweet life he won't ask them: "Would you like to try free enterprise for a while, and give the old law of supply and demand a twirl?" That would be a silly question, wouldn't it?

A WESTINGHOUSE ELECTRIC official told 8,000 of his workers recently that foreign competition should be barred, or nullified by tariffs, and if it weren't, some of the workers might lose their jobs. American concerns, so he said, can't compete with foreign manufacturers who pay their employees only a fraction of the wage drawn by American workers—in some instances no more than one-fifth as much. What he did not tell them is that there isn't a country on earth where wages aren't lower than in the U. S., and yet American manufacturers, including Westinghouse, ship their wares to every last one of those countries and undersell the foreign manufacturers on their home grounds. He didn't tell them that, probably, because some one might have piped up, "How come?" And that would have been awkward. Mr. Westinghouse's man would have had to own up that he was talking through his hat, that it isn't dollars per hour that determine costs but output per dollar, and that it doesn't make a frazzlin' bit of difference if the American draws three times the wage of the foreigner, so long as he turns out five times as much—which is usually the case. It is obvious, then, that the plea for tariff "protection" is merely a plea for higher prices than could be had in a free market—just another scheme for soaking the American consumer.

THE CIO is now enacting agreements with Northern employers that they will not move their plants to the lower-paying, less-organized South. Already six Milwaukee clothing firms have promised not to leave that city during the next five years without consent of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers. That's knuckling down that's on a par with the way our negotiators knuckle down to the Communists in the Korean truce talks.

ON HIS RECENT Western trip President Eisenhower said in a speech at Garrison Dam on the Missouri River, "The dam was built with the peoples' money; the benefits should go to the people." They sure should, but not through another setup like TVA where artificially low prices for power and light are offset many, many times by hidden charges, made possible by juggled book-keeping, that are passed on to taxpayers. The government has no damn business in the dam business. The dams already built should be turned over to privately owned utility concerns, which could be depended upon for adequate service and watched like a hawk as to prices.

#### THE INDIVIDUALIST

Published monthly by C. O. Steele,  
Anna Maria, Florida. Subscription \$2 a year.

THIRD CLASS  
PERMIT No. 2  
SEC. 34.66 P.L. & R.  
BRADENTON, FLA.

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Brooklyn, N.Y.