

The News-Review

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CREEPING SOCIALISM

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Perhaps one reason for public apathy concerning politics is found in the vast amount of propaganda coming from all sources. It is so difficult to find the truth that many people just don't bother.

For instance, we find this "gem" in a handout from the Democratic National committee.

Whenever the Republicans are at a loss for any constructive suggestion about current problems (a not infrequent occurrence) they like to charge the Democratic party has placed our nation in the clutches of "creeping socialism."

Socialism comes when the government takes over business. Capitalism flourishes when privately owned business makes good profits.

This week the Federal Trade commission reported on profit figures, after taxes, for 25 major manufacturing industries. The FTC found:

22 of the 25 showed a higher rate of profit in 1950 than in 1949.

19 of the 25 showed an increase of profits in 1950 over 1949. Among the few industries which reported a decline in profits, lowest rate of profit remained more than 6 percent.

On the basis of these figures it looks as if what the Republicans charge is "creeping socialism" is actually "galloping capitalism."

Doesn't that sound convincing?

But let's take another look at the profit situation.

The same mail that brought us the Democratic handout also furnished a monthly profit and loss statement from the Southern Pacific company.

Where Profits Go

The Southern Pacific for the month of June had total income amounting to \$55,662,591. Operating expenses amounted to \$43,151,051. Taxes were \$5,933,201. Rentals totaled \$2,250,586. Fixed payments, such as interest on bonds, amounted to \$1,768,033. Total expenditures were \$53,102,871. That left a net income of \$2,559,720.

Two and a half million dollars seems like a lot of profit, doesn't it? But when it is broken down we find that, according to the Southern Pacific's statement, the company had left from each dollar it took in only 4 and 6/10 cents. Out of less than a nickel's profit from each income dollar the company must finance new equipment, improvements, pay principal on maturing bonds, and provide dividend payments to stockholders.

But the Southern Pacific furnishes even more interesting sidelights on the profit picture. Total income for June of this year was \$2,192,988 more than for June last year. That indicates a very prosperous business improvement. But, in spite of two million dollars more revenue for the month of June this year over the income of the same month last year, the company's net income was \$2,097,042 less, because it cost \$4,289,430 more to do business.

Profits Held To Be "Evil"

Our professional propagandists have been preaching for years about the "evils" of profits. The profit angle has been used widely to gain and hold political support from organized labor. Every profit-making employer, according to the labor press, is a low down no-good. The Democratic political organs prate of high profits for the purpose of leading the public to believe that business, big and small, is a drooling wolf preying on the public pocketbook.

But when we get around to analysis we find that, for the most part, high taxes, inflation, and mounting costs have reduced profits to the point where even the Democratic administration is becoming badly worried because so few people are willing to risk investment in stocks and bonds. Financing corporation expansion, once handled with private capital, has become so unattractive; through reduced earnings, that the shortage of investors is causing much concern.

"Creeping socialism" doesn't necessarily mean taking over business. It can mean bankruptcy of business through taxes, inflation and high costs; the destruction of the capitalist system by infiltration, controls, regulations, administrations and authorities.

Scraps From the MENDING BASKET
by Vahnett Martin P.O. Box 874, Drain, Or.

Oh, the blessed, blessed sound of rain as it came at last during the night! How much relief it brought—and with what gratitude must everyone be thinking of it. It will not bring back the ruined timber, and the cold decks and the mills, but it will lessen the hazard of more following them into ruin.

Now to change the subject and mention a couple of corrections. Mrs. Maud Deaver (Drain) comments that the grave of Roselle Applegate Putnam is in Yoncalia, in the Applegate cemetery, and not, as given in this column, recently, in the Putnam cemetery on highway 38. Thank you, Mrs. Deaver.

And an error I just noticed in the scrap about the "mysterious bells." There was a misprint in the quotation of the inscription as given in the letter from the Mission Inn. I'll repeat the correct wording and spelling:

Chiantel Fondeur 1878
Saignelegier

And now for the fish story heard at Paradise Cove Sunday evening: A fisherman from Kansas was hopelessly casting for bass in Tahkenitch lake when he hooked on to a twenty seven-inch cut-throat trout! We saw the picture. A woman was fishing for trout.

Never More So Than Today



In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page 1)

outfit in WHICH YOU CAN HAVE NO CONFIDENCE WHATSOEVER.

GRIM THOUGHT:

If the Communies suddenly break loose with an offensive in Korea that is bigger and better prepared than any they have launched yet, we'll know why they wanted a truce.

Funny business from Moscow: "A Soviet scientist, recently chided for outfitting footsore pigs with sandals, admitted he had indulged in some faulty reasoning."

It seems that the scientist (a Russian named Greben) had access to a herd of swine out on the Ukrainian plains (he couldn't have owned 'em; individuals aren't allowed to own HERDS of pigs in Russia.) The swine were "ailing." They appeared to be suffering from sore feet. So he fitted their painful footsies with slippers, gave them hot foot baths and dosed them with penicillin.

