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I do the very best I know how, the very best I can and I mean to keep doing so till the end; if the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't amount to anything.

Tuesday, July 25, 1950

Up To The Hoarders

Few, if any, Americans really want the return of wartime controls. Rationing coupons were anathema to most people.

But if controls are not to be restored, certain segments of the population must exercise greater restraint than they have been showing during the past few weeks.

Not only government officials but also business men and industrialists generally have declared repeatedly that there is no need for such tactics.

Increased payrolls brought about by defense production, of course, may be expected to add to the demand for various commodities.

Nevertheless, the patriotic thing for every American to do is to curb his fears for the future and refuse to grab more from the counters than he can reasonably be expected to use for the day-to-day support of himself and his family.

It is definitely up to the hoarders to determine whether this rich country with virtually unbounded stockpiles of life's necessities shall be forced to bring back the rationing cards with all their disagreeable accompaniments.

Honest Realism

Senator Robert A. Taft is a candidate for reelection in Ohio. In accordance with political tradition, therefore, one would expect to find him on the side of tax reduction.

However, Bob Taft is a man of uncommon frankness and candor. He never fails to call an ace an ace and a spade a spade, even when, by so doing, he may lose the support of certain elements.

The Senator's latest proposal is for an immediate tax boost with which to pay the costs of the Korean campaign and of military expansion for purposes of national security.

This is honest realism of the type which is all too scarce at Washington. Present estimates are that the nation will have to put up 10 and a half billion dollars in the drive against Communist aggression.

No one likes to pay higher taxes. But thinking people will agree with Senator Taft that it will be better to meet current defense costs out of current income than to wreck the nation's financial structure merely for the sake of a temporary joyride leading straight to the brink of fiscal disaster.

Die Or Conquer

Winston Churchill, even though reduced to the relatively humble status of leader of His Majesty's Loyal Opposition, has lost none of the facility of expression that influenced the thinking of millions of people during World War II.

It is a grave mission in which we find ourselves. It is a moment in the history of the world in which great tension exists. I think the tension will be prolonged. I don't see how it is going to be eased...

Adolf Hitler once scoffed at such sentiments. Maybe Joe Stalin and his Kremlin coterie will do the same. But Churchillian analysis, in the democratic vein, has a way of materializing—to the dismay of dictators, whoever or wherever they may be.

We Fall For "Red Lullaby"

By Victor Riesel

A slim, convicted liar with a hatchet face and a nervous stomach, who not too long ago would advise other labor chiefs to call strikes just to keep the workers in a militant and revolutionary spirit, slipped quietly into an Eastern city last week for a secret (he thought) wartime action conference.

He was 'Arry Bridges, the old Cockney-accented American whip of the pro-Soviet labor chiefs in the United States, a band of men who most certainly have not developed any political inferiority, although their political fatherland fills the hand that mows down our GIs.

Let there be any doubt that this outfit, operating so far beyond the Soviets' battlelines, is just a meager handful of wild-haired fanatics, let me rush to report that they lead almost 200,000 union members, that they have 4,000 (I have the list available) active labor officials in their cadres, and their high command is 500 strong—500 disciplined Communist Party members.

The new Bridges outfit, "The United Labor Action," pivots around the avowedly pro-Soviet United Electrical Workers which has thousands of followers in key atomic installations, jet aircraft turbine plants, and the huge factories and labs where our scientists and construction workers are developing atomic motors for battleships and submarines.

In other words, whatever the Communist line will be, it will not lack friends in the areas where we right now are slowly beginning to tool up for tanks, guns, aircraft and other military, naval, radar, and electronic material.

Not one pro-Communist, who voted in Federal union shop elections to be led by men known to take orders direct from the Communist national board, has been fired from these plants. In fact, we're silly enough to make such firings downright illegal.

Where are they? Well, there are several score such unionized fellow travelers, under intense and immediate direction, for example, in the Sylvania Radar plant in Huntington, W. Va. There are thousands, under the whip of one of the Communist's best cells, in the East Pittsburgh area, working for Westinghouse, where in addition to vital elec-

trical equipment and atomic motor experimentation, a new atom research laboratory has been developed.

There are hundreds in Erie, Pa., where the big General Electric plant turns out locomotives and refrigerators in peace time, and vital stuff in war 'crisis. There are hundreds on hundreds more in the Westinghouse turbine engine plant in Lester, Pa., where this past month they were sufficiently powerful to shut down production for three weeks.

And although they didn't win control, in recent union elections, of the super secret Knolls Atomic lab in Schenectady, New York, there still are many there who voted for the pro-Commie union leadership, including those now being accused of contempt of Congress by the House Un-American Affairs Committee for refusing to say whether or not they are Communist Party members.

In the huge International Harvester Company, there's a great concentration of workers, who publicly called for leadership of their union to be retained by men whom the CIO ousted on charges of closely following the pro-Soviet line.

