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## A New Agricultural Industry

Back in 1945, The Chicken-of-Tomorrow program was inaugurated. It was sponsored by the Atlantic & Pacific food chain, in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Its purpose was both simple and important—to produce better chickens on less feed, and thus improve the quality, while lowering the cost to the consumer.

A & P financed a system of awards to outstanding producers of the chickens, and also paid the administrative costs. Farm organizations joined the program eagerly. And the result, according to H. H. Alp, director of the American Farm Bureau Federation's commodity department, is that the program has created a whole new agricultural industry.

It is estimated that 800,000,000 meat-type chickens will be marketed this year, as compared with 616,000,000 in 1950, and that 75 per cent of them will be descendants of Chicken-of-Tomorrow flocks. The annual contests have proved that chickens can now be grown in 10 weeks that are larger and have more meat than were formerly produced at from 14 to 16 weeks. Only a few years ago, the farmer's poultry income was derived 80 per cent from market eggs and 20 per cent from meat. Last year, eggs accounted for 56.5 per cent, turkeys 8.5 per cent and chicken meat 35 per cent.

Here is an endeavor which has worked out to the advantage of both producer and consumer. Mr. Alp said, "Producers throughout the country can afford to be everlastingly thankful for the creation of the Chicken-of-Tomorrow program and to the leaders, the sponsors, who have worked so hard to make it a success." It is not unusual that the program should have been sponsored by a big food chain. Leading food chains all over the country have frequently cooperated with farmers and other producers in campaigns to move or improve crops. Retailing, after all, is the link between producer and consumer, and it has a direct stake in the welfare of both.

ROSEBURG, ORE., NEWS-REVIEW: "The control propaganda, spread over a long period of years, has weakened faith in free enterprise and free competition. Confidence in our American system of economy has been sapped by continued boring from within by propagandists. Which is better, to have the price of beefsteak advance 10 cents, or to have the ceiling controlled at 8 cents, and then pay 25 cents in taxes to regulate the price, pay subsidies to grain and livestock growers?"

SYCAMORE, OHIO, LEADER: "Representative John Phillips, of California, brings the discussion into every home in the land, in terms of life insurance. It was a struggle to pay for those first insurance policies. Today the \$10,000 of insurance paid for in 1913 would buy only \$3,800 worth of consumers' goods. It would have needed \$26,000 of insurance then to have \$10,000 in purchasing power today. That's inflation. Is it not time to think about detaching the inflaters in public office?"

## These Days



By

### Sokolsky

Senator Fulbright's proposal, which amounts to shifting the West Point scandal to an investigation of intercollegiate football, is not sound. The problem is not football; it is the morals of a nation. It is not whether subsidized, paid athletics in the colleges is to be forgiven; it is rather that something has gone out of this nation when cheating is taken as lightly as fixing, which used to be called graft.

It is easy for those who think only in the terms of immediate party politics or, even worse, of their personal friendships to shunt off everything that happens into the category of the usual. But those who insist upon a moral criterion cannot help asking, "why is it usual? Why has it become usual?"

It is possible to say that the Twentieth Century is not the nineteenth Century, but that does not mean that the Twentieth Century is an improvement on the Nineteenth or even on the Twelfth Century. What is called modern does not necessarily mean better as anyone who listens to Bach and Shostakovich on the same program knows.

If by improvement we mean that an automobile is a superior means of locomotion to a horse and buggy, or that an electrical refrigerator is superior to a bow and arrow, then we have made very great progress.

But when the morals of man are considered, we are halted by the astonishing retreat of the Twentieth Century with its excess of divorces, its broken homes, its emphasis on homosexuality, its acceptance of materialistic Marxism in wide areas that were so recently Christian, its avoidance of such concepts as faith, honor, dignity, sacrifice. If we assume that God is old-fashioned and that the natural law is superstition, then we must not be shocked by what happened at West Point.

These 90 men accused of cheating contend that they are not the only ones and that it has been going on for some time. Does that make it right? Is that an excuse for conduct? Because some men are dope peddlers, is dope peddling justified? The position is so illogical that the men who use it as an excuse display their unworthiness.

This is a question that Americans have to answer if they wish to preserve our nation and our civilization. It is impossible to say that "deep freezers," "mink coats" fixers close to the White House and incident after incident of loose morals in high places are usual in all governments. In our long history, such incidents have been unusual. These are the clinical evidences of a decaying civilization. Just as wholesale and prolonged cribbing at West Point is a symptom of degeneracy among our armed forces. For these young men, under the circumstances of West Point education, could not have engaged in this practice without officer connivance. This undoubtedly is their real defense.

These symptoms need to be studied back to their causes. When there is such widespread degradation among the people, it means clearly two things:

1. The moral leadership of the nation is inadequate for influencing oncoming generations in decent, dignified leadership and living;
2. The religious training of youth is inadequate to sustain them through the trials of life by precept, inspiration, example and by supplying the automatic restraints of moral conduct.

