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INQUIRY NOT A TRIAL

Charles V. Stanton

Friends of Reed College in Portland are gravely disturbed by charges leveled at the institution during the Velde Committee hearings. Witnesses before the House subcommittee on un-American activities, testified that a small communist cell existed on the campus. Three faculty members were tagged with communist membership or sympathy.

Reed College is an independent educational institution. Like most independent schools of higher learning it has serious financial problems. It has managed to carry on its program only because of its academic reputation. Many of its faculty members are making financial sacrifices simply because they would rather teach in the liberal atmosphere of Reed College than receive higher compensation while working under restrictions.

The college has many friends and supporters. It is feared that finances will be adversely affected as a result of publicity emanating from the committee hearings. Yet the school's governing body refuses to be stampeded into hasty action despite its fears. It possibly could appeal to popular sentiment by a sensational "purge." Such action, however, would be entirely foreign to the school's philosophy.

Will Consider Evidence

An officer of the school writes us in a personal letter that the governing board "will decide what to do with the members of its faculty who have had communist connections." These decisions, our correspondent states, will come only after "cool deliberation." The board, he says, will consider "each case on its merits, according to the evidence."

The governing board has made a public announcement in much the same language. If any one thing is needed today it is "cool deliberation." We have had altogether too much "heated" action in which deliberation was non-existent. We have had too many verdicts rendered without consideration of evidence. Frank Streeter, editor of the *Grants Pass Courier* recently emphasized the fact that an "inquiry" is not a "trial." This is a thought we should keep constantly in mind. In the confused state of affairs today the public is apt to jump to the conclusion that simply because a person is mentioned in an inquiry as a Communist, that he is to be denied the traditional presumption of innocence.

It is commendable, we believe, that the board of Reed College, despite its concern over future financial support, insists upon "cool deliberation," and examination of the "evidence."

Liberalism Needs Safeguards

Reed College has an outstanding record as an independent school of liberal arts. It is widely recognized for the high scholastic standards of its graduates. The policy of the school has been to encourage intellectual freedom, coupled with tolerance for extremes of thought as to politics, religion, economics, etc. Naturally such a field is ideal environment for the nourishment of intellectual pinks and unstable genius.

We do not believe, however, that academic freedom, much as it is to be desired, requires the employment of Communists as instructors. In fact, it is our opinion that academic freedom cannot exist in the presence of communist instructors.

Students certainly should have instruction in the doctrines of Communism. Without such instruction they cannot intelligently interpret world happenings nor can they intelligently participate in the policies of government.

But a Communist party member is pledged to the destruction of our form of government, not to unbiased or objective study of political philosophies and ideologies. Therefore the very preservation of academic freedom demands the elimination of Reds and Pinks from the teaching profession.

"Tolerance in a democracy cannot safely include alien conspiracies aimed at its destruction," says an editorial writer in the *Salem Capital Journal*.

Much as liberalism and freedom are to be desired in the educational field, we do not believe students in even the most tolerant school, and least of all in public schools, should be exposed to instructors pledged to destruction of freedom in all its phases.

Thus, if the Reed College governing board finds after proper deliberation, based on evidence, that its faculty includes members of communist faith or leanings, it should preserve its academic freedom by ridding itself of those who handicap that freedom.

Hal Boyle

PARIS (AP) — "Pierre, this is my last meal before I leave Paris," I said to the waiter in La Grande Lockjaw.

La Grande Lockjaw is one of those intimate left bank restaurants that won fame in the odd way. Victor Hugo once dropped in, read the menu, then left, complaining of a stomach ache. Ever since then the little restaurant has been packed with visiting intellectuals hoping to fall ill in the same place that nauseated the author of "Les Misérables."

Pierre was sad at the news of my leaving. He is very patriotic, and hates to see any tourist leave town with money in his pockets. "Ah, this is an occasion," he murmured. "It requires something special. Would M'sieu like, perhaps, some bullroast potato followed by a small omelet and cassis, accompanied, if you wish, by a small onion soup in which one can still hear the singing of meadowlarks?"

"No, Pierre," I told him. "I live in a village called New York, and when I get back home they will ask me only one question: How did I like the snails? That is all they ever ask. How did I like the snails?"

"Every time I have had to duck this question. But this time I want

to have an answer. Do you have snails?"
Pierre's face fell.
"Ah, M'sieu," he said, dolefully. "Only yesterday the mating season of the snail began. And you know how it is with us French. We do not like to interrupt a belle amoureuse—even in the case of a snail. But"—he looked at his watch—"in only three months—"
"I can't wait," Pierre said dependently. "And I don't mind telling you you're going to make me look like a bum with my friends. They won't even believe I was in Paris."
"Let me consult with the chef—after all he is my brother-in-law," said Pierre. He returned a moment later, and said:
"M'sieu is very fortunate. The chef says he has found 12 snails



Peter Edson

WASHINGTON (NEA) — General Electric Co. has taken the lead in suspending employees who refuse to answer questions of plant security officers or who invoke the Fifth amendment before congressional investigating committees. To date, 20 G.E. employees have been dropped under this program.

