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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1947

Star Program

State ports with Wilmington favored in proportion with its resources, to include public terminals, tobacco storage warehouses, ship repair facilities, nearby sites for heavy industry and 35-foot Cape Fear river channel.

City auditorium large enough to meet needs for years to come. Development of Southeastern North Carolina agricultural and industrial resources through better markets and food processing, pulp wood production and factories.

Emphasis on the region's recreation advantages and improvement of resort accommodations. Improvement of Southeastern North Carolina's farm-to-market and primary roads, with a paved highway from Topsail inlet to Bald Head island.

Continued effort to attract more industries. Proper utilization of Blumenthal airport for expanding air service.

Development of Southeastern North Carolina's health facilities, especially in counties lacking hospitals, and including a Negro Health center.

Encouragement of the growth of commercial fishing.

Consolidation of City and County governments.

GOOD MORNING

For my part, I am not so sure at bottom that man is, as he says, the king of nature; he is far more its devastating tyrant. I believe he has many lessons to learn from animal societies, older than his own and of infinite variety.

—Romain Rolland.

Pomp and Circumstance

Princess Elizabeth, heir apparent to the crown of Great Britain, yesterday became the bride of Lieut. Philip Mountbatten and the shriveling Empire was agog over the nuptials. In London flags were fluttering on all buildings, scaffolding had been raised for stands along the way between Buckingham Palace and Westminster Abbey, where the ceremony took place, and barricades created to hold the populace and visitors back. Nothing else that could happen, less than outbreak of a war, could hold equal interest with this marriage in London or, for that matter, in the tight little isles.

Though the event was to be largely a family affair, just about all the royalty left in the world was in the Abbey when the Archbishops of Canterbury and York performed the rites. King Michael of Romania, King Haakon of Norway, King Frederik and Queen Ingrid of Denmark, Queen Frederika of Greece, Princess Juliana and Prince Bernhard of Holland, Prince Charles—regent of Belgium—King Peter and former Queen Alexandra of Yugoslavia, Prince John and Princess Elizabeth of Luxembourg, Princess Eugenie of Greece and Don Juan of Spain, were listed among favored guests in the pagedentry. Among the missing were the exiled King Leopold of Belgium and King Paul of Greece, who is recovering at home from typhoid fever. Also the Duke and Duchess of Windsor were absent.

In addition, among the guests were the foreign diplomatic corps and the members of parliament, the Cabinet and other dignitaries. Nothing like it has happened since Queen Victoria wed Prince Albert, who gave his name to a coat which enjoyed distinction throughout the world for many years.

Considering Britain's economic situation and political unrest, coupled with world turmoil, the fact that the nation can proceed with the customary pomp and circumstance accompanying a royal wedding can well be accepted as evidence that there will always be an England, as the war song declared.

Misguiding Japan

A short time ago, a number of governmental bureaus combined to send a special health mission to Tokyo to assist in the formulation of a new national health program for Japan. According to Representative Forest A. Harness of Indiana, who is chairman of the sub-committee investigating publicity and propaganda in the executive agencies, "All members of this mission are well known in the United States for their persistent agitation for a nationalized system of socialized medicine to be achieved through a program of compulsory health insurance." Mr. Harness said further that "the real purpose of the mission is not to assist Japan in working out

her basic problems in health and welfare, but to force upon that country a compulsory system of socialized medicine."

This charge, coming on the heels of evidence to the effect that certain appointive government officials of some importance have been using public funds to promote socialized medicine, is an extremely serious one. Socialization of medicine—or any profession or industry—is in direct opposition to American principles and traditions. All the available evidence including findings of national public opinion polls, leads to the belief that the great majority of our citizens are opposed to it. Yet, if Mr. Harness and others in a position to know are correct, an American official mission will attempt to force it in one form or another on Japan.

Is it not possible for our government to lend its aid to promote public health practices without seeking to socialize medicine?

Up To The Common Man

While there is little probability that Congress, at least during the present extraordinary session, will implement with legislation President Truman's proposal for price controls, there is no reason to doubt that Congress will closely watch price trends and unless there is some evidence that they will rapidly be downward-bound approve measures for forcing them to lower levels.

