

Let's Face Facts

Republicans Promise Farmers Fair Share Of National Income

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There is a plank in the Republican agricultural platform that goes to the heart of what the farmer wants. It reads: "We propose . . . an American market price to the American farmer and the protection of such price by means of support prices, commodity loans, or a combination thereof, together with other means as will assure an income to agriculture that is fair and equitable in comparison with labor, business and industry. We oppose subsidies as a substitute for fair markets."



Barrow Lyons

One need reflect on this only a little to realize how far the farmer and the Republican party has moved from traditional moorings at the post of the good old law of supply and demand as the principle price determinant. Although the plank does not mention parity prices, viewed in the light of this plank's history, parity price and parity income are implied.

It means that the organized farmer realizes that to prosper, a way must be found to control farm prices, and that farm income must be held in fair relation to the income of labor and business. Of course, this means that an equitable share should go also to labor and to business. Obviously, this calls for national machinery to determine what income actually is going to the various segments of society.

Congress is the only body in a position to pass final judgment on what is a fair share for each, although labor and business may raise objections because about 74 per cent of the congressmen come from rural areas. Anyhow, if the implications of this plank are squarely faced, it holds promise both for the farmer and for the city worker.

This plank does not sound as though it had been written by any interests that desire to purchase farm products at low prices, such as the millers or meat packers. Governor Bourke B. Hickenlooper of Iowa, who was the chairman of the Republican agricultural subcommittee which drafted the farm planks, assured me in a long interview in Chicago that no pressure was brought upon the committee by commercial interests to influence the farm planks.

"The committee held regional hearings in Chicago, Salt Lake City and New York," he said, "and nowhere was it approached by milling, packing or railway interests—at least to the best of my knowledge, and I think I would know."

This idea of protecting the farmer's share of national income probably is typical of the rejuvenated Republican party. Superficially it does not fit into the picture of the Republican party as the party of the great industrial interests. It implies that the share of the farmer has been too small in the past, which can only mean that the share of someone else has been too great.

Stand on Labor

At the hearing held by the agricultural subcommittee it was clear that the Grange and the Farmers Union felt that the share of many underpaid industrial workers had not been too great. The American Farm Bureau federation has not taken as generous a stand toward labor. Certainly, the plank needs definition and clarification in respect to some of its implications. Governor Hickenlooper said he believed industry was beginning to accept the idea that adequate income for the farmer and industrial worker was good for industry also.

Another extremely interesting plank is that which declares for "arrangements which will enable farmers to make necessary adjustments in production of any given basic crop, only if domestic surpluses should become abnormal and exceed manageable proportions."

Apparently there is a limit even to the political concept of an economy of abundance. It may be presumed that one of the evidences of surpluses becoming unmanageable would be the tendency for market prices to fall below support price.

In other words, production is to be controlled only when development of new uses for a commodity, government purchases of surpluses and commodity loans fail to do the job. We hope those remedies never prove to be too late to sustain farm income in "fair and equitable comparison with labor, business and industry."

"Sound irrigation projects administered as far as possible at state and regional levels," is included in the last paragraph of the farm platform. This is an extremely controversial plank, and straddles a serious conflict. In the Central Valley of California, where large corporation farms have been highly developed, the big farmers are anxious to modify the operation of the Reclamation act, which makes it necessary for farms of more than 160 acres to dispose of the balance of land above that amount, if they receive water from the new project.

Big Pull Behind Allied Push



Not far behind the Allied Fifth and Eighth armies who are pushing the Germans out of Italy come the hundreds of refugee families who are taking the road back to their homes. This family is typical. Lacking transportation, the family uses its man (and woman) power to haul its worldly possessions on a farm cart.

Drang Nach Osten in Reverse



The Red army's drive to coincide with the Allied invasion of western Europe has brought the Russians nearly 200 miles nearer to Berlin. The map above shows how the Russians put the squeeze on strategic Minsk, gateway to Warsaw and Berlin. All routes of escape, except dirt roads through marshes and forests, fell into Russian hands.

Veterans at New Secret Base



Sergt. G. S. McCall of Augusta, Ga., meets two young Russian women soldiers at one of the new secret air bases in Russia being used by U. S. planes for shuttle bombing. Both women are 21 years old and veterans of the battles of Leningrad and Stalingrad. Several of these bases are now being operated by U. S. air forces in Russia.

Rocket Ramp Abandoned by Nazis



American engineers are shown surveying a 700-foot steel and concrete unfinished ramp in Normandy, which is believed to have been planned for use by the Germans as a launching site for rocket bombs. Assembly line of concrete mixers abandoned by the Nazis are in the background. Not enough and too late was the story of this Nazi effort.

Chinese Wash Day



After a hard day in the field growing food for Maj. Gen. Claire Chennault's air troops, Chinese farm women wash their clothes in a small stream, before getting night meal. China is furnishing all food required by the American aviators.

Tennis Stars Meet



Four world's tennis stars participated in tennis matches at Haverford, Pa. Above, Alice Marble, America's No. 1 champion, and Mary Hardwick, England's No. 1 champion, shake hands. Match was held in interest of selling more war bonds.

'Chute Doesn't Open



When his 'chute didn't open, a paratrooper at Camp McArthur grabbed at the chute of his buddy. Both paratroopers hit the earth hard but were not seriously injured in the fall.

German War Youth



This "baby-faced" Nazi youth captured by Allied armies at Cherbourg, although only 16, is a finished product of Nazi schooling and ideology and well taught in the art and science of war.