The rule is that any employee who fails to answer questions about alleged past or present connections with subversive organizations is suspended for 30 days. If within that time the employee does not clear his record, he is discharged. Most of the 20 so far suspended under this program have now been discharged.

One noteworthy fact about these 20 is that none of them was working on classified, or secret government defense contracts at the time he was suspended. No one can work on a defense contract or have access to secret material who has not been cleared by a plant security officer. He is an Army, Navy, Marine or Air Force officer stationed at each plant to supervise the government contracts for his service.

The interesting question in connection with Sen. Joseph R. Mc-

Carthy's list of 150 alleged subversives, turned over to Department of Defense for investigation, is how many of them will be found working on defense contracts?

Any that are working on straight commercial production cannot be touched by the government. The only way they can be discharged is by some company rule such as General Electric has put into effect for its employees.

RICHARD HARDNESS, NBC commentator, got a telephone call from an irate woman listener the other evening. He had just finished a broadcast in which he had said that Senator McCarthy might be doing a disservice to the Eisenhower administration if he did not report immediately to Central Intelligence Director Allen Dulles or FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover any knowledge he might have about Communists in the government.

The woman listener said she disagreed, and that Senator McCarthy should not turn over the names.

Harkness started to reason with her. "Look!" he said. "You don't think Allen Dulles would keep any known Communists in CIA, do you?"

"Certainly do," she said. "Patiently, Harkness tried again. "You don't think President Eisenhower would keep any Communists working for him, do you?" he asked. "The President would fire them immediately," he assured her.

And then, to Mr. Harkness' burning ears there came back the reply, "Not if they were Republican Communists."

FIFTY NETHERLANDERS, refugees from last year's disastrous floods are scheduled to arrive in New York June 25. This will be the first sizable group of European refugees to come to America under the Refugee Relief Act of 1953, signed last August.

The program calls for admission to the U.S. of 200,000 refugees before Dec. 31, 1956. To date, only 33 refugees have actually arrived in this country under the new law.

The program got away to a slow start because of the necessity of setting up a staff to handle applications, getting security clearances under the McCarran-Walter immigration act, and issuing visas.

ON ANOTHER immigration front, the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, headed by former U. S. Ambassador Hugh Gibson, reports that since February, 1952, when it first began operations, over 220,000 European refugees from communism have been aided in finding new homes in non-Communist countries.

Humphrey Says Public Entitled To Reports
WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Humphrey (D-Minn) said Wednesday the people are entitled to "reliable and consistent" reports from defense leaders on this nation's new weapons and technical progress compared with Russia.

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Assistant Secretary of Defense Quarles, in charge of research and development, was quoted as saying that the margin between American and Russian progress in technological weapons had narrowed.

Soon afterword Secretary of Defense Wilson told reporters the United States still has a "two or three-year" advantage in this field over Russia.

Humphrey, in a speech prepared for the Senate, said "it is absolutely vital that the American people should receive information on this score which is reliable."

Home Work

Congress Chat

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

Hearings are being held by both House and Senate Committees on the identical bills introduced by Senator Guy Cordon and me to authorize the construction of the Talent Division of the Rogue River Basin reclamation project. The legislation is based upon the Federal Reclamation Act of 1902. Although the project will be originally financed by the Federal government, its cost will be repaid over a period of years by the land owners who are benefited by the work. It is also planned to use the same procedure to provide for the rehabilitation of the Medford and Rogue River Valley Irrigation Districts.

As this is written, it is not known what action the House Committee will take on the bill after the hearings are completed. I am hopeful, however, since this is a relatively simple project and pretty much in line with similar projects authorized under the reclamation laws, that it may be favorably reported.

I had hoped that by this time we would have had a hearing before the House Subcommittee on Flood Control of the Committee on Public Works on my bill, H.R. 8661, to provide for the construction of the Green Peter Dam on the Santiam River on a partnership basis. Unfortunately, the departmental reports on this bill were a little slow in being sent to the Committee. Meanwhile the Public Works Committee has been tied up for several weeks with the details of the final completion of its big Omnibus Rivers, Harbors and Flood Control bill. That bill will probably not be completed before the 26th. I am disappointed about this delay but I have kept a constant eye on the situation and I am convinced that it could not be helped.

The Cougar Dam (McKenzie River) bill which was passed by the House a few weeks ago is making good progress in the Senate. It may become law in the near future.

