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GOVERNMENT IN BUSINESS

Charles V. Stanton

Through the National Associated Businessmen we have been furnished a copy of a bill introduced by Representative Frank C. Osmer, Jr., of New Jersey. The bill, H.R. 8832, is known as the Anti-Government Competition Act. It proposes, in the words of the businessmen's association, that "government should get out and stay out of business."

It is interesting to look at some of the statements advanced by the sponsors.

Representative Osmer says in *Congressional Record* of April 14:

Federal agencies have entered into so many business-type activities that they constitute a real threat to private industry and labor, imperil the tax structure, and are, in many industries, a step toward socialism. Many of these business operations employ thousands of people and have capital assets running into billions upon billions of dollars. These are largely tax-free, but competitive with private industry and labor, which pay taxes. No one person knows the size and complexity of federal operations as a whole, but out of our studies the committee has learned that the government, and I quote, "is the largest insurer, the largest lender, the largest tenant, the largest holder of grazing land, the largest owner of grain, the largest warehouse operator, the largest shipowner, the largest truck-fleet operator." The reported capital assets of \$146 billion at the end of 1951 are no doubt much greater now.

Competition Listed

The committee, the congressman reports, lists paint, spectacles, false teeth, wooden legs, rubber stamps, chain, ice cream, flags, rum, clothing, wooden boxes and rope as among some products manufactured by the government. The government, it is stated, is engaged in manufacturing, retailing, transportation, construction, maintenance and service activities. Beyond these are banks, lending agencies and financial institutions of all kinds. The government, it is reported, has a hotel and a railroad at Panama, tugboats on both coasts, power plants, laundries and type-writer repair shops.

The congressman states that some progress has been made in getting the government out of business. Mississippi barge lines were sold last year. Synthetic rubber plants, built during the last war, are up for sale. The Atomic Energy Commission has recommended selling the cities of Oak Ridge, Tenn., and Richland, Wash. The Defense Department has shut down all of its lumber and saw-mill operations, closed the naval clothing factory at Brooklyn and is getting out of the scrap metal business.

The report continues:

If we get rid of other government-owned competitive business we shall be able to reduce the national debt by at least thirty billions of dollars; cut annual interest payments by a half a billion or more; reduce the enormous appropriations that now finance these bureaucratic undertakings; and collect from one to two billion dollars a year in new taxes, which will make possible further reduction in the exorbitant taxes paid by individuals and corporations today.

Efficiency Involved

It is quite apparent that the sponsors of the bill are offering the extreme viewpoint. On the other hand, it has been demonstrated time and again that private enterprise, in industry, business or service, usually is more efficient in operation than public agencies. Departments financed by public appropriation normally tend to become overly large and to build up payrolls and operational expenses out of proportion to the products produced or the services provided. Waste and extravagance usually creep in when profit-making is eliminated.

Naturally, there is another school of thought. Many people believe in government ownership of everything. Another segment would ban all profits as evil and would abolish the capitalistic system. Some will contend that government competition is a spur to private enterprise. Many support the Socialist doctrine.

If Congressman Osmer's bill gets serious consideration in Congress it doubtless will become a highly controversial subject, with a great deal of oratorical screaming on both sides.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — A career in the theater is like a lottery—the odds against success are tremendous.

What leads anyone then to become an actor by choice? Bravery? Or ignorance of the obstacles ahead?

"Neither," said Eddie Albert, who has known both the dark and the bright side of show business. "It doesn't take any more courage to be an actor than it does to be a mother."

"You don't do it out of courage. You do it out of selfishness—because you prefer it."

Eddie has done about everything in the entertainment field except play the role of gravedigger in "Hamlet." He earned hamburger money singing at political rallies here before he made his name on Broadway. He has been in 20 pictures, including "Roman Holiday," in which he co-starred with Audrey Hepburn.

Recently he made his debut in a night club act at the Waldorf with his wife Margo—"just to learn another art of show business"—and the talented duo rather set the big town on its ear. The supper club act here isn't used to Hollywood performers who can sing, dance, act and play the guitar—and do them all well.

Eddie went into the night club field because he felt that the husband-and-wife act would enable him and Margo and their 5-year-old son, Eddie Jr., to enjoy more family life.