The GOVERNMENT heard about it and landed on Greben like a top of bricks, telling him to get rid of his ailing piglets and breed better ones from standard stock.

So Greben said:

"Yes Master; that I will do."

Funny business No. 1 in America.

This new car his fans are getting ready to give to Home Run Hero Ted Williams. It is a specially built job and will cost \$25,000 smack-dab. It will "make a track"—that is, it will start so fast it will leave twin streaks of burned rubber on the pavement.

1952 GOP Convention Promises Hottest Fight Since Willkie Day

By BRUCE BLOSSAT

Although the Republican convention is more than a year off, men in both the conservative and liberal wings of the party are already poring over strategy charts for the GOP presidential nomination.

As of this writing, the two leading names for next year are Sen. Robert A. Taft of Ohio and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. Lesser candidates are Gov. Earl Warren of California and Harold E. Stassen, president of the University of Pennsylvania.

On the surface, the contest looms simply as a decision between these two men. But actually it's more complex than that. First, as the recent GOP meeting in Tulsa showed, there are still many doubters among the conservatives about Taft's vote-getting ability. There is fear that his smashing 430,000-vote triumph in Ohio last fall was a special case, not necessarily indicative of what he could do on a national scale.

At Tulsa, where GOP leaders from all parts of the nation assembled, the mood was rather one of caution-of watchful waiting. Yet despite this mood, and the doubts about Taft, the Ohio senator seems sure to come to the convention, with a substantial block of delegates from the southern and midwestern states. And at this moment he has no serious competition from within the conservative fold.

In the liberal camp, the problems are no less perplexing. No one can be sure whether Eisenhower would respond to the party's call. He has not declared himself, though it is possible one or more of his ardent backers may have learned privately what his intentions are.

But until Eisenhower's attitude is publicly known, the conservatives are not likely to underestimate the strength of the liberal wing. Lighted on the side are Governor Dewey, with New York's

It will go 130 mph day in and day out. It is guaranteed to put out the eye of anybody who looks at it.

(Williams already has a \$4,000 clunk that will at least get him from where he is to where he wants to be. Doubt has been expressed as to whether he'd be willing to be seen in the \$25,000 eye-knocker.)

Funny business No. 2 in America.

Old Bernarr MacFadden, who celebrated his 83rd birthday with a parachute jump of 2,000 feet into the Hudson river. When he got on dry clothes, he said:

"I recommend this for everybody. It's a—good thing to do. I could do it every day in the week. I'm good for things like this for 10 more years. I feel like a million. I feel 25. Next year, I'm going to jump over Niagara falls."

Well, the old boy's life is his, and if he loses it next year jumping over Niagara falls I imagine we can spare him. But I might suggest to him that there are bigger and better jobs to be done for his country.

Also — If Ted Williams' fans want to buy him a \$25,000 car that he doesn't need and apparently doesn't want because he thinks he'd feel like a sap every time he drove it down the street, it's THEIR MONEY.

But if they have dough they want to throw away, I'd like to suggest to them that we can use \$25,000 in our community chest—and do a lot of good with it.

Reader Opinions

Callahan Trail Area Fight Against Fire Noted

ROSEBURG — (To The Editor) Your very splendid editorial of Aug. 24, "A Visit To Fire Lines," denotes your sincere appreciation of one and all who gave assistance and prompts me to write you of the valiant efforts of the Callahan Trail neighbors and the crew of men and their equipment sent by the Weyerhaeuser company, who worked so diligently there when the fire jumped approximately one and one-half miles and started on the John Armbrust Henry place (known to the older folks as "Deer Point"), about one and one-half miles north, and one mile west, of the Baughman lookout.

Due to their efforts, the opinion is, the fire was prevented from continuing to the coast. They used bulldozers around the buildings which were saved. Damage to trees is not considered too critical. Saturday afternoon the Weyerhaeuser company crew still was working about the place.

MRS. LOUISE HENRY
Roseburg, Ore.

Reserve Units Major Allison's Topic At Kiwanis

Major William A. Allison of the corps of engineers Tuesday noon described national guard and army reserve corps organization before members of the Roseburg Kiwanis club at the Hotel Umpqua.

Unexpected guest was a well-known Eugene Kiwanian — Jim Aiken, who recently accepted a job as timber buyer for Umpqua Plywood Corp., after having served as University of Oregon football coach for several years. He was Mayor Albert Flegel's guest.

Another guest, Dr. John Haskins, a Rotarian, proposed an annual picnic to include all service clubs in Roseburg rather than the individual clubs staging their own picnics. In a show of hands, most Kiwanians subscribed to the idea. The suggestion is to be explored.

A huge reserve organization exists in this nation, said Allison—including organized reserve units and national guard units. The organized reserve played a big role in training personnel after the outbreak of World War II, he noted. And the reserve program has expanded in recent years with both active and inactive units now.

The national guard has a long history, having grown out of the revolutionary war, Allison commented. In 1916, its financing was taken over by the federal government. All of these units were called up shortly after World War II broke out.

