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JULY 9, 1953

Encouraging News

The most encouraging news in years is that that has been coming out of East Europe.

When men stand up and fight tanks with sticks and stones and their bare hands, it is a sure sign that the love of liberty still burns.

There is encouragement, too, in the news out of Korea. While Singman Rhee's daring release of non-Communist prisoners of war and his stubborn insistence on a free and united Korea make difficult the task of our State Department, it is exactly the type of thing most Americans would be likely to do—a sure sign that the American doctrine of freedom is winning, even in the Far East, over the Communist doctrine of slavery.

And there is even greater cause for encouragement in the reaction of the Kremlin to the rebellions and riots in Eastern Europe. Its answer to revolt appears to be appeasement, and yet more appeasement, of the rebels.

The strong do not appease.

Revelation of this attitude of the Kremlin has given our government as clear a picture of what is going on in Russia as would the sudden drawing of a curtain from over a window.

The question now is, how will our government and the United Nations react to the new situation?

Will we boldly encourage and aid the rebels, at this psychological moment in history, or will we take the timid course of wait-and-see—meanwhile debating in Congress whether to withdraw all military aid?

...East Of Macon County

Our hat is off to three young Macon County men. Members of the Future Farmers of America, they have gone so far in the present as to make the "future" part of the organization's name almost superfluous.

Jerry Sutton has been named one of five "star farmers" in the state; one of five "star dairy farmers" in the state; and the recipient of the "Carolina farmer" degree.

And Paul Killian and James (Pete) Setser also have been given the "Carolina farmer" degree, high F. F. A. honor.

The way recognition is coming to this county, the people down the state are going to have to wake up and realize that Macon County is something more important than just "some place west of Asheville". In fact, if these youngsters, and others like them, keep up the pace of the past few years, one of these days we'll reverse the phrase and have the down easterners locating Asheville as "some place east of Macon County"!

Worth-While Project

A North Carolina motorist who recently crossed the continent was impressed, almost as soon as he crossed the state line into Tennessee, by the number of roadside picnic tables. In state after state, he noted them every few miles. In the Southwest, where it is miles between trees, wherever he saw a tree he saw, under it, a picnic table.

Then, on the return trip, he was a little shocked to have them almost disappear—as soon as he entered North Carolina.

For an area, and a state, that invites tourists—and reaps a golden harvest of dollars from tourists—that looks like missing a bet.

The Forest Service has done an excellent job, in this section, in providing picnic and recreation

areas, but that agency cannot be expected to carry the whole load; obviously, it cannot provide picnic tables outside the forests.

This, it seems to us, would be an excellent State Highway Department project. We commend its earnest consideration to the commission, and specifically to this division's commissioner, Mr. Harry E. Buchanan.

A Community Loss

This newspaper is but voicing the feeling of almost every person in Franklin and Macon County when it expresses regret at the departure of the fine folk who are leaving Franklin as a result of the merger of the Nantahala National Forest headquarters with the Pisgah's office at Asheville. The Forest Service officials and employees and their families, through the years, have enriched the cultural and civic life of this community. They will be sorely missed. As we bid them good-bye and good luck, we hope they will return, soon and often, for visits; and that many of them, when the time comes for them to retire, will come back to Macon County to live.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to George B. Patton on his reappointment by Governor Umstead as a special superior court judge.

Congratulations, too, to the Governor on his good judgment in picking Mr. Patton as one of the two (out of eight) special judges for reappointment.

As Governor Umstead so well said, Judge Patton "has a fine record and is recognized as one of the best judges on the bench".

For years we've been upbraiding the Russians for holding on to prisoners of war too long; now we're upbraiding the Koreans for freeing their prisoners too soon.

It takes the French 37 days to get a premier—and usually about 37 minutes to get rid of one. Now if you and I could just apply that formula to debts. . . .

Poetry

Editor EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE Weaverville, North Carolina

SEVEN YEAR OLD

Small fry, I walk along with you, And tell you things that you should do. How many times do I repeat, "Hang up your hat, don't shout, be neat. Be just and kind, be fair and clean,

Hold truth and honor in esteem." And then once more I must implore "Please do not sock that boy next door." It really is astonishing You stand for such admonishing.