To this extent we may believe the President's message is destined to have a definite effect upon prices even though there is no evidence of immediate and desired results. The republican leadership in both branches of Congress is divided on controls. Senator Taft, for example, declares attention will be given only the less controversial proposals in Mr. Truman's program. That is to say, the joint Economic Committee of which Mr. Taft is chairman will devote its time to these matters. But this does not necessarily mean that all republican members in either branch will be bound by Mr. Taft's decision, or even that the gentleman from Ohio will not change his mind before the special session closes or merges with the regular session scheduled to start in January. He has been known to do this in the past.

The point that deserves emphasis is that because pressure from back home is growing, the members in both branches are more aware of current inflationary tendencies and the encouragement of these tendencies is given by the ascending price spiral than they have appeared to be in the past, are more liable to take the reins out of the hands of Senator Taft and his particular group on Capitol Hill if there is no indication that business in general and labor in particular have no intention of remedying the nation's economic illness without specific legislation.

Inflation is no more welcome to republicans than democrats. The great masses of voters, sometimes disrespectfully called collectively the common man, feel its pinch grievously and independently of party affiliation. And in the last analysis it is this common man who rules Congress whenever, in the aggregate, he uses his collective influence to force Congress to do something for him.

It is he who will make the final decision on inflation. Very definitely he wants it brought to an end. One commentator puts the matter well when he writes: "Congress cannot casually turn aside the President's recommendations and at the same time calmly watch prices continue to rise during the next few months."

Britain's Object Lesson

The British municipal elections, in which the Conservative party made startling gains and the Labor party suffered equally startling losses, may indicate a sharp change in the attitude of the rank and file of English people toward the principles of socialism.

The Labor government cannot blame this reverse on the austerity program—Mr. Churchill and the other opposition leaders have said time and time again that austerity is necessary to the economic salvation of Britain, and so it has not been a major political issue. It is much more likely to suppose that legions of British voters have come to the conclusion that socialism has failed to live up to the claims made for it, that socialism is sapping the resources and energies of the nation at an alarming rate and that, under a government which puts the attainment of a complete socialist state before any other consideration, the sacrifices of austerity are in vain.

If that is becoming the British point of view, it is built solidly upon logic. Britain has socialized her vital coal industry—and production is much less than under private ownership, and there has been no noticeable change in worker dissension. She has socialized the Bank of England and other instruments of domestic and international finance—and her economic position worsens daily. She is threatening to socialize electric power and other basic enterprises—and this has caused widespread fear and uncertainty which have contributed to her economic doldrums. The Labor government has created an enormous, self-seeking bureaucracy which has strangled English enterprise in red tape and mountains of regulations, and it has been guilty of monumental failure in the administration of British affairs at home and abroad.

If, as the municipal elections indicate, a substantial proportion of the British people are weary of socialism and regimentation, it is an object lesson for this country. Free enterprise, whatever its faults, is the only system yet devised which permits maximum economic development of a nation and still assures the liberties of the people. That is one fact we must never forget.

The nation simply will no longer stand for the continued concentration of financial control in a few hands and in one place.

—Cyrus Eaton, Cleveland industrialist.

Congress should appropriate funds to carry the nations of western Europe through the forthcoming winter. Give them also enough to provide for the planting of their 1948 crops and after that let them paddle their own canoes.

—Rep. Harold Knutson (R) of Minnesota.

Our national welfare demands a national policy of "Stop, look, and listen."

—Ernest T. Weir, chairman, National Steel Corp.

As Pegler Sees It

By WESTBROOK PEGLER

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NEW YORK — If the working-people, the wage-earners, of the United States, have suffered any loss through the adoption of the Taft-Hartley law, the blame must lie with the great, greedy, bosses of the union movement. They had the power to reform the unions, to stop the persecution of individuals, and the harassment of communities by unnecessary and oppressive strikes. They could have abated the robbery of millions of workers through assessments for causes in which they had no interest, for expensive insurance and for undisguised rackets. But, throughout the Roosevelt administration, they refused to drop their selfish politics and answered every criticism and warning with the monotonous cry of "labor-baiter."

