

The New Broom Is Busy



EDITORIALS

Never Forget That These Editorials Are The Opinion Of One Man And He May Be Wrong

The Face Of Socialism

Students of government today are led to believe that socialism, or communism are something new in the world of politics. Nothing could be more wrong.

The basic totalitarian concept that is inherent in every form of socialism from intellectual Fabianism through the brutally imposed Soviet form of communism is as old as man, and much older than the history of man.

In its simplest face socialism is nothing more than the concept that one man knows better, or best what is good for another than that man knows himself.

George Bernard Shaw, one of the fathers of Fabian socialism, expressed it this way: "You would be forcibly fed, clothed, lodged, taught and employed whether you liked it or not. If it were discovered that you had not character and industry enough to be worth all this trouble, you might possibly be executed in a kindly manner; but whilst you were permitted to live you would have to live well."

The difference between this "kindly manner" of Shaw and the blood baths of Stalin

is only one of degree and not of principle. Napoleon said, "I am the state," and this is exactly the same sentiment of the mid-echeleon bureaucrat who walks into one's business and begins telling him how many toilets he must have, who he can hire and who he cannot hire, when he can work them and how much he must pay them.

Perhaps the most ironical reflection upon the creeping socialism of our own nation is that a very large part of the seed has been planted by corporate paternalism which has impregnated far too many employees with the belief that the boss is always right.

The boss is only always boss, but is just as capable of being wrong as his lowest employee, and it is their spirit of non-conformity which breathes life into the body of freedom.

The socialist of the Felix Frankfurter-Jonathan Daniels breed is basically a conformist, but it is he who selects the pattern of conformity. They become "Fighting Liberals" when they are asked to accept the principles of others.

Our point is that dictatorship is nothing new.

About Civil Defense

The civil defense program is the opiate used by the federal spender while he operates on the pocketbook of the taxpayer.

There are countless ways of getting money from the unwilling, but the simplest is to scare hell out of them. That is the civil defense pistol held by the military and the the Fabian socialist to the head of the reluctant taxpayer.

Poison gas was the hold up weapon between World War I and World War II. There has always been a secret and terrible weapon "in the hands of the enemy" that governments have used to pick the pocket of the taxpayer.

"Fall out shelters" are as practical a defense against nuclear fission as the Wall of China was against Mongolian invasion.

The ONLY defense against the horrors of war is peace.

The modern man who huddles in his basement fall out shelter, nursing his ulcers and counting the seconds until the "end of

time" is blood brother to a distant coward who whimpered and whined in his pre-historic cave while death haunted his cave entrance with a sharp stick in its hand.

There are no degrees of deadness, and the person atomized by nuclear explosion is no deader than the fellow who slipped on the banana peel and cracked his head on the sidewalk.

But the deadest man is the one who permits himself to be frightened into crawling into a hole and running from death.

Two things will certainly find us all: Death and taxation and it is futile to flee from either.

But the government that converts its citizens deliberately into a neurotic mob with premeditated panic is flitting with its own end.

None of our military bases have "fall out shelters" for very good and obvious reasons. Not the least of these being the post-mortem examinations of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Administrative Control

The 4,700 savings and loan associations of the nation have been ordered to "cease and desist" in discrimination because of race, creed or color.

These associations are "insured" by an agency of the federal government, and this is sufficient excuse for the long arm of administrative tyranny to be stuck into the private affairs of companies that lay claim to some independence.

The banks, also fall within the order since they, too, are supervised, insured and aggravated by the benign hand of government.

Newspapers, such as this, that go through the mails are subject to the gentle touch of federal Control.

Doctors who practice in public hospitals fall within the veil of federal supervision.

Huge companies who sell their products to government feel the hot breathe of civil servant direction.

Farmers who beg for parity price supports can plant only what the bureaucrat permits.

The labor union member is subject to federal supervision, and most importantly every person employed in the nation has his pay check assaulted by federal withholding taxes long before he sees it.

In short, there are none beyond the reach of federal red tape, but we are enmeshed as a result of our own ignorance and greed.

A nation, and its individual citizens cannot have liberty and surrender it for governmental promises of security.

A choice has to be made as to which is most important, and at this day and date in history the choice has been against liberty and in favor of "security."