I know quite well that it is true You've taught me more than I've taught you.

MARIE HALBERT KING

What Is The 'Voice' Saying?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: What do the people behind the Iron Curtain hear when they get the Voice of America broadcasts. The Voice, and its work, have been the subject of long and bitter Congressional debate, but few Americans tune in on the programs, and so know little what they contain. The excerpts below (selected by the Shelby Cleveland Times) give an idea.)

Communist China contains between 80,000 and 100,000 Russian army officers and advisers. The Russian advisers are all over China ordering the Chinese to build a railway here instead of there; a road there instead of here; to train a hundred propagandists this week instead of next month.

One of these Russian advisers once asked a Chinese Communist how long he had been a member of the Communist Party. The Chinese replied that he had been a party member for many years.

The Russian asked if his father had been a member. And the Chinese replied, "Oh, yes, commissar. And my grandfather and great grandfather"

The Russian interrupted, "Hey, wait a minute; there wasn't any Communist Party that long ago." But the Chinese answered, "What difference? My great

grandfather faced the same two conditions—war and hunger."

No, all the 80,000 Russian advisers have not improved conditions in Communist China.

But, while Communist China has been invaded by eighty thousand Russians, including many Russian soldiers and officers, most of the rest of Asia has been getting rid of foreign troops. The withdrawal of foreign soldiers was an Asian objective for many years. In most non-Communist countries of Asia, the objective has been realized.

The Communist Way

The Communist regime of Czechoslovakia has worked out a strange new way of solving the food shortage now plaguing that country. The scheme is simply to deprive the people of their money. With less money, they can't buy as much food. So there isn't as much drain on the food markets. Supply and demand get closer in balance.

The Communists call it "currency reform." But whatever it is called, one thing about it is all too apparent—the Czechoslovakian people will now have even less to eat.

The new currency measures were made public May 30, when the regime announced that there would be a drastic revaluation of the crown. The new rate will range from 5 to 50 old

Who, ME?

by Robert Osborn



Three out of four accidents in 1952 happened in clear weather on dry roads. Only YOU can prevent traffic accidents!

Others' Opinions

DEFINITION OF A GOOD LAW

(Ellaville, Ga., Sun)

A good law is one that keeps the other fellow from doing something you either don't do or can't.

TREAT, DON'T KILL

(Elgin, Ill., Courier-News)

Overseas propaganda authorities in the United States have decided to discontinue the Voice of America programs beamed at 18 Latin-American countries. The move is being made for economy purposes and it is estimated that approximately \$250,000 will be saved. . . .

There has been sharp criticism of the Voice of America in recent months. It may very well be that improvements and not abandonment of the Voice might be the answer. Our enemies in Latin-America have unleashed propaganda poison against us. Is it economical to refuse to buy an antidote against poison?

MAKING NEWSPAPERS 'SAFE'

(Stone County, Ark., Leader)

We treat each copy of the Leader with Pentachlerbentoxaphyllizeriamin (a newly discovered beneficial, germ-killing substance) which virtually guarantees that it will not spread any germs, and is therefore safe for family readership. However, when it passes to more than one family, we cannot guarantee that it will not carry virus with it.

So when anyone asks to borrow your copy, kindly tell him that you are merely refusing for his own good, in the interests of preventing the spread of any epidemics. Tell him he can subscribe and get his own copy, which will carry no danger with it. The proper thing to do is to let every member of your family read the paper at once, and then hide or burn it, after clipping desired items.

crowns for 1 new crown. The 5 to 1 rate applies to pensioners; the 50 to 1 rate applies to money the people have on hand.

In addition, all state loans and securities issued since 1945 are now declared worthless.

This sort of Communist financial manipulation is not entirely new. Similar measures were instituted under the name of "monetary reforms" in the Soviet Union in 1947, and followed by other "reforms" in Romania, Bulgaria, and Poland. But never has this open robbery been carried out to the degree now taking place in Czechoslovakia.

As commonly happens when the Communists go in for schemes of this sort, the farm people are the hardest hit. Farmers always tend to keep their money in their own possession. This is particularly true in Czechoslovakia, where the farmers have no confidence at all in the regime. Now these farmers find that the crowns they have on hand are worth just one-fifteenth of what they were two weeks ago.