"That's the big thing with us," Eddie said. "What good is big money if it means Margo is working on one coast and I'm on the other? This way we can be booked together more often."

Albert, a tall, friendly, intense actor, has more than a theatrical interest in human problems. He himself has produced two educational films on birth control, "Human Growth" and "Human Beings." He also recently recorded against a choral background a

religious album titled, "One God—The Ways We Worship Him."

He feels an actor can entertain people and still have a serious impact on his times.

"I can't say I set out to be an actor, but everytime the road forked I took the path that led me finally to become one," he remarked.

"I suppose the road forked first when I learned as a child I could attract attention by whistling two tones and wiggling my ears."

"Everybody has a need to win attention and, later, respect. As you grow older, your attempts to gain recognition merely are on a higher level."

"The actor needs applause. But so does a businessman who kills himself at 50 with a coronary."

Eddie paused as he absent-mindedly played with a hanging mobile toy he had made for his son—a series of acrobatic monkeys fashioned from colored pipe cleaners.

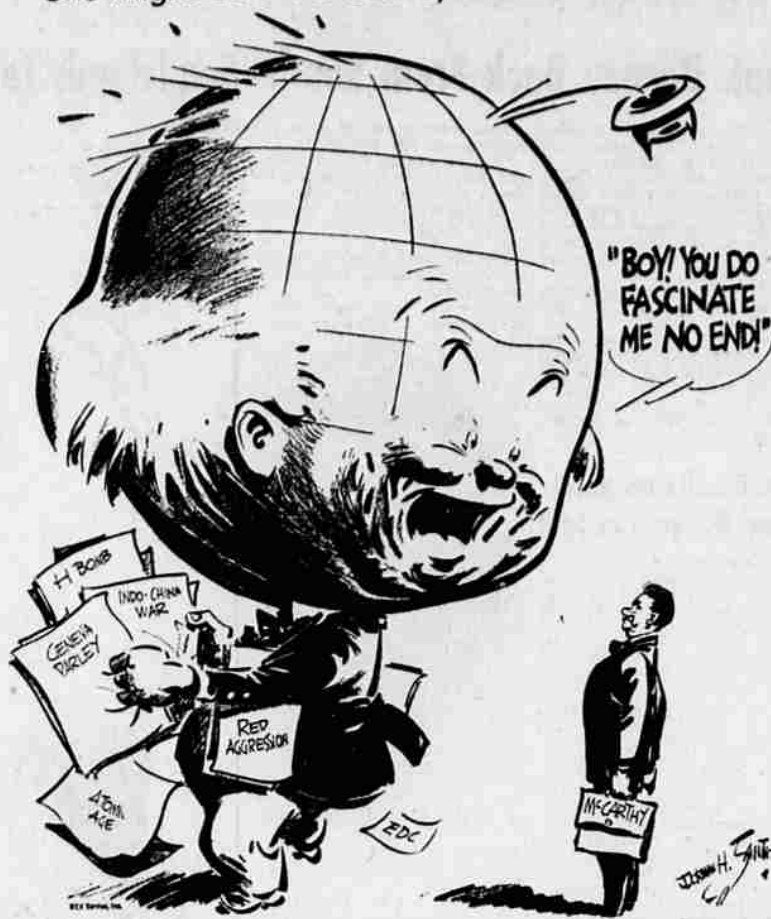
"You start by wriggling your ears," he continued, "and the next thing you know you are in Hollywood."

"You may be a star or only a bit player, but you like it. You find it is less onerous than selling neckties or delivering ice—the only other things you are probably good for."

"A good actor has a choice of what he does. I have free lance since 1938. I thought being a free lance meant being free. But it turned out that it means you are only free to worry about finding some new picture or play you feel is worth doing."

"But even so it's better than being tied to a studio and having to

One Might Call It a Cockeyed Sense of Values



Bruce Bioassat

Anyone who sees the McCarthy-Army hearings on live television or film cannot help but be struck by a fact at once obvious yet of overriding significance: the presence of the United States Army smack in the middle of a political brawl.

