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TIME FOR A CHANGE

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Recent political news appears to indicate a rapidly growing "Stop Eisenhower" movement within the ranks of Republican party leadership.

The stunning Eisenhower write-in vote in Minnesota, and Senator Taft's angry but futile withdrawal from the New Jersey primary, would indicate that the G.O.P.'s Old Guard is becoming rather frantic.

The clincher comes in the hint from MacArthur that he might be "available" for the nomination.

We have been a great admirer of MacArthur's vigorous challenge to the administration's soft attitude toward the Reds and its willingness to compromise national honor for political expediency. We had hoped that MacArthur would become the spokesman for true Americanism, the defender of constitutional government. We are disappointed by his present attitude. He apparently has tied himself to the Republican Old Guard. In such capacity he loses much of his effectiveness as an evangelist for honest government.

MacArthur, the Voice of Americanism, is a powerful person. But MacArthur, the potential savior of the Old Guard, is a disappointment.

People Distrust Both Parties

Present indications point to a tremendous ground swell for Eisenhower. It is still too early to measure the intensity of this spontaneous demand, but the frantic maneuvering would indicate that it has the Old Guard worried.

If, as might be assumed, the American people are waging constitutional revolution, it is our opinion that the popular reaction for General Ike is not as much a demand for his services as it is evidence of public distrust of both major political parties.

Eisenhower has never been a political figure. He has played no part in the affairs of any political party. He has kept aloof from all political activities. Yet all indications to date are that the American people are preparing to sweep him into the presidency on an overwhelming tide of confidence and sentiment.

This situation is strange, because Ike has made no declaration of policy, has made no personal campaign, has not openly sought the high honor, and is more or less an unknown quantity in political affairs. Therefore, the best explanation of the odd political groundswell is that the American people are distrustful of both parties and want a leader free from all political obligation.

Not Acceptable To Old Guard

The prospect of a "free lance" candidate is rather frightening to the G.O.P. Old Guard. It can be recalled that the Old Guard gave only half-hearted support to their candidate when Wendell Willkie was swept into the nomination upon much the same tide of public sentiment as seems to be forming behind Eisenhower. Even Willkie's running mate, however, has depreciated, in our opinion by his apparent willingness to be a party to such tactics.

A repeat performance may be in the making. Taft's blow-up in New Jersey reduces his chances for nomination. The Old Guard now apparently hopes to capitalize on MacArthur's popularity to make him the compromise candidate if a deadlock can be maneuvered in convention. MacArthur's position, however, has depreciated, in our opinion by his apparent willingness to be a party to such tactics.

The Old Guard wants no candidate upon whom it cannot hold the reins. It wants to control patronage and party discipline. It wants a candidate amenable to party discipline. It wants no independent or "maverick" in office, even though the candidate might be a party affiliate.

Republican and Democratic leadership alike ridicule Eisenhower's amateur organization, just as they ridiculed Willkie's supporters. But the amateurs seem to be doing quite well.

If the nomination and election of Eisenhower did no more than break the hold of the tired, senile, superannuated Old Guard, a most useful purpose would be served.

The Republican party needs to free itself from the debilitating effect of the Old Guard through an injection of young, vigorous blood.

We have millions of independent voters, voters unable to support either political party. Many have been driven from the ranks of the Republican party by Old Guard leadership. They doubtless would return to an aggressive party offering a program of devotion to the country rather than the party.



Scrap From the MENDING BASKET

Vahnett Martin P.O. Box 874, Drain, Ore.

"Unless the Lord build the house..."