At present, six out of 18 divisions have been called to active duty, two of which are overseas. Allison said he thought youths of 17 years, in general, fitted in well with national guard units because of interest developed in the unit, and because of the recreational programs. In larger towns, some youths were beyond help before joining the units, he said.

GI KILLED IN CRASH

WAMLET, Ind. — (AP) — A soldier from Tigard, Ore., was killed near here in an automobile accident.

He was Cpl. William Hine, 20 son of Mitchell Hine, Tigard. The car in which he was a passenger hit a bridge abutment. Driver of the car, a cousin, Harris E. Hine, 19, Columbia City, Ind., suffered only minor injuries.

Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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WEISBADEN, Germany — There has always been an affectionate gratitude in my heart for the lean and rugged years I spent on the old *Washington Herald* at the kick-off of my reportorial career.

The paper was deeply in the red. The staff numbered five, and we went to press daily through a series of miracles. Ledgermain, stories dictated to linotypers at their machines and other manipulations that make me shudder now when I look back upon them.

Here in Germany there is currently an American radio outfit operating on somewhat the same basis of bailing wire, shoe strings and make-do. It's called AFN — American Forces Network. And although I doubt if you've ever heard of it back home, it's doing a highly effective and praiseworthy job.

Operated by the army's Armed Forces Radio service, AFN is a network of radio transmitters dotted around the American zone of Germany. They all carry the same programs, designed primarily to meet the entertainment, listening needs of American armed service personnel stationed in Germany and elsewhere in Europe.

The cost of operating AFN is only a drop in the bucket, compared to the \$100,000,000 the Voice of America is trying to wheedle out of Congress back home. In fact if anybody handed AFN a million dollars, the smart operators of the radio service wouldn't know what to do with it.

You can stand on any street corner in Germany and you'll hear AFN music or comment coming from radio-equipped cars — German as well as American. And down almost every residential street the majority of radio sets are tuned in on AFN. And the same holds for not only Germany, but France, Britain and other countries I've visited.

AFN programs are mostly musical, interspersed with periodic newscasts. As a starting point, AFN carries 40 hours a week of the most popular state-side variety, dramatic and musical programs, which are recorded in New York and flown overseas on tape, just as my broadcasts and news columns from here are flown to the states.

In fact AFN feeds its network with a plain diet of the U.S.A. and its news and entertainment features are making a much bigger impact here than the jazzed-up, often distorted Voice of America broadcasts.

AFN seems to do a better than average job in its choice of recorded music. It keeps be-bop and straight jazz at a minimum, puts great emphasis on musical comedy and light opera, and devotes a reasonable amount of time to the classics. One air force sergeant here told me:

"If you want jazz, you listen to the German stations; if you want good music, you listen to AFN."

AFN newscasts also draw big audiences. They are, of course, a boon to the tens of thousands of Americans in Germany; most of them do not speak or read German. In addition there are thousands of English speaking Germans who listen to AFN newscasts, preferring it to the slanted European newscasts.

A crew of young privates, corporals and sergeants conduct AFN's day to day operations. Their enthusiasm is unmatched, in so far as other Americans with government jobs over here.

AFN studios are in the town of Hoechst, between Weisbaden and Frankfurt. The studio is in the stable and servant quarters of a 12th century castle. Crewmen live in the castle, with secret passages and a long tunnel running far underground, that were used as an escape route under the Mainz river.

AFN crewmen, with beat up equipment and very little money, are a big hit, whereas the Voice of America with its fancy equipment has to spend considerable time trying to sell itself so it can hold listeners. The American soldiers manning AFN microphones know what sells Americans overseas. And that is people just like they are, with inborn good taste, a sense of humor—often displayed by telling creepy stories about strange sounds in the night that come from 12th century castles, and more than anything a great and basic love for their own land—the U.S.A.

Progressives Look For Peace Candidates

MINNEAPOLIS — (AP) — Progressive party leaders from 24 states went ahead here today with plans to pump new life into their state organizations and to push "peace candidates" for every political office in 1952.

Members of the party's national committee, emphasized the candidates need not necessarily be Progressive party members—just so they "stand for a genuine policy of peace."

Vito Marcantonio, former New York congressman and a Progressive party leader, predicted President Truman would be defeated if he ran for re-election next year. Marcantonio went on to say that the Democratic party would begin a "disintegration" in 1952 and that from the remnants of the party "a stronger Progressive party will arise."

ON STATE BAR BOARD

PORTLAND — (AP) — Thomas G. Tongue III is the new member of the board of governors of the Oregon State bar.

He will serve one year to fill the unexpired term of James Landye, resigned.

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NOTICE

The following resolution was passed by the Roseburg Rod and Gun Club at its regular monthly meeting August 14, 1951:

"Whereas the Roseburg Rod and Gun Club is dedicated to the conservation of forests, waters and wildlife and other natural resources, be it hereby resolved that said Roseburg Rod & Gun Club is opposed to and will strongly resist any industrial development on any of the waters of the Umpqua watershed that will in any degree contaminate the waters of said area as detrimental to fish life or plant life, or so pollute the air that plant life and other forms of animal life are affected thereby."

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