Battle of the Borders

Since 1948, over 100,000 people have crashed through the Iron Curtain that shuts off the six Communist countries of Eastern Europe—Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania,

Bulgaria, and Albania—from the rest of the world. Hundreds more every month are crashing through right now.

But, unfortunately, that is not all of the story. For many more try and fail. Their fate can only be guessed at. They are the fallen in the battle of the borders.

What kind of grim, primitive battle is this—in this modern mid-20th century? Let us look in on it.

First, the battlefield. It is a 2,500-mile-long narrow, twisting no-man's-land rimming all Eastern Europe. It is barren—barren of trees, bushes, and even tree stumps that have been rooted so as to prevent undetected crossings. It is criss-crossed by barbed wire... dotted with land mines, signal rockets, and searchlights. Armed men and dogs patrol it. Riflemen with field glasses and telescopic sights scan it from observation towers.

Masterpieces of Evil

Some of its booby-traps are masterpieces of evil genius. Dummy border markers, guard posts, and wire entanglements have been placed several kilometers within the Czechoslovak borders to delude escapers into believing they have reached freedom. Some discover only too late that they are still behind the Iron Curtain. . . .

News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

Dwight D. Eisenhower was elected President of the United States by a large majority of those voting. There is no question that at the time of his election he represented overwhelmingly the choice of the people of this country.

Many people who cast their ballot for this popular military hero have said that they did so because that they felt that here was a man who would give them Strong Forthright Leadership. Instead doesn't the new president seem to be running the government by pursuing a policy of "Follow the Leader?" He seems to be trying to cater to the various cries of the people rather than offer them a well thought out plan and sticking to it. The president will have trouble if he continues to follow rather than lead. There are too many groups with different pleas and the public as a group changes too quickly.

To analyze Mr. Eisenhower's lack of leadership let's look at his views on the farm problems and their relation to seeming public sentiment.

To begin with the farmer has shown a change. Last fall when the farmer was questioned by correspondents of "Country Gentleman" magazine there was considerable opposition to any type of price support and 55% of the farmers said they favored a flexible price support which could be varied in accordance with market conditions and the forces of supply and demand. The arguments they advanced then were: 1. Fixed price supports would lead to surpluses, which in turn would bring on price ceilings, acreage allotments and other controls. They said then they did not want controls. 2. Farmers could share the burden and responsibility of overproduction. This they would do under the flexible plan since parity would be lowered when the supply increased. Proponents of fixed parity said that they wanted to know what the score was before they planted. In short they wanted protection against speculative planting and supply and demand failures in which the farmer takes the first rap.

Since last fall the man who

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Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK!

The Bank of Franklin opened on the 1st inst. and the business transacted since that time has been fairly good and gives promise that the institution will be a popular one.

Miss Blanche Clark left Monday morning for her home in Tennessee. She came here last October and has spent the time since with her sister, Mrs. M. D. Billings.

Don't miss "Trip Around the World" Thursday evening July 9, 1903. Wagons will leave Masonic Hall every 25 minutes and will visit Milwaukee, Wis., where you will be served with fruit punch; thence to Tokyo, Japan, where you will be served with tea and wafers by Japanese girls as waitresses; thence to New York City for chicken-salad and crackers. All for 25 cents each. Thence to the library building where you can buy all the ice cream, lemonade, and cake you want.

25 YEARS AGO

July 23 will see the opening of a branch of the Athens Business College in the Masonic Hall at Franklin.

According to an announcement made here the Western Carolina Telephone Company, with headquarters at Franklin, has successfully negotiated for the purchase of the Highlands Telephone Company.

The many friends of Mr. "Slim" Hollifield, of Sylva, were glad to see him again. He was with the State Highway here a few years.

10 YEARS AGO

At the regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen last Monday night it was voted to reduce the tax rate of Franklin from 90 cents to 70 cents per \$100 tax valuation.

Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Hirsch have sold the Franklin Terrace Hotel, which they have owned and operated for five years, to Edgar E. Watkins, of Albany, Ga., Mr. Hirsch announced last Friday.