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SHADES OF CHANUTE

Last week, a lawyer named Charles T. Malone of Washington D. C. who is President of the American Glider Association appeared before the House Naval Affairs Committee and frankly stated that he thought the War Department was "stupid" in not providing for glider training in view of what happened in Crete. And that brings us to our story. It's probably 4500 years ago ( yes, 4500 is correct ) that Minos, the ancient King of Crete brought a man named Daedalus and his son Icarus to the island to build a labrynth in which to place folks who opposed the king. Obviously they would get lost in a labrynth and be devoured by a monster called a Minotaur. Daedalus and Icarus did something to displease the king and so they were imprisoned in the very labrynth which they had built. To escape, they fashioned wings from wax and feathers. As they flew out of the prison, Daedalus cautioned Icarus not to fly too close to the sun or the heat would melt the wax. Icarus disregarded this advise, fell in the sea and was drowned while Daedalus escaped to Sicily. This is the same island where 4500 years later, Nazi gliders and parachutes dropped from the skies and captured the island. But there is one more part to this story. It's 46 years ago that a man named Octave Chanute of Chicago was experimenting with gliders and flying over the sand dunes along Lake Michigan. Chanute Field at Rantoul bears his name and Octave Chanute sleeps peacefully in Springdale cemetery at Peoria. What a combination Daedalus, Icarus, Chanute, parachute troops, and Malone, stretched over 4500 years of history.

WHY WPA.

During the recent debate on the work relief bill in the House of Representatives which carries 875 million dollars for that purpose, the question was frequently raised as to why this vast sum must be appropriated for WPA when billions upon billions are being expended in many sections of the country for defense materials and supplies. It is both a fair and interesting question and one which the House Appropriations Committee examined with considerable interest. It was stated to the Committee by the Nat'l Industrial Conference Board as of March 1941 that there are still over 6,000,000 unemployed; the CIO estimate was slightly over 9,000,000 unemployed; the AFL figure was about 7½ million; the estimate of Leon Henderson of the Price Administration Division was about 4½ million. It was also submitted the 69% of all defense orders had gone to 20 areas in the United States. These areas contained only 28% of the population and only 24% of all WPA workers. Finally, it was stated that only 761 out of a total of 3073 counties in the U.S. had received defense orders. All of which means that the defense program has not yet reached that stage of diffusion where it will gently rain prosperity upon the whole country.

PROPAGANDA

Each day the mail man brings a stack of literature a foot high which can be catalogued as a type of propaganda dealing with countless subjects. Some of it is from our own government agencies while others come from foreign agencies. German propaganda comes in the form of a booklet called "Facts In Review" which is issued by the German Library

of Information at 17 Battery Place New York City. It contains articles on sports, business, farming etc and then carries a department called "Facts In Review" in which items on war and foreign policy are carried. Norway thro the Royal Norwegian Government Press Representative with offices in Washington gets out a mimeographed folder called "News of Norway." Similar data comes from other countries. Sometimes it comes in book form and it would take a life-time to read the accumulations during a single session of Congress. All this merely gives point to a trial now going on in the Federal District Court in Washington where three Soviet propagandists are on trial for conspiracy and for failure to register with the state department. Testimony indicates that Russia has a publishing company known as the Mezhmga State Publishing Corporation at Moscow. It first sent Communist literature to the US for distribution by the Amtorg Corporation. When this became too obvious it was changed to the Amkniga Corporation. This was changed to the Bookniga Corporation and later to Bookniga Inc. Finally it was changed to the Four Continent Book Corporation. The only trouble was that they forgot to change the telephone number and fell afoul of the Dept. of Justice. So the literary barrage continues.

#### READ THIS THREE TIMES

Because it contains the substance of the draft-property bill which was recently introduced. If enacted, it would give the President power to take over every kind of property known to mankind whether it be a railroad, factory, warehouse, farm, aluminum ice-tray or what-not, so long as it is adaptable directly or indirectly to national defense. The bill recites that during an emergency, the President is authorized, when he deems it in the interest of national defense to "requisit on and take over" property of any kind or character "temporarily or permanently" or any part thereof or any interest therein which is "directly or indirectly" adaptable to national defense or "in the construction, manufacture, production, transportation, repair, testing or storage of military or naval supplies or articles, commodities, materials, machinery or equipment for national defense." Any such property may be used on such terms as the President deems satisfactory or may be disposed of or sold. Since virtually every known kind of property, be it food, money, land, buildings, machinery, railroads, ships, securities, factories or land can be deemed directly or indirectly adaptable to national defense, the measure in it's present form can be said to authorize the taking over of any property in the land. That's really some bill!