The Sun Is Setting

There are indications that The Sun Is Setting on history's most noble effort to help the have-not nations of the world.

Only after the most prolonged and bitter controversy did the recessed congress get part of what President Kennedy asked for in the way of money for foreign-aid spending.

And as congress recessed its most potent voice on foreign affairs, Senator Fulbright, chairman of the senate foreign affairs committee, attacked the United Nations as a platform for peace and development of the world.

These are more than "straws in the wind". These are positive indicators that the days of continued open-handedness with the American taxpayers' money to every bush-league nation around the world are numbered.

If this 100-billion-dollar effort has accomplished nothing else, it has more than confirmed the adage, "You can't buy friends!"

On every international turning those who have taken home the biggest loads of American dollars have denied American foreign policy. Naturally, it would be blindly nationalistic for Americans to assume that their foreign policy has always been right.

Too, one cannot expect a Nehru to say, of America, "America, may she always be right in her relations with other nations, but America, right or wrong." This super-patriotic toast was said a long time ago, and most of us still subscribe to it. But Nehru, DeGaulle, Adenauer, Nasser, Frondisi, McMillian, Nkrumah are NOT Americans and no amount of American money can change their nationality, nor their selfish interests in their own nation.

No foreign policy that is based — as ours has been — on blind altruism can succeed; simply because no one accepts it at face value. So if we are going to be charged with selfish interests we might as well have the pleasure of indulging. Virtue may possibly be its own reward, but generally virtue in foreign affairs is its ONLY reward.

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PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS BY JACK RIDER

The examination any day of any newspaper — big or little — reveals a stimulating revival of an almost-forgotten art; that of pamphleteering. Of course, the art never was completely dead, but it slowed to a trickle in the years during World War II, which is rather typical, since it is dangerous to exercise one's prejudices too blatantly in time of national emergency except in the accepted direction.

The war-time pamphleteering is more or less left to the papers and magazines, who are daily concerned with the "righteousness" of our cause, and the "diabolical" plans of the enemy. It is assumed that everybody on our side wears a white hat, rides a white horse and never shoots a man in the back, while the enemy wears a black hat and moustache and thinks nothing of shooting a "white hat" in the back.

But in those periods between wars the irrational fears and the coldbloodedly rational design of the citizenry take shape in the form of pamphlets. It is impossible for a single branch-head editor, such as myself, to read even a fraction of the pamphlets that come across my desk, and it is even more impossible to avoid an occasional sortie "into the wild blue yonder" on the wings of one of these epistles.

There is a very serious danger to any easily involved citizen who permits himself to be exposed to only one point of view. If one were to read nothing but the tracts of the John Birch Society, or nothing but the tracts of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People he would almost inevitably over a period — depending upon his individual resistance or lack of resistance — become a wild-eyed practitioner of that particular propaganda he was exposed to.

This problem is solved simply by the overwhelming majority of people in every nation: They simply don't read, and are not much concerned about affairs — domestic or foreign. But that vocal and concerned minority is generally the ruling class, whether in the faceless society of a totalitarian bureaucracy or in the highly individualized rule of such monarchies as those of Castro or Tito.

If I were to prescribe, and I'm about to, a remedy to prevent or cure blind prejudice it would consist of mandatory readings on both sides of every issue. But this is an impractical remedy since too few of us have either or both the ability and inclination to read.

This rather leaves us where we started: Being ruled by those who do take the time, those who do have the inclination to read. So long as we are lucky enough to get men and women to govern us who have the facility of seeing both to the left and right all is well.

But along occasionally will come a demagogue who has the personality and the climate to exercise far more than his fair share of control over national and international destinies. There are always Napoleons, Hitlers, Huey Longs among us but the political ripeness so necessary to their full flowering doesn't come along to frequently.

Reading intelligently is the only means available toward better understanding of the world we live or die in. Failure of our educational system to create the desire to read is more perilous to freedom than any military or scientific development. Man's body can be imprisoned, but a free mind, never. And the only free mind is that which refuses to blindly accept any proposition set forth by anyone. The basic function of education should be the cultivation of the questioning mind.

The first session of the 87th Congress must have been better than we had noticed, since the Americans for Democratic Action have condemned it flatfootedly.