The individuals involved in the West Point scandal will suffer personal indignity and a loss of great opportunity, but there is much more to this. This nation is now challenged by an incident which involves all our children. What is being done in our schools to build character? The public school ideal was designed not only to teach reading and writing, but to breed a race of decent, honest, God-loving human beings. What happens to our children in the first years of their lives? This we need to understand if we are to grasp our current apathy concerning indecencies. It may require moving deeply into the whole question of national morals, of upbringing, of education, of purely functional schooling without religion.

We need to know why our people are not outraged at the senseless corruption of our country. Something has gone terribly wrong with us and we need to know what it is and why it happened.

## Mister Bregar



"I TOLD you not to ask a Boy Scout for a light!"

By ED SULLIVAN

### BEHIND THE SCENES

Uproar at West Point is being accepted as a sign of decadence of American youth, which is complete rot. Reminds you of the time just before World War II when psychologists, horrified at Princeton undergrads who swallowed live goldfish, composed weighty treatises on the decline and fall of American kids. Others backed up this heavens-to-Betsy pessimism by dissecting behavior pattern of kids who went to hear Benny Goodman and other bands at the Paramount Theatre, and danced up and down the aisles.

Not long after these exhibitions, these same kids went to war and won Medals of Honor in the matted ravines of Guadalcanal, in the skies over the Pacific, on the slopes of Cassin and at Remagen.

The viewers-with-alarm were wrong then, and they're wrong again. How far hypocrisy goes back in sports is difficult to fathom. But certain it is that in this country, the top athlete always has been accorded special privileges. If he could win, he was a person set apart.

Back around 1920, this reporter was penning sports on the New York Evening Mail, which had signed Vincent Richards for by-line articles. I wrote them.

The Seabright, N. J., tennis tournament, in those days, determined the composition of the U. S. Davis Cup team. So while Richards played his matches on the center court, I sat up in the press box, on the club balcony, and rushed in a play-by-play of the match, signed by him!

On this particular afternoon, Richards was playing Howard Kinsey, of California and I was dictating the play-by-play to Western Union operator Visconti.

Suddenly, Richards called for a recess in the match and dashed off the courts. A minute later, he heard flying feet pounding up the stairway to the press balcony. Richards burst in: "Move out, quick, Ed," he ordered. "The cup committee wants to see if I write my own stuff."

So I moved out and hastily he moved in next to the W. U. operator and up the staircase came the U. S. Lawn Tennis Association big-shot. They surveyed the scene virtuously. "You see," said one of them, with complete hypocrisy, "he writes his own material."

Down the stairs they tramped. A minute later Richards descended, returned to the center court, resumed his match and I resumed the stroke-by-stroke analysis.

In the closing months of World War II, one Senator arranged for a star football player to be rushed back to a southern campus so that the Senator's alma mater could sew up the title in that area. It would not be surprising if this member of Congress will vote to expel the West Point footballers, human nature being what it is.

Pop Warner, hailed as one of the all-time greats of football coaching, won fame at Carlisle when he taught his Indian backs to sew halves of footballs in their jerseys. Opposing teams didn't know which Indian to tackle. Trickery has been applauded in sports for not less than half a century.

Nobody analyzed it as a sign of the decadence of American youth. Warner got bigger and fatter contracts.

The Baltimore Orioles have been one of the fabled teams of baseball. Uncle Wilbert Robinson, one night on my radio program, told the story of the flogging of the Orioles.

"We let the outfield grass grow pretty high," said the then Brooklyn manager. "High enough so that our Oriole outfielders could stash extra baseballs in various areas. When a rival team hit a ball into the outfield, we'd pick up one of the hidden balls and often throw him out at FIRST BASE!"

"Heavens-to-Betsy," I screamed. "Don't disillusion me about the Orioles." "Stop clowning," said Uncle Robby.

## Frederick OTHMAN

WASHINGTON. — Vaudevillians used to make cracks about how Uncle Samuel some day would tax the water we drink. Haw. He does. And in a peculiarly low-down and sneaky way.

The Federal government during the last year slapped a tax of \$1 a gallon on nearly a million gallons of the purest tap water coming in to the U. S. A. This water just happened to be mixed with whisky, and while this may please the dregs, the principle remains. John S. Graham, the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, himself, said we were taxing this water. He said it wasn't right and that he hoped Congress would pass a law.

So there was the House Ways and Means Committee considering a scheme to simplify the weird conglomeration of rules that keeps our customs collectors wrapped in red tape. Under this bill the water in the whisky would go untaxed. This would save drinkers of Scotch, for instance, the 30 cents tax (with profits added) on the water in each bottle.

As Graham explained the situation, we tax 100-proof whisky on a proof-gallon basis. That's fair enough. But when a Scotchman waters down his whisky to 86 proof (as all of them do) his shipments consist of 14 per cent water. But the duty now is on a wine-gallon basis, which includes the water.

Taxing water struck some of the Congressmen as a good idea, but I really believe they were spoofing. Mostly they agreed it was not fair. So I got to talking to Harry Lourie, the long-time representative here of the liquor importers. For 17 years, he said, he'd been trying to prove that we really oughtn't to tax water, no matter how it's mixed. Now he's getting someplace, he hopes.