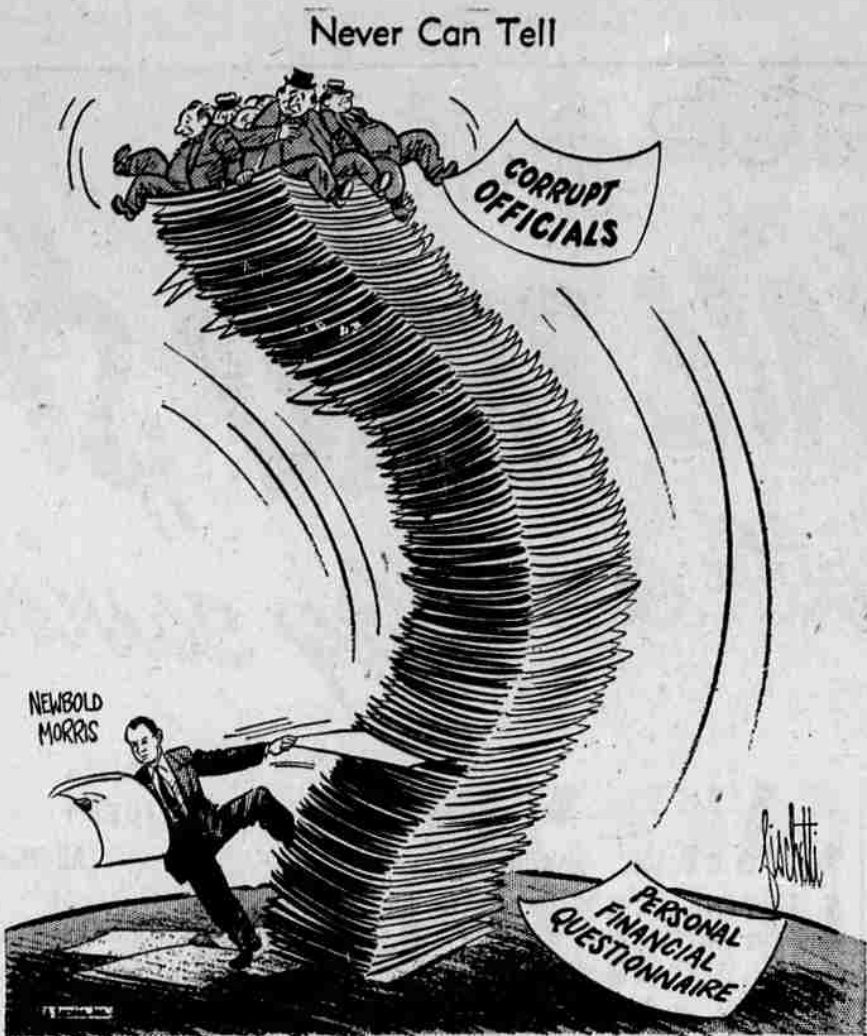
Did you happen to ask for one of the little free leaflets, "The Four Pillars of Freedom," being circulated by the thousands every day by the Texas and Pacific Railway Company (Dallas, Tex.)? I mentioned it a while ago in this column, and have also spoken of it when with a group. The idea behind the little leaflet is something so fine that I cannot think of it as "just advertising." 400 newspapers carried an editorial about it, issued by an editorial service firm.

Today the director of public relations, J. B. Shores, when thanking me for the clipping of this column about the "Four Pillars," enclosed a most interesting account of the way sometimes as many as ten thousand requests have been received in one day. "One company alone requested 50,000 copies for employee distribution...approximately 25,000 individual letters have been received from people in all walks of life. The present advertisement, "UNLESS THE LORD BUILD THE HOUSE," has been the subject of many sermons. Several hundred newspapers have commented editorially on the advertising campaign series..." Banks, churches, etc., use the advertisements as posters!

The current Saturday Evening Post, for instance, has a full page advertisement depicting a church with the text beginning: "Twice in one lifetime we have tried to build peace, both times we have failed. And both times God was kept from the peace table—the first time—because the world was 'too busy'; the second time because God was barred by Communism..."

The text continues with an earnest plea for the reaffirmation of faith in God and our faith in the power of prayer. "Then our labors will not be in vain."

The address, reprinted in the leaflet was written by W. G. Vol-



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

WASHINGTON — A witness before the joint congressional committee on the economic report admitted that the Federal Reserve Board has 150 cops rummaging around in private homes to determine whether a citizen who applied for credit under regulation W to purchase a wheelbarrow or other household items, actually spent the money for such devices.

The Federal Reserve Board, however, can loan a banker a billion dollars without restraint.

William McChesney Martin, governor of the Federal Reserve Board, was the witness. Here is his admission in an exchange with Representative Wright Patman, Democrat of Texas:

Patman: "How many people do you have trying to enforce regulation W, I mean in the way of policing it?"

Martin: "I would say not over 150 for the whole country."

Patman: "I get complaints that they are going to people's homes and calling people out, interrogating them, about buying something on the installment plan."

Martin: "Well, we have had..."

Patman: "Do you have people doing that?"

Martin: "We have had lots of complaints of that. We have tried to minimize that type of enforcement. I think they are exaggerated, but it is not a happy lot to be a policeman at anything these days."

Patman: "I know, but it is rather ironic that you should chase somebody down to their own home and call them out to ask them about a wheelbarrow that they borrowed on or bought on the installment plan. You let bankers have a credit of millions of dollars a year without restraint."

Regulation W restricts the way borrowed money is to be used, and provides for a one-third down payment on time purchases as an anti-inflationary device.

It is a ludicrous regulation, on the admission of the governor of the Federal Reserve Board as well as on the basis of the obvious insanity of trying to police millions of credit buyers throughout the nation with 150 cops. In any given department store in any large city in the nation there are hundreds of thousands of instances of credit buying annually. All of Martin's cops together could not even read all of the applications in a year, let alone investigate them. Their combined salaries total more than \$1,000,000. It is a waste of money.

Regulation W is currently under heavy fire. None other than William Green, head of the American Federation of Labor, and a heavy financial contributor to President Truman's administration, has joined the ranks of those denouncing the credit control.

Green, in a recent A. F. of L. publication, informed union laborers that since the imposition of controls their gain in real wages has declined. He is even plumping for the free enterprise system now, free from the clutch of economic planners in Washington. In view of this it will be interesting to see where Green puts the political money paid in by his union members for the 1952 presidential race.

