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Edward A. Yuziuk - Editor & Publisher
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SENATOR SAM ERVIN

☆ SAYS ☆



WASHINGTON - - The Senate Foreign Relations Committee recently held a one-day hearing on the proposal to ratify the Genocide Convention, a treaty which was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 10, 1948, and which has been submitted since then by Presidents who have urged the Senate to ratify it.

Up to now, the Senate has refused to do so unless certain reservations were adopted to clarify some of the vagaries of the treaty. When President Truman initially submitted the treaty to the Senate, the Foreign Relations Committee appointed a subcommittee composed of very able Senators who conducted hearings and reported to the full committee that the United States should not approve the treaty unless the Senate adopted four substantial understandings and one substantial declaration. Following this report, the Foreign Relations Committee and the Senate itself refused to sanction the treaty.

Again this year the issue of ratification of the treaty has been revived with Presidential support. Last week I pointed out to the Foreign Relations Committee some of the dangers this nation faces if it chooses to ratify this Convention. Briefly, the pitfalls are these: The treaty makes genocide a punishable crime under international law. When a nation ratifies the treaty, persons charged with genocide or any of the other acts enumerated in this document would be subject to a criminal trial in a tribunal in his own nation or a foreign nation. Such a tribunal would have jurisdiction over constitutionally responsible rulers, public officials, and private individuals who are accused of committing genocide or any other acts enumerated in the treaty.

I certainly do not question the good intentions of those who drafted the Genocide Treaty or those who favor its ratification, yet it seems to me that the Senate should not permit itself to be persuaded by the good intentions of the proponents of this treaty to radically alter our entire constitutional system of government at a time when it is manifest that a substantial number of the American people do not wish to expand their international obligations and at a time when the existing laws of the United States and its several States are adequate to punish all of the physical acts of violence denounced by the Genocide Treaty. I am concerned, too, that in ratifying the treaty we shall place Americans on trial at the mercy of foreign tribunals which may not operate under the "due process" safeguards accorded to the accused under our legal system.

Witness what would happen if the Senate should ratify the Genocide Treaty during our present intervention in South east Asia. American soldiers fighting under our flag could be tried and punished in a foreign court--even in courts of our warring enemy--for killings and wounding of members of the military forces of our warring enemy. Thus, American soldiers and pilots who kill and wound North Vietnamese soldiers or members of the Vietcong might be subject to trial and punishment by a new court established pursuant to this treaty.

Moreover, the ratification of the treaty raises many other serious legal issues about the jurisdiction of our federal and state courts in respect to virtually every alleged homicide. It is interesting to note that the American Bar Association is again urging the Senate to reject the Genocide Treaty as it did also in 1949 and in 1970.

Strangely enough, a major reason cited by the proponents for the ratification of the treaty is that it will improve our image in the eyes of Russia and other totalitarian parties to the treaty. This is dubious logic, but more important, it ignores all of the real considerations which ought to deter the Senate from ratifying this treaty.

Comments from the Capital -

QUIPS, QUANDARIES AND QUERIES

by Vant Neff

Timely tip to salad lovers: If you find that the price of a head of lettuce or a bunch of asparagus has nearly doubled recently, who's to blame? You may call Cesar Chavez, farm workers' union organizer, and the Teamsters' Union, the culprits. Because out in Salinas Valley, California, known as "America's salad bowl", these two strong labor opportunists are battling over which one of them will represent the lettuce-lads. Result? The crops remained unharvested. Produce prices soared. As in so many situations where organized labor rides roughshod over the interests of the ordinary man--nobody has bothered to consult the farm workers at all. It seems to me that every time there's a contest over who will rule in union disputes, it's the little man--you and I--who pays.

It's bandied about at the Overseas Press Club that The New York Times' slogan should be updated to read, "All The News That's Left To Print"!

Controversial question: Where was the National Labor Relations Board when a union picketed 169 different Sears Roebuck locations carrying signs and placards that read, "WORKERS OF SEARS ON STRIKE FOR UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICES"? Napping? In truth, no Sears employees were on strike. Sears had committed no unfair labor practices! Yet two years dragged by before the NLRB got the matter settled and squared away. Almost unfailingly this supposedly impartial board rules in favor of the unions. A company like Sears might be able to survive prolonged picketing but it could easily ruin a small company. Heaven help the small business man--because the NLRB won't.

Wherever there's another anti-United States demonstration in the world it is the Communists who direct it. From my travels far and wide I can assure you that the average man-in-the-street--whether Turk, Japanese, Indian, Yugoslav, or dozens of other nationalities--truly admires America. It is his dearest wish to come to our free country. So don't hold the demonstrations against him. Rather you will find that it is usually Moscow money

planted in trained cadres of militants that starts a new wave of anti-Americanism.