Actually, the only important baiters of labor during those years were not the National Association of Manufacturers nor any of the presidents and vice-presidents of unions, Jimmy Petrillo by now has convinced himself that he actually does serve his "boys" but, a few years ago, he openly smirked about his holy mission and the enormous proportion of Saturday night saxophonists in his American Federation of Musicians. The union did nothing for them. It merely preyed upon them, compelling these clerks, students and carpenters, men of a hundred occupations, to buy membership under him and pay their dues and fines and submit to his tyrannical discipline so that they might earn a few extra dollars on week-ends.

Jimmy's powers are really terrible. Other union bosses have the same powers, but Jimmy's are written out for him in an article of his constitution which permits him to rule absolutely by whim, subject to no challenge or appeal. The cruel gangsters of the Hodcarriers' and the Operating Engineers' unions and some of the machine politicians of the teamsters exercised practically the same despotic authority but they had to go in for subterfuge and terror, not that this embarrassed those who ruled by these methods.

Jimmy's was the only union whose founding fathers had had the gall to spell out the proposition that unionism was a totalitarian racket and it was significant that his most alarming excesses began after he hired Joseph Padway as his general counsel. I paid my respects to this parasite on the body of American labor when he died a few weeks ago but I have always been willing to add that the most arrogant of the dictatorial profifiers in American unionism was also the cleverest shyster in union law. Padway was not necessarily a fine lawyer, although he did have his points. He handled a class of clients who always had a great advantage under law and could pay off judgments, if they lost, by the painless process of levying assessments on the feeless people who carried the cards and did the work.

This gave Padway an advantage over lawyers for the other side and he was significant that Jimmy really started to go to town only after he hired Padway, because Padway was the legal adviser of the entire United Automobile Workers' convention in Atlantic City. For the Communists have lost their last chance to dominate or deeply influence an important segment of the American labor movement. In so doing, they have lost their last chance to dominate or deeply influence the whole American political left. For without a solid, unassailable base in the labor movement, the communists are reduced to comparative political impotence. And this in turn will have a profound impact on the national political scene.

Only two or three months ago, there existed a serious possibility that the communists might extend their influence to unions to represent about half the membership of the entire CIO. Yet with Curran's recent victory in the maritime workers, and Ruether's success this week, the whole communist position in the CIO is threatened.

It is threatened, for example, in national CIO headquarters. The hand of CIO President Philip Murray, who detests the communists, but who has hesitated to move against them for fear of splitting his beloved CIO from top to bottom, is strengthened. So is the hand of James Carey, CIO secretary treasurer, and Ruether's chief ally at national headquarters. And the position of CIO counsel Lee Pressman, the communists' friend at court, has thus become exceedingly precarious. Ruether has never troubled to conceal his sentiments towards Pressman. One close observer of the CIO has remarked that it would surprise him if Pressman lasted three months.

FLYING AUTO



The Reuther Victory

By STEWART ALSOP

WASHINGTON — It is difficult to overestimate the real meaning of Walter Reuther's overwhelming victory at the United Automobile Workers' convention in Atlantic City. For the Communists have lost their last chance to dominate or deeply influence an important segment of the American labor movement. In so doing, they have lost their last chance to dominate or deeply influence the whole American political left. For without a solid, unassailable base in the labor movement, the communists are reduced to comparative political impotence. And this in turn will have a profound impact on the national political scene.

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Bringing In The Sheaves

By PETER EDSON

WASHINGTON — Houston Harte, Texas newspaper publisher, sends in a report from his San Angelo Standard and Times that gives the best picture yet of what's happening down on the big wheat farms. The big operators come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves, all right. But they aren't sending those sheaves to market. First, in the hope of a price rise and, second, because they want to beat the income tax collector.

From a third to a half of the wheat raised in the Texas Panhandle is still being held on the farms, say Mr. Harte's reporters. The little town of Vega, Tex., population 500, is said to be rolling in dough. Eight families alone raised from 50,000 to 200,000 bushels of wheat apiece. Putting the average at 100,000 bushels, it represents a potential gross income of \$300,000 at today's \$3 a bushel price.

But, since the income tax laws are so rigged that the most a man can keep and show a profit on is around \$29,000, these big farm operators are selling only about 10,000 to 20,000 bushels. This nets them maximum return after taxes. Any wheat sold over this maximum would net them only about 25 cents income on the bushel.