The A. F. of L. leadership has been consistent in the past in supporting expensive global reconstruction programs. Now, however, it wants to shake the control it once thought necessary to promote the giveaway ideas of Mr. Truman's. In fact, Green is getting around to informing his working members that the income tax, squeezed out of their pockets to pay for some of the plans he helped promote, are taking an ever increasing toll from workers' incomes.

Under regulation W consumer credit buying increased during 1951 to the tune of \$300,000,000. The regulation was supposed to decrease consumer credit. But even with the increased credit buying, there are none of the shortages of materials so direly predicted by the White House at the time it shoved a control program down congressional throats.

In fact, virtually all so-called strategic materials except copper, are a glut on the market. The military has an already-appropriated backlog of \$60,000,000 it has not yet been able to spend, and expects another \$36,000,000,000 this spring. The Defense Department, with these billions it cannot spend, is the best anti-inflationary force extant.

We need Martin's 150 cops about as much as we need a \$3 bill.

Hear Fulton Lewis Daily On KRNR, 9:15 P.M.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page One)

Shucks! You can answer that question as accurately as the smartest economist in the country. After you've paid your federal taxes in these modern days you haven't got much left to buy with.

Another statistic: Last year (1951) net income of 808 leading U.S. corporations dropped 12.5 per cent. The approximate net profit of these 808 corporations in 1950 was 8.8 billion dollars. In 1951 it was 7.7 billions.

Immer, president of the Texas & Pacific Ry., and he suggests that we all take as our slogan the "four pillars of freedom."

WORK — SAVE — VOTE — PRAY

How come? Here's how come: Their sales increased but their taxes INCREASED MORE.

"But," you will say, if you are a shallow thinker, "what do I care about these big corporations? The harder Uncle Soaks them the better it will suit me."

Wait a minute.

One of our largest corporations (AT&T) now has more than a million stockholders. (its stockholders outnumber its employees.) If you are an average American in modest circumstances, following an intelligent program of investment and saving, you probably own some of its shares. If not, you'll almost certainly own shares of some of the 808 U. S. corporations whose

School Census Increases List Douglas County

SALEM (AP) Oregon has 387,328 children between the ages of four and 20, a 4.7 per cent increase over a year ago, school census figures released Wednesday by the State Department of Education showed.

Curry County had the largest gain, 24.8 per cent.

Other counties with big gains were Umatilla, 14.1 per cent; Coos and Douglas, 11 per cent each; and Lake County, 10.5 per cent.

Baker, Clatsop, Deschutes, Gilliam, Hood River, Malheur and Wheeler Counties had small decreases.

however, or as at present when enormous military expenditures are being made or planned, the government (the President now has this power) can move prices up, or down by merely expanding or reducing the rate of military spending.

The President (through his Department of Defense) now has more than \$19 billions previously appropriated but not yet spent. The present budget request is for \$50 billions more. With this enormous backlog of cash at his command, it seems to me the President can just about do as he pleases with what was once our great free economy.

To turn to something a bit more cheerful for a moment, there is evidence that the Congress, which I must remind you is controlled by the President's party, is at last going to make some genuine heavy cuts in the 1953 appropriations for independent offices of the government were recommended by the House Appropriations Committee last week. The budget recommendation for the 24 independent agencies covered by the bill was \$6,978,687,043. The Committee recommendation calls for a cut of \$707,548,695 or more than 10 per cent.

Congressman Thomas, chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee which handled the bill states that other recommendations carried in the bill, limiting communications and printing costs, restricting travel, and other similar items, could bring the total saving to as much as 33 per cent.

REDS RECRUITING
 HONG KONG (AP) — The pro-Nationalist Kungsheng Daily News says in a Canton dispatch that Chinese Reds are recruiting 500,000 men between 18 and 35 in the South China provinces of Kwangtung and Kwangsi for the Chinese Communist Army.

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Congress Chat
 By HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M. C., 4th Oregon District

Hearings are now being held on the question of extending the law known as the "Defense Production Act". This is a law of many parts. It provides for material allocation and control, stockpiling, production and all of the things which have to do with the preparation of our military defense. This law also provides for the control of prices and wages. That part is one which directly concerns all of us.

Right now the subject of price control is a bit academic. In other words, the price level of things we buy is not climbing and many things are being sold below present ceiling prices. But watch out. The President has the power to turn inflation off and turn it on almost as he sees fit.

As I have so often pointed out in these weekly letters, the word "inflation" means the reduction of the purchasing value of a dollar by increasing the number of dollars in circulation—in other words, it is the inflation of the currency that hurts. This causes higher prices. Prices, generally speaking, are based on the old rule of supply and demand. Government tinkering just cannot beat that old economic law. But government can and does control the value (in terms of goods or wages) of the medium of exchange—the dollar.

So to stop the devaluation of the dollar, which is another way of saying to stop the increase in prices, government must slow up its borrowing and purchasing. Under normal conditions such government activity is obviously limited. Then the fluctuation of the dollar value (prices) is not great and the up or down movement is slow. In time of war,

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