Every now and then I receive a comment to the effect that I should travel around the Congressional District more often and get better acquainted. How I wish I could do that — especially since this is an election year! The fact is that, unlike any other elected official of our State, members of the Oregon delegation in Congress must stay here in Washington.

Scelba's Government Wins Confidence Vote

ROME (AP) — Premier Mario Scelba's coalition government won a vote of confidence in the Italian Senate for its pro-western foreign policy Wednesday night.

This policy includes support of the European Defense Community (EDC) and a provisional solution of the Trieste dispute with Yugoslavia.

The vote was 121 to 85, with 12 senators abstaining.

It was the strongest majority won by an Italian cabinet since the elections of June, 1953.

EMPLOYER ASSESSED FINE
PORTLAND (AP) — Failure to pay overtime wages to four employees resulted Tuesday in a \$3,000 fine being assessed against the Oregon Plywood Corp. of Sweet Home.

Federal Judge Gus Solomon said the firm was warned 12 years ago of the violation. Since then either no records or faulty records were kept, the judge said.

The overtime pay has been sent to four employees involved, he added.

D. C. and do their job of representing the State while Congress is in session. Furthermore, trips home are at our personal expense—we have no government expense account—and even if I could find time to make such trips across the continent, which I cannot, I certainly could not afford them. After this session adjourns, though, I expect to visit every county in the district.

There is a feature article in the Saturday Evening Post dated June 19th which tells about the Committee of the House of Representatives of which I am a member — the Rules Committee. The title of the piece is "The Terrible Twelve" of Capitol Hill. It gives a rather fuzzy story of what the Committee is and the nature of its work. At the bottom of page 22 is a picture of the committee table, which shows me seated in my regular chair where I spend a considerable amount of time.

CIO Secretary Is Indicted For False Statement

SEATTLE (AP) — FBI agents arrested Alvah Allison Fisher, former secretary-treasurer of the Washington State CIO Council, Wednesday on charges of swearing falsely in Taft-Hartley law affidavits that he was not a Communist.

A federal grand jury indictment, the first of 10 made public, accused Fisher, 41, of "unlawfully, knowingly and knowingly" making false affidavits in 1951, 1952 and 1953.

The indictment charged him with violation of the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947 in stating that he was not and had not been a member of the Communist Party, "whereas he knew he was then affiliated with the Communist Party."

Fisher was arrested near his home in Pinehurst, an Everett suburb. He remained in custody in lieu of \$5,000 bond. Federal Judge William J. Lindberg set his arraignment for 2 p. m. Thursday.

Fisher was an officer of the State CIO Council for several years preceding 1950. He is a member of the Everett local of the CIO International Woodworkers of America, and a former executive board member of the Sulton local of that union.

HEAT RECORD BROKEN

DENVER (AP) — Heat records were broken in Denver for the second day in a row Wednesday when the mercury climbed to a sizzling 98 shortly before noon, a new high for this date.

CHOICE OFFICE FOR RENT

327 N. Main—Dial 3-5378

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the members of the Douglas Community Hospital will be held at the Hospital, Roseburg, Oregon, on Wednesday, June 30, 1954 at 8:00 o'clock P.M. for the election of Board of Trustees and the transaction of such general business as may properly come before the meeting.

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Reader Opinions

Gold Hill Residents Enjoy Posse's Rodeo

GOLD HILL. — We would like to say "thanks" to the Douglas County Sheriff's Posse and Auxiliary for a grand week-end of entertainment their rodeo, special events and cowboy breakfast provided.

We drove up to attend the Saturday show, enjoyed it so much we stayed over for Sunday. The cowboy breakfast alone was worth driving miles for; all we could possibly eat. We marveled at the co-operation of the Posse and Auxiliary in giving the hundreds, maybe thousands, of people such fine service. We probably never realize how much time and effort it has taken on the part of the men and women of the Posse to serve us, the public, such a fine breakfast and the enjoyment of watching the precision work of the horses in the Posse drill team.

The races were also quite a thrill. We did miss hearing the names of the horses and owners of those fine animals.

So, until next year neighbors, good luck and thanks again.

W. C. WHITNEY

Gold Hill, Ore.

Canyonville School Board Expresses Thanks

CANYONVILLE. — To the Patrons of the Canyonville Schools: We desire to thank the patrons of the Canyonville School District for the vote of confidence given us in the recent school budget election. We shall continue our policy of practicing economy, when it is not at the expense of the school children, and assure you that every cent budgeted is needed to maintain a Standard School, in our fast growing community, which has skyrocketed from less than 200 to over 400 students in the last five years.

The Canyonville School Board School Dist. No. 9. PAUL R. STRAHAN, GEORGE W. BRINKWORTH, HENRY V. FORD and Supt. OMER J. MONGER