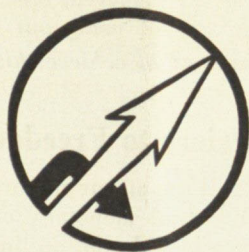


What Is New America?



*A Movement dedicated to the
achievement of American Unity
for Democracy and Abundance*

NEW AMERICA—WHY?

The American people have built a nation which spans a continent. We have built a nation of free men—a great political democracy. But today the greatness we have built is crumbling around us. The wealth that could be produced by millions of men and thousands of machines is withheld from the American people. Our unity and our freedom are in danger. We are threatened with economic chaos and internal strife.

Conditions of living are making millions of Americans more and more desperate. This desperation is driving many of our people to the point where they will fight under any banner and follow any leader who promises them a way out. Without knowing what is happening they are falling easy victims to demagogues and hate-mongers. In this way the American people may be led to destroy every cherished gain of the past and every great hope for the future.

So long as millions of Americans are in want, every idle machine is a monstrous threat to democratic ideals; every restriction on production is a strangle-hold on our freedom! As loyal Americans, jealous of our history and our hopes, we cannot shut our eyes to these dangers.

Building America

We have the job of building for ourselves and our children a nation in which we can make full use of our mines, our factories, our farms and our schools. We can build on the sound base of our vast national resources and our magnificent technical equipment. We can work with the strength of a

people skilled in the arts and sciences, strong in the love of personal freedom, staunch in the support of the democratic process. We can build on the firm foundation of political democracy which we have inherited.

The possibility of plenty is so clear, the frustration of insecurity so great, that if a democratic solution is not achieved, other means will be tried. The time for finding a democratic way of using our resources is not unlimited.

NEW AMERICA is determined to achieve this democratic solution while there is yet time.

Barriers to Freedom

The basic obstacle to the full use of our resources is monopoly. Monopoly power is sovereign power. Industrial monopoly controls our great industrial plant. It maintains high prices which do not decline as costs of production are lowered. By keeping prices up output is kept down. Wages and salaries which represent the purchasing power of the American people steadily decline. Finance monopoly controls our savings and credit. It prohibits investment in new competitive enterprises. It limits the possibilities of new competitive businesses. It prevents the use of accumulated savings for expanding our productive resources. Monopoly stands in the way of freedom for the American people.

Forward! The American Way!

The preservation and expansion of our democratic institutions requires social ownership of these barrier monopolies. We can have control over our lives and our future security only by social ownership of our credit resources and of those basic industries needed to make possible the full use of our productive capacity. Yet we must preserve in this process the peculiarly American virtues of individual initiative, management and choice. Social ownership in itself is not a guarantee of democracy. We want no dictatorship set up in the name of a totalitarian State. We want no economy regimented by the decrees of an autocratic planning board.

Whether industry is privately or socially owned, bureaucracy and dictatorship can be avoided only by maintaining competitive conditions and by expanding production. The basic controls must be exercised by people's purchases in a free market. That means adequate purchasing power in the hands of the people.

What will preserve the genuine values of competition and individual initiative? They will be preserved when basic industries owned by the people and private enterprises produce to meet consumers' demands in a free market. Lower prices, jobs for everybody and more goods and desirable services will be the result. There will be an enormous increase in purchasing power. The market for goods and services will be great enough to allow both public and privately operated industry to produce at high and expanding levels under fair competitive conditions. Full employment will eliminate the major expenditures of government. The surplus income from socially owned industry will go to meet the costs of government—thereby making crushing taxes unnecessary. This is the way to preserve and expand the democratic way of life. If we do not take this way, more and more arbitrary control over our lives is certain, either by the big monopolies or by government decree.

NEW AMERICA—HOW?

All the values of American life are threatened by the menace of totalitarian control, whether it comes from the monopolies trying to extend their power or the government assuming control over everything. Although we still have political democracy, we have moved far toward industrial autocracy. We now face a choice: *totalitarian political control* or *democratic control* extended over the operation of industry and economic life.