The rest of the crop is being stored on farms or warehouses until 1948, which is another tax game. Every empty building is said to be stored with wheat. Wheat-filled gunnet huts line the railroad tracks. Two big new elevators are being built in Vega to hold 75,000 bushels. This Texas situation is apparently true of the entire wheat belt, right up to the Canadian border. When Tom Campbell of Montana, biggest U. S. wheat farmer, was in Washington recently, he told President Truman that he was holding 600,000 bushels of wheat.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture Crop Reporting Board says that, as of Oct. 1, over 628 million bushels of wheat—nearly half the 1947 harvest of 1.4 billion bushels—were still being held on farms. This is the latest report available.

These big farm operators, who are not selling their wheat now, are, of course, playing a smart game. Planting weather throughout the winter, wheat belt has been too dry, which is bad. Next year's crop may be much smaller than this year's, all-time record high. If the next crop is off, the price is bound to be higher. So the farmer who holds has everything to gain and nothing to lose.

It has been generally reported, and the belief is widespread, that it is the governments' crop loan policy which is responsible for today's high wheat price and for much of the wheat hoarding on farms. Commodity Credit Corporation reports indicate this isn't so. It is the tax law—not the farm loan policy—that is principally to blame.

As of Oct. 1—again the latest report available—CCC had made loans of \$37.75 million dollars on 20 million bushels of 1947 wheat. While this sounds like a lot of money and a lot of wheat, it is only 1.5 per cent of this year's 1.4 billion bushel crop. In years past, the government has made loans on 500 million and 600 million bushels. The average of the 13,000 loans made so far this year is for \$2750 on 1581 bushels of wheat, obviously no big farmer operation.

As a matter of fact, the big farm operators are now so well fixed financially that they don't have to rely on government loans. They do their own financing, and thus save interest charges. Off the record, Department of Agriculture officials will admit frankly that the big wheat farmers are afraid of government loans. What they fear is that the government might seize any wheat against which it has advanced money, by calling the loans before due date.

What the big farm operators really want is a return to the certificate plan of May and June, 1946. Under this operation, farmers who marketed their grain were given a certificate receipt. This certificate could be exchanged for cash on demand, at the market price prevailing when the certificate was turned in. If the market price was up, the farmer stood to gain. If the price went down, the farmer was guaranteed as a minimum the price in effect when he surrendered his grain for the certificate.

Furthermore, the Bureau of Internal Revenue gave its blessing to an arrangement whereby, if the farmer did not choose to cash in his certificate until 1947, the income from the sale would not be taxed until 1947. In short, the deal was so rigged that the farmer was so everything to gain and he couldn't possibly lose. And that is apparently all he wants now.

The CIO-PAC, the CIO's political instrumentality, which has always had a distinct communist flavor, will also feel the impact of Reuther's victory. R. J. Thomas, the stumbling former president of the U.A.W., who has consistently accepted communist support, has been treasurer of the PAC. Reuther is now expected to replace him. There is no doubt that he will firmly quash the PAC's sprinkling of communists.

Again, communist control of the biggest communist trade union base, the United Electrical Workers, is seriously undermined. Carey, former U.E.W. president and leader of a movement to oust its communist officers, will receive support from Reuther. Moreover, Philip Murray's steelworkers are expected soon to follow the U.A.W. lead in signing under protest the non-communist affidavits required by the Taft-Hartley law. This will leave the electrical workers as the only major CIO union without recourse to the National Labor Relations Board, since a number of its officers could not sign the affidavits without risking perjury charges.

Thus the electrical workers will be subject to raids both from the A. F. of L's machinists and from the steel and auto workers. It seems unlikely that the vast majority of non-communists in the electrical workers' rank and file will long agree to pay such a price for the luxury of maintaining communist officers. And if the communists lose their last great labor base, the whole internal balance of power in the CIO has been overturned, and will be overturned still further. The impact of this overturn on the national political scene is made obvious if one recalls the speech made by Henry Wallace before the electrical workers' convention in Boston last September. Carey's attempt to displace the communist leadership of his old union had been swamped by the powerful communist machine. Wallace proceeded to devote much of his speech to the horrors of "red-baiting," and congratulated the union on not allowing itself to be disrupted by such "false issues" as Carey had raised. Wallace thus placed himself squarely and unequivocally in the CIO's minority pro-communist camp.

