

Washington Digest

Wallace's Job Program Packs Political TNT

Reorganization of Commerce Department First Step Forward in Formulation of Full Employment Policy.

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The recent operating and organization program for the department of commerce created very little excitement in Washington or elsewhere when it was released. I think it made page 15 of the New York Times. The Times gave much more prominence recently to another document from the pen of Henry Agard Wallace—his new book, "Sixty Million Jobs," of which I shall speak later.

Congress may slumber on the reorganization report for yet a little, but when Washington wakes to the real significance of this 10-page, mimeographed document it will find between the lines much upon which to ponder. (Maybe that is why it was double-spaced.)

To me, this is a three-in-one instrument—just as its author, Henry Wallace, revealed himself as a three-in-one personality when I called on him just before the publication of his program, his first approach to the governmental limelight since the change in administration.

The report on what Mr. Wallace in his capacity as secretary of commerce hopes will mean the revitalizing and expanding of his department, envisions the metamorphosis of that somewhat turgid and impotent institution into a vigorous and human organization which will reach out and touch millions of individuals just as the government's most virile department, agriculture, does. Secretary Wallace said frankly at his press conference and also in more detail privately to me, that he thought that the department of commerce should do for the business man, big and little, what the department of agriculture does for the farmer, big and little. And it will, if he has his way.

Active Department Secretary's Goal

Wipe out your mind, if you will, that one-time problem child of the New Deal, the agricultural adjustment administration. Now weigh the testimony of observers, including anti-Wallaceites, and I think you will learn that as secretary of agriculture, the author of "Sixty Million Jobs" did a good job in revitalizing his department.

How much it will cost to do as much for commerce, we couldn't get him to estimate, but he finally told us that it would be less than one-sixth of the cost of one day's war at V-E Day. By a series of calculations we arrived at the figure of 40 million dollars. Since the commerce department spent about 121 million dollars last year, Mr. Wallace's changes would make a total cost for his revitalized department of 161 million dollars.

Those who cry economy will shudder at that figure but they will hear this answer: If business, big and little, wants help similar to that which agriculture demands and gets it will cost something. The department of agriculture cost approximately 769 million dollars to run last year, and the farmers wouldn't want it to do less.

There will also be another explanation of the figures which will attempt to show that part of the expansion of the reorganized department is really contraction, and that brings us to the second integer of the three-in-one composition of Mr. Wallace's plan. The plan is more than a blueprint for changes in a single governmental institution. It is definitely a part of President Truman's reorganization plan which it is fair to assume would bring back under the commerce roof the horde of agencies and commissions which have to do with industry and business.

And now we come to part three of the tri-partite function of the Wallace program. It is by his own implication, a part of his recipe for full employment included in his book, "Sixty Million Jobs," and mention of that brings me to an examination of Mr. Wallace himself.

I said that like the program of reorganization for his department, Mr. Wallace seemed tripartite to me. When I called upon him, he came down the great, cavernous room which Herbert Hoover planned for his successor and we sat in chairs about a little table that made a hospitable oasis in the midst of the desert vastness of high walls and lofty ceiling.

A Presidential Ghost Emerges

I had really come to see Henry Wallace, the author of "Sixty Million Jobs," which had just been reported a best seller in two New York stores. We discoursed at some length on that opus and gradually I found myself also talking to Henry Wallace, secretary of commerce, for, as I suggested earlier, many a strand from "Sixty Million Jobs" may be discovered in the warp and woof of the department reorganization plan.

As the conversation moved from book to report and back to book again, never getting far from the theme of full employment, I thought I could make out an ectoplasmic form arising from what had been up until then my two-part, author-secretary host. The third being, although not yet completely materialized, little by little became translucently visible to the naked eye. This party of the third part I thought I recognized as Henry Wallace, presidential candidate (1948 or at least 1952).

Perhaps I would not have believed my eyes if it had not been for a statement which a stout supporter of Mr. Wallace had made to me: "Sixty Million Jobs" comes pretty near to being just about the best political platform the Democratic party can run on in the next election."

In one place, Author Wallace says: "There are a few, of course, who think that any government servant who uses the phrase 'full employment' is engaged in some deep dark plot. But they are the exceptions that prove the people's sanity and soundness as a whole."

Senator McClellan might be considered one of the exceptions from his remarks in the debate on the full employment bill. He said that the measure "says a great deal and actually means nothing except to create an erroneous impression in the minds of the people." He later described it as "soft soap."

"Sixty Million Jobs" Draws Commendations

Whatever the lawmakers think, the reviewers certainly are full of praise for Wallace's book. The New York Times calls it "a thoughtful and thought-provoking discussion of American political economy," and the Saturday Review of Literature, agreeing with the Times, adds that, "more than any recent work on economics or politics, it can serve as a moral testament and intellectual guide in the eventful, difficult days ahead."

The work appeared first in a business-letter-sheet size with paper cover; it followed in orthodox book form. Later the author hopes, he told me, that it will be printed in a cheap, pocket-size edition.