Expanding Democracy

NEW AMERICA derives its analysis and goal from the tradition and history of a free and expanding America. We are eager to preserve and advance democracy. We are committed to the use of truly democratic methods in working for social change. NEW AMERICA knows that a democratic people cannot achieve more democracy through autocratic and dictatorial means.

NEW AMERICA makes its analysis not only in terms of the whole economy, but also in terms of the problems of particular groups. New Americans in steel, railroading, farming, retail trades, etc., have the job of studying their own industries and working in them on the program of social change. To accomplish the full goal of NEW AMERICA, *all* vital sections of American society must be behind such a program. No *putsch* can work. No *coup d'etat* can work. No dictatorship by any section of the American people can work. The sort of social change NEW AMERICA is striving for involves the lives of millions of people. It cannot be accomplished without the participation and support of the vast majority of the people.

Today and Tomorrow

NEW AMERICA realizes that talking in terms of *ultimate* goals is not enough. Millions of Americans are living under impossible conditions in the *present*. They have immediate needs which must be satisfied. It would be unrealistic and callous for any group to disregard these immediate needs. The aged and infirm need security. Our children need protection and more education. The unemployed need work at a living wage. The youth need training and jobs. The people need to be adequately housed and their health protected. The land needs to be restored to fruitfulness. NEW AMERICA gains popular support on the basis of a program and activities designed to *meet these immediate needs of the American people*. The carrying out of this program represents significant steps toward the attainment of our final goal of an expanding democracy—plenty and security for all.

NEW AMERICA is not now a political party in the sense that we offer candidates for public office. Our present work is broad educational activity and the development of economic programs designed to meet the needs of the various groups in American society. In carrying forward these programs it is our job to build the organizations to which we belong on a democratic basis. As NEW AMERICA completes its analysis and builds its leadership in these functional groups of our society, it will ask for the support of the people to carry out the full program of social change necessary to meet the needs of the American people.

NEW AMERICA—WHO?

NEW AMERICA is an independent American organization. It was founded in 1933 by a group of men and women who made a basic analysis of the job to be done in this country. Since 1933 NEW AMERICA has been expanding this analysis and carrying on a program of action around it. We have been engaged in building the necessary organization to put this program into effect. We have gathered together a representative group of men and women who are critically thoughtful and straightforward in their understanding. They come from the various sections of working America—farmers, teachers, steel workers, business men, doctors, bookkeepers, automobile workers, writers and many other functional groups. Organized districts have been established in various areas, including Denver, Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh and New York.

On the Job

The members of NEW AMERICA are people who find in the organization the opportunity and the means to express their greatest creative capacities in working for a freer and more democratic America. They know that there is a job to be done. They themselves must understand the problems of society which confront them. That is an educational job which NEW AMERICA takes as its obligation to its membership. Then, they must use this understanding to help develop and put into action NEW AMERICA's analysis, policies and programs.

Finally, it is a basic organizational principle of NEW AMERICA that *every policy of the organization must be democratically determined*. All basic policies are critically reviewed and adopted through representative bodies of the organization. Once a policy is democratically adopted, every member of NEW AMERICA works to put this policy into effect. NEW AMERICA believes that the finest expression of democracy consists in complete freedom of criticism in the adoption of a policy and efficient teamwork in carrying it out.

NEW AMERICA—AND YOU

If you believe in NEW AMERICA's goal; if you are convinced that only by an active choice of the American people can democracy and decency and the good life be realized here in America; if you have an honest and healthy faith in the American people; if you are ready to participate in the work we are doing, then NEW AMERICA *needs you*. If you have found no constructive way to work, no like-minded group of people to work with and if you realize the limitations of an individual working alone—then *you need* NEW AMERICA.

We invite your interest—we will be glad to answer your questions. Get in touch with NEW AMERICA.

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