The physical symbol of that presence is of course the host of beribboned top Army officers who assemble in the Senate caucus room for the airing of this dispute.

Some of these soldiers are there because they must testify. But others, including Army Chief of Staff General Ridgway, have come to demonstrate their solidarity in support of Secretary of the Army Robert Stevens and the Army's chief counsel, John Adams.

But what the cameras do not show is that others in the Army, including a few of general officer rank, have given vocal support to Senator McCarthy in talks with their superiors and elsewhere.

In other words, the Army presently is torn by the same sort of

political divisions that appear in the fabric of the whole nation. Yet by long tradition, the Army has always been above and apart from politics.

It was taken as axiomatic that the Army could not function effectively as a professional fighting force if it was not kept free of political turmoil.

What has happened to weaken this tradition?

Some will say the Army has been dragged into politics by the politicians, who no longer regard any preserve of government as sacred from their intrusion. This may be at least partly true, but it seems hardly the whole story.

The Army today like the entire defense establishment, is much more a civilian and civil servant organization than ever in its history. This is the product of its great peacetime size.

And civilians neither feel the same limits on political expression that soldiers feel, nor are they protected as well from outside assault.

Underlying all this, however, is a matter of greater meaning. The Army is no longer an insulated cadre of professional fighting men. Together with the Navy and Air Force, it is in many ways the dominant fact in our national life; it is the measure of our security in a terribly insecure world.

Since defense is such a big part of government, since military policy bears so heavily on all policy today, it is perhaps inevitable that the plans and performance of the armed forces and their civilian managers should command paramount attention.

We are deeply concerned with the decisions affecting what the Army will spend and what weapons it procures, its technical progress, its stimulus toward advanced tactics and strategy, its efficiency, its morale, and its own administration.

But if it is inescapable that these issues become topics of hot political debate, the debaters nevertheless ought to refrain from drawing Army professionals into alliance on either side of a controversy.

If political factions are to be sharply reflected within the Army, its value as a fighting force will clearly diminish and the security it is intended to provide will be seriously lessened.

Hallinan's Boys Accused Of Assault, Beer Theft

SAN RAFAEL, Calif. (AP) — Undersheriff Don Midyett said Tuesday two sons of Vincent Hallinan—1952 presidential nominee of the Independent Progressive Party—have admitted beating up three Coast Guardsmen.

He said they led four other youths in the assault April 23 and that the boys took a case of beer from the guardsmen in the roadside melee.

Terence Tyrone Hallinan, 17, was charged Monday with strong-arm robbery.

Patrick Hallinan, 19, was questioned and released on his own recognizance.

Midyett said one of the victims plans to file an assault and battery charge against Patrick, who is a freshman at the University of California.

Terence, a high school student, was released to his grandmother. The father is serving an 18-month tax evasion sentence at McNeil Island federal prison in Washington. The mother was said to be in New York.

Officers said the Hallinan boys and four other youths, traveling in two cars, forced the Coast Guardsmen's car off the road. In an ensuing melee, the Coast Guardsmen were beaten and a case of beer taken from their car.

At \$1 a thousand The tract contained 6,500,000 board feet. Upqua Plywood Corp., Myrtle Creek, also bid.

The unsold salvage parcel, containing 300,000 feet, is located about 28 miles east of Tiller.

Reader Opinions

Attention Is Called To Be Kind To Animal Week

ROSEBURG — The people of Douglas County have long been aware of the need for protection of all forms of animal life, and we are all aware of the value of animal experience in developing the characters of all of our boys and girls, and it is fitting and proper that we recognize the rights of animals and the need for their protection at all times.

Be Kind To Animals Week is sponsored annually by the American Humane Association, and the Douglas County Humane Society will join with more than 600 other animal welfare organizations throughout the United States and Canada for the 40th consecutive "Be Kind To Animals Week" May 2nd to 8th inclusive.

The event is designed to focus attention on the needs and rights of both domestic and wild animals, and to concentrate attention on the need for caring for animals throughout the entire year.

Parents should begin teaching children kindness to animals and all living things, for if a child is taught kindness to animals, he will undoubtedly be kind to his playmates, and to his fellow men in later years.