The overwhelming rank-and-file support for Walter Reuther has now threatened the very existence of that camp, and has clearly repudiated Henry Wallace's strategy of a "united front" with the communists. Thus Reuther's victory is the greatest setback which the third party movement, sparkplugged by the communists, has yet received. Reuther's enemies in the U.A.W., now sunk without trace, having consistently flirted with the progressive citizens of America, the party-line, third-party organization which has provided Wallace with his main platform.

Reuther, like Carey, is a firm supporter of the anti-Wallace, anti-third party, anti-communist liberal organization, the American democratic action. It is for democratic action. It is too early to say that the third party is dead. But certainly the democratic leaders who feared that Henry Wallace, by heading a third party, would elect a right-wing Republican in 1948, can take heart.

Yet the impact of Reuther's victory may extend beyond the political fortune of Henry Wallace. For although Reuther has been described as a "wing," his the U.A.W.'s "right wing," his views would be exceedingly abhorrent to the Union League club. Reuther's victory and the increasing repudiation of the communists by the CIO are laying the groundwork for what the country will badly need when the present swing to the right is inevitably reversed in time: a militant, intelligent, non-communist

Dollars, Also Truth

An Editorial From the St. Louis Post-Dispatch

If Congress approves aid to Europe, it should also make sure that Europeans are fully informed about American purposes. Otherwise, as Sumner Welles warns, the superior force of Russian propaganda may win its objective. It may wreck, or at least gravely impair, the Marshall plan.

So far, the United States is miserably losing this war of ideas, because the Russian forces outnumber American forces many times over. In France, for example, more than 1500 "Franco-Soviet Friendship" centers pour out the familiar Moscow charges that the United States is trying to dominate the world and bring on another war. Against that many-armed monster of falsehood, the United States has only a small, budget-pinned information office in Paris. In consequence, Mr. Welles finds that anti-American feeling in France is "more bitter, and more widespread, than ever before." For the same reason, American popularity is waning elsewhere in Western Europe.

What Alcohol Does To Body

By WILLIAM A. O'BRIEN, MD

Alcoholics become ill from excessive indulgence, or through failure to eat while drinking. The chief chronic complications from alcohol affect the brain, spinal cord and liver.

Action of alcohol upon the body can be likened to an ether anesthetic. Although alcohol is sometimes considered to be a stimulant, its chief effect is to depress the nervous system. The exhilaration, which follows release of restraints, the face becomes flushed, pulse is full and bounding and the victim breathes deeply.

Speech becomes loud and incoherent. Foul language is used and stories are told which, under ordinary conditions, would be repressed. All effects are heightened by the companionship of other persons who are experiencing the same reactions.

In acute intoxication, there is loss of nervous and muscular control. Reaction time is slowed down and accidents occur from inattention and poor judgment. Any drinker may get into trouble in this phase, if he attempts to drive a car or walk in traffic.

An attack of delirium tremens can easily develop in a chronic alcoholic. As a result of great restlessness and depression, he is unable to sleep and consumes more alcohol. After a few days, the alcoholic sees and hears things which are not real. Immediate medical and hospital care is necessary, if a fatal termination is to be avoided.

In spite of beliefs to the contrary, the stomach of the chronic alcoholic is seldom affected. Illustrations often depict the lining of the alcoholic's stomach as bright red and covered with sores, but this is rarely, if ever, seen. The appetite may be lost, but the stomach itself shows very little of the ordinary when examined with a special instrument.

Cirrhosis or hardening of the liver develops in chronic alcoholics and moderate and heavy drinkers. If an animal is denied food and given alcohol at the same time, cirrhosis of the liver can be produced. Chronic alcoholics who do not eat while drinking are more apt to develop this condition.

Excessive indulgence in alcohol shortens the life expectancy, but statistics show that the outlook for social drinkers and totaliters is essentially the same. Moderate to heavy drinkers and alcoholics pay the penalty for their failure to practice self-control.

SQUAR DANCE SLATED

EVERGREEN, Nov. 20—An effort to raise funds to purchase gymnasium seats will be furthered by the Evergreen Cixtan club with a square dance in the gymnasium Friday evening, Nov. 21. Wade Horne and his string band will furnish the music and proceeds will go toward the club's seat purchasing project.