When Mr. Wallace said that I thought I caught his ectoplasmic tripartite nodding emphatic approval while ghostly lips formed the words, "for every voter's pocket."

Much water will pass beneath the Potomac bridges between now and 1948 or 1952. We have with us at present a conservative congress and the political veterans say that no matter which way the wind may blow abroad, it is blowing to the right on Capitol hill and, they add hopefully, perhaps not too leftward at the other end of Pennsylvania avenue.

Secretary - author - candidate Wallace's full employment program requires much more legislation than the full employment bill. That is only the first step. The expansion and re-orientation of his and other departments will be required. Then there will be special taxation; there will be at least the blue-printing of public works; there will have to be a settled policy providing for foreign loans—the Bretton Woods program and other stimulants of world trade and tourist traffic.

If a too conservative congress did not grant the minimum legislative implementation, the "Sixty Million Jobs" plan could not be carried out. That, however, Mr. Wallace's supporters insist, will simply make 60 million people who want jobs, plus their families, vote for the man who believes they can be produced.

First Rubber Shipment Arrives



The nation's first shipment of rubber from the Pacific since Pearl Harbor, produced under the very noses of the Japanese in the Philippines, recently arrived at San Francisco. Forty-two tons of the precious crude stock was shipped from the Pathfinder plantation of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber company in Mindanao.

Labor Management Talks Industrial Peace



Shown around the table are, left to right: Sec. Henry A. Wallace, Sec. Lewis B. Schwellenbach, William Green of the AFL, Eric A. Johnston, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, Charles Symington, J. Paul Douglas, Robert L. Watt, Joyce O'Hara, Ray Smithurst, Ted Silvey, Ira Mosher and Philip Murray of the CIO, as they talk labor peace.

Here Come the Brides—555 of 'Em



When the former luxury liner Lusitania docked at San Francisco recently, the cargo included 555 Australian war brides of American servicemen and some 200 of their children. Hundreds of other war brides are awaiting transportation from Australia as well as from England, France, and other European countries. They will all be brought here soon.

Airliner Soon to Circle Globe



Above is an artist's drawing of the Constellation's interior, showing the seating accommodations for the passengers. This will be typical of the accommodations that will be found on most airliners in this country, as well as those covering around-the-world routes. They will also be provided with kitchens and service rooms for comfort of travelers.

Only Lady Exerciser



Marie Batzer, the only feminine exercise rider at Hollywood Park track, is shown with Wing and Wrig before one of her regular morning workouts.

Doolittle Gets Steak



En route to Washington, General Doolittle arrived at San Francisco from Honolulu in a "war weary" B-29 and asked for a steak. Jimmy shows that he has not forgotten how to do away with this precious item of food. His future plans are uncertain.

'Gotta Sign Off Now'



"General Wainwright is a great guy. Gotta sign off now, the Japs are closing in. Notify my mother in Brooklyn. What wouldn't I give for an ice cream soda." This was the final message sent out of Corregidor by Sgt. Irving Strobber before the Japs entered.

Ford II Advanced



Henry Ford II, who was recently named president of the Ford Motor company, is pictured talking to his grandfather, who resigned from the office.



EISENHOWER AND RUSSIAN Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, a real diplomat, has been making progress toward friendship with the Russians, but got a setback the other day.

U. S. officials entering Eisenhower's office found him despondent. He was holding a copy of Time magazine.

"Look at that," he said, "six weeks' work gone." Eisenhower pointed to a picture of a female entertainer in a Berlin night club standing on her head, legs apart, holding a picture of Stalin between them. Time had reproduced the picture.

"And just as I was making some progress with Marshal Zhukov," Eisenhower mourned. "First he would scarcely see me. But recently we have become pretty good friends. When I go into his office he says, 'Here's to Ike.'"

Eisenhower went on to tell how Zhukov was blazing mad over the Time magazine picture. He had just come from seeing the Russian commander who had demanded:

"What are you going to do about this?"

"Nothing," replied Eisenhower.

"What! You let the American press make mockery of the marshal?" exclaimed Zhukov.

"That's what we fought the war for—the right to criticize, the right for people to say what they please," said Eisenhower.

Eisenhower went on to explain to the Russian that because one newspaper or magazine published a picture of Stalin, it did not reflect the sentiment of either the American government or the American people, and that the American government scrupulously refrained from censoring the press on matters of this kind.

However, the Russians continue to be sensitive. It is hard for them to understand the difference between a regulated press as in the Soviet and a free press as in the U. S. A.

NEW SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

President Truman really let his hair down with Senator Burton when he called him in last week to tell him he was being nominated to the Supreme court.

Catching Burton just before the Ohio senator was about to leave for Cincinnati, Truman told him that he had actually promised the Supreme court job to another man, Robert Patterson, now secretary of war, but changed his mind.

"Harold," said Truman at the start of the interview, "I've made up my mind to appoint you to the Supreme court."

"You were always my first choice," Truman continued, "but I had some vacillations. I considered appointing Phillips of Denver, Parker of North Carolina and Patterson.