There are hundreds of second string leaders at the giant Ford plant in River Rouge, who have publicly identified themselves with the Commie "peace" petitions urging us to junk the A-bomb and please stop making the H-bomb, no less.

There are thousands in the United Public Workers, whose members actually get Federal pay envelopes, part of which supports such projects as the union's "Peace Committee," a pro-Commie outfit which "warns" other government employees that big defense expenditures—against attack by Soviet troops—means fewer government jobs.

Obviously, their "Red lullaby" has put us to sleep.

Arizona Acts To Attract Industry

Arizona is making a play for industry in an effort to broaden its economic base.

According to the American Society of Planning Officials, the Arizona Legislature recently eased tax obligations on industry in order to encourage manufacturers to locate within the State.

Here's what the Legislature's action did:

(1) Repealed the manufacturer's privilege sales tax, effective in mid-June. This was a .25 of 1 percent tax on the gross proceeds of sales, or gross income from manufacturing, packaging, preserving or otherwise preparing for sale, agricultural and horticultural products.

tax as applied to meat-packing was not repealed, however.

(2) A constitutional amendment was passed which would repeal the inventory tax on manufacturers' raw material in stock as well as on work in progress. The proposal must be approved by the voters before it is finally effective.

(3) The tax that the State levies on machinery and equipment was continued pending further study; but, in the future, such property used exclusively in the operation and maintenance of any manufacturing plant in the State is to be assessed at only 50 percent of book value for tax purposes.

It is estimated that the elimination of the privilege and inventory taxes will result in a revenue loss to the State of less than \$500,000. This equals about .5 of one percent of all State and local taxes collected during 1949.

You Ask It

By Haskin Service

A reader can get the answer to any question of fact by writing the Trenton (N. J.) Times Information Bureau, 1300 Eye St., N. W., Washington 5, D. C. Please enclose three (3) cents for return postage.

Q. In which of Shaw's plays is the line "I don't believe in circumstances?" J. W. H.

A. It is from "Mrs. Warren's Profession." The context is as follows: "People are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and, if they can't find them, make them."

Q. How did the term "free lance" originate? W. G. S.

A. It goes back to the practice during the Middle Ages of knights and roving soldiers selling their services to any state or leader needing them.

Q. How many eyes has an ant? A. W.

A. Ants have two eyes located on the head. The exact position varies slightly with the species. In most species, however, they are found behind and slightly below the antennae or feelers.

Q. Please give some information about quebracho wood. B. B.

A. Quebracho wood is a native of Southern Brazil, Paraguay, and Northern Argentina. It is one of the heaviest and hardest substances known, its name meaning "arc breaker." It sinks in water even when perfectly dry.

Q. Since many Congressmen are not lawyers, are they provided with assistance in drafting and correctly phrasing bills in the proper legal form? R. C. G.

A. There is a Legislative Counsel for each House to help members of Congress with the drafting and phrasing in legal form of the bills they wish to introduce.

Q. Do the rabbit's hind or front feet make the first track? D. C. C.

A. According to the naturalist, Ernest Thompson Seton, in all animals which bound, including the rabbit, the hind feet track ahead of the front ones.

Q. What happens to all the gold that is mined in this country now that individuals may not own it? J. S.

A. All newly mined gold and gold imported from abroad goes in the first instance to the Government. The Treasury Department pays for its purchase.

Q. What is the comparative consumption of butter and margarine? C. V. R.

A. In 1949, the average consumption was 10.5 pounds of butter and 5.7 pounds of margarine. Before World War I, in 1941, the figures were 16 pounds of butter and 2.7 pounds of margarine.

How Low Can You Get?



Political Trend In Dixie

By Thomas L. Stokes

There was both good and bad news for President Truman in the South Carolina primary result. But the presence of any good was a consoling change after Fair Deal setbacks in Florida and North Carolina on the tempestuous Southern front.

Naturally pleasing to the President was the defeat for the Senator of Governor J. Strom Thurmond, Dixiecrat symbol who bolted and ran for President on the independent States' Rights ticket in 1948, thereby carrying four States and splitting the South.

His desertion of the Administration, which he signaled several months ago by his attack on the Truman Fair Deal as "the road to statism" carried weight because of his former close association with Harry Truman in the Senate and as the President's No. 1 Cabinet officer, Secretary of State. It carried weight also because of the high position he held in the previous New Deal Administration—as a Senate leader and confidant of Franklin D. Roosevelt, as Supreme Court Justice, and as Chief of the top civilian command for World War II in the White House.

While Mr. Byrnes' renunciation of any aspirations to be President on any ticket is accepted at face value—he is 70 years old—it is believed that he may manipulate Southern forces—either at the next Democratic convention or afterward—in an effort to influence the 1952 Presidential election, and not in Harry Truman's favor. He is a very skillful politician and an adroit maneuverer.