He said that last year we taxed 560,000 gallons of water in the whisky imported from Scotland. Add to that whisky from Canada and brandy from France, all with \$20 added, and the taxable water per year runs close to a million gallons.

I had an obvious idea. Why not import Scotch whisky at high proof, the normal tax and add tax-free water here? Lourie was aghast. He said those Scotchmen were especially proud of their water; they claimed it made better whisky than the tasteless, distilled stuff we use here.

He said also that when they diluted their potent potables to 86 proof, they allowed the water and the whisky to marry (his word) in the barrel for a year or so before they shipped it. This added to the flavor, he said.

It still seemed to me that shipping hundreds of thousands of gallons of water across the Atlantic was wasteful, even if you forgot the tax. Maybe so, said Lourie, but only one importer today brings in his Scotch at full proof in barrels, waters it here, and puts it in bottles.

This saves him a great deal of money, but his Scotch is not among the top sellers. There must be a reason, Lourie said. The way he

## LYNN NISBET: Around Capitol Square

CONSTRUCTION — The State of North Carolina has put into construction of roads, hospitals, school houses and other public buildings during the past two years something more than three hundred and fifty million dollars. In many of these projects federal aid and local money has matched or exceeded state funds, and there have been numerous instances of public buildings and streets financed entirely out of local resources. It would not be a bad guess to fix total expenditures for reconstruction out of taxpayers money — federal, State and local — at more than a billion dollars. This stupendous sum does not include many millions more spent entirely by the federal government at military installations within the State.

ROADS — Biggest single object of State spending is the public road system. State funds spent on roads amounted to \$271,000,000 for all purposes. This included \$131,000,000 of the secondary road bond issue of two hundred millions, practically all of which was for construction. Highway accountants said they could give exact figures on use of the other \$140 million, but it would take some time to work them out. Intelligent estimates are that something like half the amount went for construction of roads and bridges, the other for maintenance and minor improvements. That adds up to approximately two hundred millions of State money spent for road construction, in addition to federal and municipal funds.

BUILDINGS — Next biggest item comes under the head of government improvements, meaning chiefly buildings at State institutions and for departmental agencies. The legislatures of 1947, 1949 and 1951 appropriated about \$130 millions for this purpose. Very little was spent during the 1947-48 period, so that of the \$105 millions committed up to July 31 this year, a hundred million was spent within the past two years. Incidentally, twenty-five million dollars worth of buildings have been completed and are in use, while the others are in varying stages from planning to near completion.

SCHOOL HOUSES — The 1949 general assembly provided fifty million dollars for State aid in building it, the water tax amounts to 20 cents per fifth bottle of Scotch. But the wholesaler makes a profit on that; so does the retailer. Remove the tax on the water and the price of imported whisky would drop about 30 cents a jug.

So I guess those vaudevillians had better forget water. Maybe they can think of jokes involving "taxes on air." I don't believe that is taxed yet, but, after today, I can't be sure.

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PORTS — The 1949 assembly issued bonds in the amount of seven and a half million dollars for development of state ports. To date something like five millions of that amount has been committed for construction work at Wilmington and Morehead City, large part of which is nearing completion.

HOSPITALS — State aid in financing general county and community hospitals began in 1947. Since that time state contributions have amounted to about three and a third millions a year, with federal local funds bringing the total spending to approximately ten millions annually. Keeping comparison within the past two years it is safe to say the State has spent about six and a half million dollars for general hospital construction. Counting federal and local funds the total amount for hospital construction and equipment will exceed twenty millions.

LOCAL — In addition to local funds matching State and federal spending there has been a boom in construction of county and municipal buildings, new streets, water and power plants, and other purely local projects financed out of public revenues. It is difficult to obtain intelligent estimate of the aggregate amount involved in these multiple projects. Local contribution to school houses alone, including State-matched and wholly independent jobs, is estimated at around seventy-five millions.

SUMMARY — The situation stacks up about like this: Within approximately the past two years the State of North Carolina has invested a hundred million dollars in public road construction, in addition to maintenance; it has put one hundred and five millions in new buildings for colleges, mental and tubercular hospitals and departments; it has invested forty millions in public school houses; six and a half millions in local general hospitals and five millions in ports. That adds up to three hundred and fifty-one million dollars. It represents the biggest building boom in State history, and to considerable extent wipes out the accrued deficit in facilities occurring during the non-building war years from 1941 through 1946.

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## It Says Here

by Bob Hope

"Well, send her to see this fellow," said the customer. "She ought to love it. Montgomery Cliff drowns this other girl because he wants to marry Elizabeth Taylor."

"I can sympathize with Cliff," said the bartender. "That Elizabeth Taylor is quite a dish. She's in Europe now, isn't she?"

"Uh-huh, in Paris," said the customer.

"That reminds me about Feltin," said the bartender.

"Good night," said the customer, hurriedly. "I got to walk the pooch."

### WATER PISTOL SQUIRTING RULED TOO COLORFUL

HUNTINGTON, W. V. (UP) — A rash of juvenile water pistol squirting here drew official reprimand from Mayor W. W. Payne. Payne told parents their youngsters not only risked arrest but were open to possible lawsuits by angry car owners.