The New York and Hollywood Scene:

Faces About Glammerville: Al Jolson spellbinding a squad of U. S. Marines at the Beverly Hills Hotel pool . . . Bette Davis and Secy Morganthau trailing the uniformed men at the Hollywood Canteen . . . Dinah Shore thrashing nine ditties for them . . . Bonita Granville showing Lt. Joe Wade the cinema-magicians. He's all mended from that New Guinea crackup . . . Ella Logan's real tears as she microphoned "That Old Feeling" to the China-Burma-India sector via the Mail Call program, which isn't heard by the public here . . . Veronica Lake, try as a doll, floating to the rhythms of Emil Coleman's and Phil Olan's crews at the Mocambo . . . Lovely Marianne O'Brien of the Warners' factory surrounded by Marines in the Clever Club . . . Miriam Hopkins at La Rue with her constant companion, who never was iteamed as her favorite male. He's a Greek biggie . . . Bob Hope and his Johnny Weismuller hair-do. "No cracks," he warns with a threatening finger. "I'm doing a pirate picture."

Marshal Komell (according to Britishers who made their escape back to our lines) has a sense of humor, he thinks . . . He made several British officers attend his frequent lectures, during which he affected a pose that the Battle of Africa was a sporting event. He would give these prisoners a testimonial dinner with all the pomp he could muster on the desert. But entrances, place cards, introductions, salutes and so on . . . And then, while the German staff dined on excellent cuisine, the British prisoners were served a meal consisting of their own K rations captured with them. Komell also delighted in pointing out their errors and why they were captives. He was asked by a correspondent: "To what do you credit your success? How will the enemy ever beat you?" With a gleam in his mangled eye Komell replied: "The German Army is great because of its great organization. I know exactly when I will enter a town. One month ahead I know what suite I will have in which hotel. If, however, some day, I march into a place and go to my suite and find another German general—then I will know we are licked!"

The "Oklahoma" cast is reported doing so much ad libbing that they are spoiling the show. . . Guild execs shrug and say: "Look at the box office. . . The New York Post Office has broken all records in the district. To date this year it has done business totaling 103 millions . . . The book now on FDR's bedside table is "Rendezvous with Destiny." The only comment on the book appeared in a Chicago paper briefly and a story in the Christian Science Monitor. Not a single review has appeared on it yet . . . Hepburn's newest interest, they say, is a famed polo player . . . Add ditty similarities: "Time Waits for No One" and "Tales from Vienna Woods" . . . Lana Turner won't bark about it until she sees it here, but those delicious canapes Ray Bourbon served with cocktails the other sundown were made from dog food . . . R-R-Ruff-Ruff!!

The Late Watch: Shirley Ross and her husband, Kenneth Dolan (who parted last season), are happier than ever. They reconciled after he was quoted here as saying the fault was all his because: "I neglected my wife instead of my clients" . . . There will be a copyright war over U. S. rights to the song popular with the troops, "Lili Marlene" . . . Douglas Miller, who wrote "You Can't Do Business With Hitler," told OWI chiefs that the war with Germany will last at least another year and with Japan two . . . T. Casey, the B'klyn Citizen editor, has written two songs with Johnny Tucker of Hook and Ladder Co. 117 in Astoria . . . All major networks banned the song, "Don't Change Horses," which has nothing to do with politics. It has been networked since April. The authors wrote "Mairzy Doots."

Quotation Marksmanship: Noel Coward: The most terrifying thing to a man is a woman who cries in advance . . . E. Hemingway: The saddest thing in the world is the affection of man and woman; the most fortunate ending is by death . . . J. Porter: She whines him around her finger . . . Mable Bandy: Eye-lashes that could sweep the cobwebs from any man's heart . . . L. Cornring: Low clouds on the verge of tears.

Sallies in Our Alley: Bob Dunn's office boy requested the afternoon off (on the day of a double-header) saying: "Boss—my grandmother—" . . . Dunn cut him short: "Oh, come now, son. You're not going to pull that chestnut about your grandmother being dead?" . . . "No, sir," was the reply. "She's home on furlough!" . . . At La Conga some velvet-knockers were gabbing about a gal whose beauty was in dispute . . . "She looks," said an admirer, "like something from Vogue!" . . . "A rejection slip."

Indeed, Brotherly Love Is a Wonderful Thing

The young window-cleaner was very much in love, and his sighing and moodiness got on his friend's nerves.

"For goodness' sake, ask the girl to marry you and settle the matter," snapped Bill. "You can't keep your mind on your job while you're so unsettled."

Jim promised to propose that night and to tell Bill the result the next day. The following morning Jim looked gloomier than ever.

"She said she was very sorry, but she couldn't dream of marrying a window-cleaner," he groaned. "She's in love with another chap, but she'll regard me as a brother, and wants my brotherly help. They're going to elope tomorrow night, and I'm lending them my ladder!"

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Ruled Our Territories

The territories which comprise our 48 states were once ruled by one or more of 6 foreign countries, all or part of the areas of 50 states having been under Great Britain, 25 under France, 19 under Spain, 3 under Mexico, 4 under the Netherlands, and 2 under Sweden.



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When Your Back Hurts -

And Your Strength and Energy Is Below Par

It may be caused by disorder of kidney function that permits poisonous waste to accumulate. For truly many people feel tired, weak and miserable when the kidneys fail to remove excess acids and other waste matter from the blood. You may suffer nagging backache, rheumatic pains, headaches, dizziness, getting up nights, leg pains, swelling, sometimes frequent and scanty urination with smarting and burning in another sign that something is wrong with the kidneys or bladder.

There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use Doan's Pills. It is better to rely on a medicine that has won countrywide approval than on something less favorably known. Doan's has been tried and tested many years. Are at all drug stores. Get Doan's today.

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