The spirit of the Women's Lib is taking over the male union member. If you think that some union demands are outlandish, this one takes the cake. Believe it or not, a paper workers' union, composed of sturdy, hardy males, is seeking maternity leave for the men. Not merely a day or a week, but four long months so that the new daddies can keep house while the mother attends to the baby. True, it's far-fetched, but hardly more so than some of the other blue-sky demands currently being made by unions. Considering the powerful weapons organized labor has at hand to win almost any demand, it wouldn't be too surprising to see a new breed of "male housekeeper"--a union-created mon-

icans. May I please ask by what right does this tiny minority degrade the image of our fine Black citizens and claim to represent the rest of their race?

A note to our freedom-seeking radicals: There are no foreign newspapers or magazines on the newsstands in Prague. And if that isn't sufficient indication that the word "freedom" has been eradicated from the Communists' vocabulary, Anton Vasek, Czechoslovakian ambassador to Denmark, defected rather than return to the "People's Paradise".

Merry Madcap Martha (Mrs. Mitchell, wife of the U. S. Attorney General) may not be a favorite of yours. But you must admit that the chatty Mrs. M. has a point when she fires her furious barrages of criticism at those she considers responsible for our country's problems. I don't agree with everything she says. However, when all the dissidents and trouble-makers are allowed to have their say on any subject why shouldn't Mrs. Mitchell be accorded the same privilege?



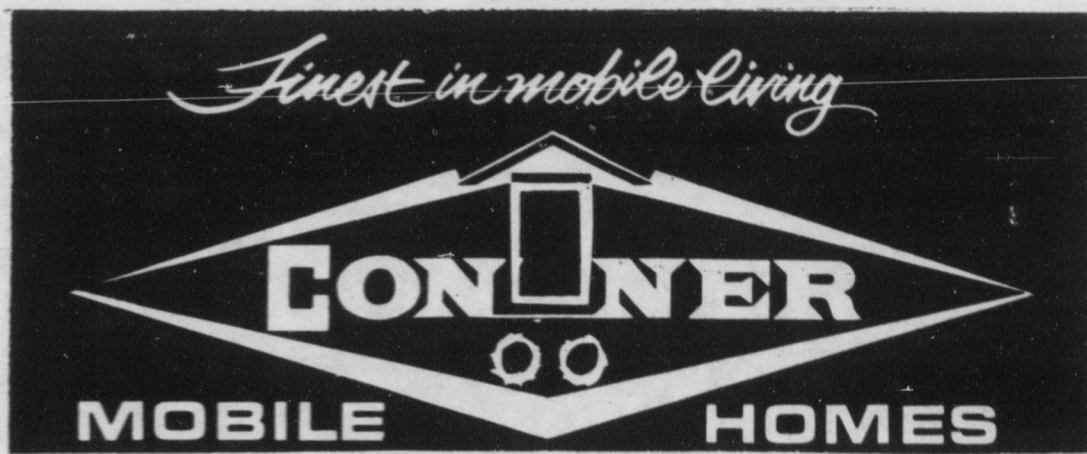
ster--come into being fairly soon. But to my mind, this is only further evidence of the excessive economic and political power of the labor movement. In this instance, it has gone so far beyond benefitting the working man that it borders on the ridiculous.

Which came first--the wage hike, or the price spiral? Something's got to give, to bring galloping inflation to a halt!

Raids on Black Panther headquarters in various places usually reveal a hidden cache of dynamite, guns and other killer kits. The Panthers are openly dedicated to bombing, burning, churning up existing standards and values. Numerically speaking there are only a handful of them--a mere 900 hard-core Black Panthers out of a total twenty-two million Black Amer-

- Whatever happened to:
- The Great Society? (It was a slogan, not a program. It died of boredom.)
 - The War on Poverty? (It was so inordinately expensive that it almost ate us out of house, home and country, and poverty is still with us.)
 - The Ban-the-Bomb movement? (The Russians got their own bomb--and suddenly, the leftists stopped all mention of it.)
 - The five-cent candy bar? (Inflation gobbled it up.)
 - The dedicated politician? (He was shoved into oblivion by the self-promoting, charismatic types who promise Heaven-on-earth with "Federal" money that only comes out of your pocket and mine.)
 - The polite youngster? (He was over-shadowed in the mass media by the parasites of the "permissive society"--and are some of their parents red-faced now!)
 - The labor leader who really cared about the workers? (He got lost in the scramble for power that created some of the most critical situations that working Americans have ever known.)

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