Although Be Kind To Animals Week is but one week in the year, the Douglas County Humane Society has an active program every day of the year.

MRS. D. E. BRODHAG, Pres., Douglas Co. Humane Society, Roseburg, Ore.

Protests Fire Patrol Tax On Grazing Land

MELROSE — I wish to protest against the fire patrol tax on grazing land in Douglas County.

Why should we farmers have to pay to protect our timber barons?

Our legislators in the House and Senate in 1952 betrayed the farm people of the county by making them liable for other people's protection. I think we need new men in the legislature who will not slip over such an expensive and unfair law.

The timber has made millions. Timber has built the wonderful homes in Douglas County. We who raise the eggs, the strawberries and steaks here cannot afford such luxuries, but we must pay to protect the holdings of those with timber.

SARAH ALLEN, Melrose, Ore.

Father Of Japanese War Hero Now U.S. Citizen

GALLUP, N. M. (AP) — Yaichi Miyamura, father of one of New Mexico's Medal of Honor winners, became a citizen of the United States Monday.

"It feels good," Miyamura beamed at his friends after the naturalization ceremony. "I feel like Hiroshi now."

His son Hiroshi won the nation's highest award for exceptional bravery in the Korean War just before he was taken prisoner by the Reds.

The ceremony was the culmination of a lifelong hope for the Japanese-American. He left Japan in 1905 when he was 17.

Miyamura said, "If I drank, I'd make a big celebration, but I don't drink."

Broken Foot Only Hurt In Three-Foot Tumble

BALTIMORE (AP) — Mrs. Glen Seiber fell three floors to a sidewalk here last night but suffered only a fractured foot. She was released after treatment at St. Joseph's Hospital.

Her husband told police she was calling from their apartment window to one of his relatives on the sidewalk when she apparently fainted.

In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

say "you'uns." She doesn't express acquiescence with something that has been said in such words as "she's bluff." Her voice is cultured. She has no inhibitions. She has no inferiority complexes. She hasn't just learned a piece. Her explanation of this and that in connection with what she is showing us indicates complete knowledge of her subject. She has an obviously sound background of history, economics and literature. Except for the color of her skin, there is nothing to differentiate her from any other young woman of her age and background.

Perhaps Miss Maggie McCarty is an example of something United Nations is trying to bring into this troubled world.

Here in the United Nations building there is no ban on cameras. In fact, they seem to be encouraged. Whenever necessary the four cameras while the camera carriers get the shots they want.

That is in sharp contrast to the gallery of the house of representatives of the congress of the United States. There they don't put your pockets for concealed weapons. You could carry an arsenal in your hip pocket if you chose. But they're death on cameras. Even the teeniest little bitsiest ones have to be given up before the guards will admit you to the gallery of the house. Why I wouldn't know. But that's the way it is.

And, if you're sitting in the front row in the house gallery, you mustn't put your arm up on the rail. That brings a sharp reprimand from the nearest guard. The reason, of course, isn't hard to find. Up in the ceiling of the chamber there is a jagged hole. The hole is where a bullet from one of the Puerto Ricans tore through the plaster. Still, watching the guard knocking arms off the gallery's rail and speaking in cross and sharp reproof, you can't help wondering why they don't put visitors' pockets for concealed guns. Anyway, they don't.

As to United Nations and its splendiferous layout, there are many cynics. But somehow the magnificent building and what goes on in it mellow one's cynicism.

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Traffic 'Scofflaw' Receives Tough Rap

ASTORIA (AP) — Dale Edward Larson, 20, who pleaded guilty to his 19th traffic citation in five years, was fined \$300 Tuesday and sentenced to 90 days in jail.

Like his first citation in 1949, this one was for driving without a license.

On the first citation he was too young to have a license. This time his license had been revoked for a year. Officials said they would ask the secretary of state to add another year's revocation now.

Automobiles have brought him grief other than his brushes with the law. He was seriously injured last month in a collision near Warrenton in which three persons were injured fatally. Larson was a passenger in a carload of youths in that crash. A broken jaw suffered in the collision had not healed completely when he was arrested this time.

Municipal Judge J. W. Pietaria imposed the fine and sentence.

OVERNIGHT

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