"Finally I decided to appoint Patterson and told him I was going to appoint him."

Truman then explained that it was better to leave Patterson in the war department to replace Stimson as secretary of war.

"One of the things that disturbed me about your appointment," Truman continued, "was the probable claim that I might be playing politics in order to get a Democratic senator from Ohio." (Truman had in mind the fact that Governor Lausche of Ohio, a Democrat, now can appoint a Democratic senator to replace Burton, a Republican.)

"So I talked it over with Alben Barkley," Truman explained, "and he advised that if I was convinced you were the right man, I should appoint you and let political consequences go hang."

Note—Truman had picked up Senator Barkley at Paducah, Ky., the evening before and flown him back to Washington in his special plane, at which time they had conferred regarding the Burton appointment. Truman, incidentally, seems to be leaning more and more on sage, experienced Barkley for advice.

CAPITAL CHAFF

President Truman still keeps up his rapid-fire early-morning appointment pace, sees as many as 15 visitors before lunch. Greek Publisher Basil Viavianos visited Truman the other day, caught him sneaking a yawn and long stretch between callers.

A new breath of fresh air in the post office department: Gael E. Sullivan of Chicago, assistant postmaster general.

Visitors to the Franklin Roosevelt Memorial library at Hyde Park have doubled since the late President's death. Mrs. Roosevelt gave each of Henry Morgenthau's children a trinket from the former chief executive's desk as a memento.

When Nelson Rockefeller was eased out of the state department, workers in that building were startled to see truckers removing the furniture from his office. He had furnished his suite with his own furniture. When the truck pulled away, even the chandeliers, which were Rockefeller's personal property, had been taken.

Suggestion to Paul McNutt—check on why General MacArthur and Philippine President Osmeña permitted so many Jap collaborators to keep high office in Manila since liberation of the Philippines.



Use honey instead of sugar on cereals and fruits. It blends deliciously with nut-like flavor of cereals.

Fried eggs will keep their shape and not stick to the pan if a pinch of salt is added to the frying fat.

Cover a brick with cloth and keep it handy in your sewing-room. Then if you're sewing something that must be held taut, pin end of it to the brick. Hold other end in hand and sew from there with nothing to worry about.

To remove cranberry stains from linens, stretch the stained portion across a bowl. Then hold a kettle about a foot away from the bowl and pour a stream of boiling water through the stain until it disappears. Other fruit stains may also be removed in this manner.

"NO MORE TROUBLE WITH CONSTIPATION!"

Says Long-Time Sufferer Who Tried KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN

If you, too, are disappointed with pills and purgatives, be sure to read this unsolicited letter:

"For several years I was afflicted with chronic constipation. I tried various remedies, but got only temporary relief. Several months ago, I started eating KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN each morning, drinking water freely through the day. I have since never had the slightest trouble with constipation. Mr. E. gratifies to KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN." Mr. E. M. Riley, 11 E. Division Street, Chicago, Ill.

Do you want to be free of harsh laxatives for the rest of your life? You may be, if your constipation is due to lack of bulk in the diet! Just eat a dish of KELLOGG'S ALL-BRAN and drink plenty of water every day! If not satisfied, send the empty carton to Kellogg's of Battle Creek. Double the money you paid for it will be paid to you.

ALL-BRAN is not a purgative. It is a delicious cereal made from the vital outer layers of wheat. It's one of nature's most effective sources of gentle-acting bulk, which helps support normal laxation!

Get ALL-BRAN at your grocer's today. ALL-BRAN is made by Kellogg's of Battle Creek and Omaha.

Advertisement for Scott's Emulsion featuring a man carrying a large fish on his back. Text includes "GOT A COLD? Help shake it off with HIGH ENERGY TONIC" and "SCOTT'S EMULSION YEAR ROUND TONIC".

Advertisement for Pinehurst Cigarettes. Text includes "Have You Tried PINEHURST CIGARETTES Made with Gin-Seng Extract?" and "Treat yourself to the pleasure of this fine smoke—a smooth, mellow, mild cigarette—made of selected tobaccos, especially blended to the popular American taste."

Advertisement for Hotel Mt. Royal. Text includes "NEXT TIME IN BALTIMORE MAKE IT HOTEL MT. ROYAL" and "PERFECT HOTEL SERVICE Homelike Atmosphere Rates begin at \$2.00 per day".

Advertisement for Pan American Casino. Text includes "MUSIC—DANCING PAN AMERICAN CASINO" and "NEXT TIME IN BALTIMORE MAKE IT HOTEL MT. ROYAL".

BARBS... by Baukhage

Two hundred thousand of Berlin's tree million population are members of trade unions. But what have they got to trade?

If anybody asks you: "Don't you know there's a war on?" the answer is "yes" and whether you like it or not it will be for six months after a formal declaration of peace which isn't even in sight yet.

The White House had its first real paint job since the war began and looks like a new place. The scaffolds were up before J-surrender day. I wonder if the painters had a tip?

We have 20 million less horses and mules to feed than we once had in this country. But the land used to raise food for them is now feeding human beings.