The South Carolina election was a rebuff to the President's civil rights program, of course. Nothing else is possible in that sector. That was accepted routine. Senator Johnston and Governor Thurmond vied with each other in condemning the program. Senator Johnston, however,

in contrast to his unsuccessful opponent, has kept a foothold in the Democratic Party—slippery and precarious at times, it is true.

A former textile mill worker, he supports a number of Truman objectives, especially in the field of labor. He voted against the Taft-Hartley Act. Labor support undoubtedly contributed to his reelection. It is presumed also that he got a larger share of the Negro vote as the less objectionable candidate of a duo in which there was not much choice for the race, though this is not ascertainable.

In protest against the civil rights program, Senator Johnston had absented himself from the Jefferson-Jackson dinner in early 1948, the empty table set aside for him and his party a gaping reminder a few feet in front of the President at the head table. At the subsequent Democratic National Convention, he was a loud-talking General Dwight D. Eisenhower booster, sporting the biggest button seen at that gathering. But when President Truman returned triumphantly to Washington after the election, no one was quite so conspicuous in the welcoming crowd at Union Station as the bulky South Carolina Senator.

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Voice Of Broadway

By Dorothy Kilgallen

(Dorothy Kilgallen is on vacation. Her guest columnist today is the authority on ballroom dancing, Arthur Murray.)

The trend toward the twenties has been slowly but surely overpowering our 1950 way of life. "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" is one of the biggest hits of Broadway. "The Golden Twenties" is causing nostalgic chuckles in movie houses, hairdressers have been having their best time in years with the scissors and fashion designers are borrowing whole chunks of ideas from the women's pages of that decade.

Something's happened recently, however, that makes the whole thing closely knit and complete. With an earthshaking roar, the Charleston has descended upon us, causing rumblings throughout the country which will probably find their way over to the Fordham U. seismograph any edition.

West Coast Took Up Craze

It's the youngsters who revived the craze, probably tracing back to one who succeeded in making his parents demonstrate the Charleston in a corner of the attic. The first I saw of it was a year ago in Bermuda, where a bunch of American teen-agers, on Spring vacation, would alternate between sunbathing and dancing. After we rubbed our eyes once or twice, we realized that it was the Charleston they were doing. Our next surprise came when we returned to the States and found that it was starting to catch on here, too. For, little by little, students throughout the country started to ask for a Charleston lesson or two squeezed in among the rhumbas, sambas and fox-trots, and, in the last few months, its demand has been large enough to provide employment for a couple of hundred new instructors.

The West Coast was the first to take up the craze seriously. Frantic telegrams arrived at the

Letters

Park Comparison

Sir—The people of Trenton and vicinity should know of the splendid picnic facilities afforded by the Pennsylvania Washington Crossing State Park. Near the Thompson House, just past Bowman's Hill, are located a very large number of tables and fireplaces, and they are absolutely free to the public.

On a recent picnic there, we selected a location that pleased us and enjoyed a most delightful evening. The picnic locations are not crowded and an atmosphere of welcome prevails. A park guard, in passing by, wished us a pleasant good evening and politely inquired if "we were well taken care of," instead of demanding the nickel per person as is demanded in the New Jersey park.

On the very sore question of the nickel fee charged in the New Jersey park, the statement is made that the money is needed to maintain the park. I am reliably informed that the fees collected go to the general State fund and may be used for any State purpose, such as putting a new dome on the State House if the Appropriation Committee should decide it is needed. There is no assurance that an iota will be returned for park maintenance.

Moreover, more than \$50,000 was spent in the New Jersey park last year on the reconstruction of roads and parking lots. Perfectly good roads were torn up and replaced, the excuse being that the money must be used when made available from highway funds, whether needed or not, or it would lapse—this waste in spite of the fact that some additional facilities were badly needed.

As a member of the Legislature 25 years ago, I worked very hard to secure appropriations to establish and develop the New Jersey park. The taxpayers' good money was used for this purpose and the intent was that the park should be a memorial to General Washington and the heroes of 1776, and that the grounds should be maintained for the free use of the public.

No wonder people are moving to Pennsylvania. Besides a much lower tax on real estate, there is a feeling of brotherly love there that appeals to many of us.

William H. Blackwell, Titusville.

The "Tepid War"

Sir—The cold war has begun to warm up. Let us call it now the "tepid war," so that if it turns into a hot one and any human beings happen to survive, those fortunate won't think us irrational for having jumped from cold water directly into hot without any intermediary splashing about.

We must preserve the illusion of our judiciousness for the next generation at all costs. K. W.

Quotable Quote

"What is the true end and aim of science but the discovery of the ultimate power—a seeking after God through the study of His ways?" — W. H. Furness.

Side Glances



"I'll lend you the cup of sugar, Mrs. Jones, but if mother was home she probably wouldn't—she says borrowing always ends in a battle!"