

nation left in the world to lead in finding a basis for peace among the distracted European peoples which shall give them a reasonable opportunity for economic prosperity and political stability.

With these and countless other dangerous and difficult questions before our country, I am convinced that Congress ought to remain in session so that the judgment and will of the people may register directly through their representatives in all the momentous decisions which the President, as our Chief Executive, will have to make.

In the brief time allotted me, I can only make a passing reference to our most urgent and important domestic problems. This war scare has served for the time at least, as a complete black-out of conditions here at home. The fog may hide the abyss from our view for the moment, but the danger is still there. We need to take a good long look at ourselves, free from the glamour of experimental politics and wishful thinking. After all, the best insurance against involvement in war abroad is good government, prosperity, and peace at home.

We must admit that since the World War we have failed to work successfully the institutions of our country. We have wrapped the individual citizen in the grave clothes of Government support and control, entirely totalitarian in method and purpose, and by so doing we have softened his moral fiber, confused his thinking, and undermined his native courage, initiative, and self-reliance. The Army of the unemployed is the only arm that we have to face. The most gigantic public debt in all peacetime history, mounting taxes, continuing deficits, lowered standards of living, industrial strife, agricultural distress, class hatreds, unequal and inequitable distribution of wealth, increasing unbelief in and disloyalty toward the fundamental principles of our American system—these are the enemies already within our gates which must be faced and mastered if we are to keep our place in the forefront of civilization.

I cannot, if I would, deceive myself as to the reality of these conditions. Nor am I willing to deceive my people with soft words about these hard facts.

Rather I would sound tonight the battle cry for a new courage; a new fighting spirit among our people. Let us quit jousting wind-mills, chasing shadows, squabbling over unessentials and secondaries. Let us renew our faith in ourselves, our country, and our God. Let us rededicate ourselves afresh to those great ideals which have made America the hope of the world; God's best gift of opportunity to the common man. Our heroic fathers, bare-handed, with invincible courage waded this wilderness continent from savage men and savage beasts and cemented with their blood the foundations of our great Republic. That is our heritage. We have the manpower, the brains and character and material resources to solve every national problem, to meet and master every natural foe and thus assure for ourselves and our children free and full enjoyment of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Affiliation of Government Employees With Communist Party Activities

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. NOAH M. MASON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 1939

ARTICLE BY DAVID LAWRENCE

Mr. MASON. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the RECORD, I include the following article by David Lawrence which was printed in the Washington Star of yesterday:

[From the Washington Evening Star]

CONGRESS CAN END "FRONT" IN GOVERNMENT—HOLDS PURSE STRINGS OF MEMBERS IN EMPLOY OF UNITED STATES

(By David Lawrence)

Officials of the Government who have just been disclosed to be members of what the Dies committee unanimously terms a "Communist-front" organization may soon face a choice between continued membership or loss of their respective jobs.

It is a simple thing to introduce and probably as easy to have Congress vote at its January session an amendment to any current appropriation bill which shall provide explicitly that none of the funds may be used to pay salaries of Government employees affiliated directly or indirectly with Communist Party activities.

Such a proposal would be in line with the restrictions already placed upon Government employees under the new law. The latter statute plainly deprived Government employees the wages enjoyed as to party politics by private citizen

the constitutional authority for such a step is the well-established principle that Uncle Sam, as an employer, may impose any restrictions or qualifications he pleases upon those in Government posts.

OFFERED A CHOICE

Anyone who dislikes the restrictions is at liberty, of course, to resign and get another job thereafter and keep his membership in the Communist Party or any other organization of a radical type.

The Dies committee, of course, has been none too popular from the outset of its hearings with the so-called liberals in government, who have felt that the committee was using the Communist argument as a smoke screen against them for their left-wing beliefs and doctrines. But the Dies committee has assailed Fascist and right-wing organizations with vigor, too, so that it has become a matter now of a battle against "isms" as such.

The committee may or may not be going too far in its implications that members of a Communist-influenced organization or those on a mailing list are to be held up to criticism, but the committee's point is that members of the American League for Peace and Democracy—the organization in question—have had since last January to detach themselves from a league whose connection with the Communists was unanimously held by committee members to be proved.

HOSTILE CONGRESS SEEN

Some advocates of freedom of opinion will insist that individual liberty is to a certain extent circumscribed by what the committee has done, but whether they are right or wrong as to abstract or concrete acceptance of communistic philosophy by individuals outside the Government, there can be no doubt about the probable mood of Congress so far as persons employed by the Government itself.

The appointment to a Government position carries with it a necessary separation from private interests of all kinds, and it would seem to be inevitable that some legislation barring from the Government any one connected with the communistic organizations or their affiliates will very soon be adopted by Congress.

Influence of Minority Groups on Legislative Action

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

OF

HON. CLIFTON A. WOODRUM

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 27, 1939

Mr. WOODRUM of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, under leave to extend my remarks in the RECORD, I herewith attach a letter from Bushrod Washington to his distinguished brother George Washington, and George Washington's reply. The subject under discussion was the advisability or propriety of organizing minority groups or committees for the purpose of influencing legislative action.

LETTER FROM BUSHROD WASHINGTON TO GEORGE WASHINGTON

We have lately instituted a society in these lower counties called the Patriotic Society. As it is something new, and there are a few men both good and sensible who disapprove of it, it will be a high gratification to me to know your sentiments of it, if you will be so kind as to communicate them. The object of the institution is to inquire into the state of public affairs; to consider in what the true happiness of the people consists, and what are the evils which have pursued, and still continue to molest us; the means of attaining the former and escaping the latter; to inquire into the conduct of those who represent us and to give them our sentiments upon those laws which ought to be or are already made.

It will also be a considerable object to instill principles of frugality into the minds of the people, both by precept and example. If any real good should result from such a society, we hope similar ones will be generally instituted through the State; and if so, they may establish a very formidable check upon evil-disposed men who, clothed with power, make interested motives and not public good the rule of their conduct. These are the general outlines of the institution; and, whether in the event it may be beneficial or not, I think that it has taken its rise in virtuous motives. We have had a considerable meeting of the most sensible and respectable gentlemen in this part of the country, and another is to be held on Tuesday next, previous to the meeting of the assembly. Our design is to hold another as soon as the assembly has risen, the first to instruct our delegates what they ought to do, the next to inquire what they have done.

BUSHFIELD, September 27.

The following is George Washington's reply:

TO BUSHROD WASHINGTON

MOUNT VERNON, 30 September, 1786.

DEAR BUSHROD: I was from home when your servant arrived, and found him in a hurry to be gone when I returned. I have com-