

The News-Review

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DEFENSE ARISES

By Charles V. Stanton

Recovering from the surprise shock of the labor-racket exposures by the Senate subcommittee, organized labor's defensive forces are beginning to show signs of a holding movement and counterattack. Announcements that the Senate investigation is to be expanded are being met with labor charges of union-busting, anti-labor tactics, and management domination. Recent events point strongly toward the mounting of organized effort to discredit the investigating committee.

Labor forces presently are divided. Some elements are supporting the committee's program. The majority insist that any clean-up is the responsibility of labor itself and that outside interference is unwelcome. There now appears to be a rapidly growing faction determined to fight back with allegations that the investigation is motivated by anti-union groups and organizations.

There is every indication that the campaign to discredit the investigation will be intensified. At the same time, however, labor organizations undoubtedly will strive to clean house.

Organized labor has become extremely powerful. It has permitted power to be concentrated in too few hands. Power always becomes dangerous when not properly supervised and controlled.

Money Lulls Workers

Since the start of the Second World War conditions have been ideal for labor leaders aspiring to positions of dictatorship. We have had a constant rise in wage scales. There is magnetic attraction to the big paycheck, even though inflationary costs offset its value. But, despite inflation, organized labor has achieved for its members a much higher standard of living, more wages, shorter hours and many fringe benefits.

And, though the average worker may have been aware that some shady activities were occurring in the upper echelon, he wasn't about to stick his neck out to make complaints so long as his personal fortune was steadily improved through the efforts of his leadership. A good many workers doubtless feel that leaders capable of getting substantial and continuing gains for the membership are entitled to what they can pick for themselves. If rich treasures are being manipulated for private gain, who is hurting?

On the other hand, while some members are unconcerned with reports of graft and corruption in leadership, so long as their own paychecks keep growing, other members are anxious to get labor's house in order.

Committee Gets Letters

Observers in Washington report that the Senate committee is receiving record volume of mail and that more than 90 per cent of the mail originates with union members who write in tips for investigation.

Undoubtedly many of these letters are from disgruntled members. Others are from those people who instinctively like to get mixed up in controversial issues. But it probably is safe to assume that the great bulk of mail comes from workers anxious to eliminate graft and racketeering from the labor movement.

Labor is apt to be troubled with racketeering so long as it remains in politics.

Samuel Gompers, father of the labor movement, warned against any alliance with politics. Despite his warning, labor has gone into politics on a big scale. It has sold its influence in return for favors. Thus it has opened the door to dictators and racketeers and has complicated its own organization. Had it remained free from politics it probably would not have such a mess to clean up.

As it is, labor's prestige has been impaired. As the issues are more intensely contested, charges and countercharges are apt to become grossly exaggerated. Exposures to date, it is claimed, have been tame compared with some still to be made, particularly when investigation starts of the New York dock situation, in which politics reportedly has played a major part.

Neutral observers should keep in mind that a great deal of smoke will surround a little fire as the dispute goes on; that there will be a considerable amount of exaggeration and name-calling.

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

INCOME FIGURES

The Oregonian

Recent report of the Department of Commerce that Oregon's per capita income in 1954 and 1955 fell below the national average indicates that this state is not sharing fully in the general prosperity. However, one should look a little deeper before accepting any thesis that Oregon is in serious trouble economically.

Actually, per capita income here was at an all-time high in 1955—not counting 1956, figures for which were not included in the report. The 1954 average was \$72 better than the \$1762 for the off-year of 1954 and \$10 better than 1952's \$1824.

But 1955 brought the average Oregonian \$13 less than the national per capita figure, compared to only a \$5 deficit in 1954 and an income in excess of the national figure of \$97 in 1952 and of \$180 in 1949. Even in 1959, Oregon's per capita income exceeded the national average by \$382 to \$536.

In contrast, Washington's per capita income consistently has exceeded the national average. In 1955, the average Washington man, woman and child had an income of \$1987, which was \$140 more than the per capita figure for the country as a whole. However, this was a drop from the \$197 advantage in 1954. In 1959, the Washington average exceeded the national by \$205.

There are obvious reasons why Washington's per capita income

may be expected to exceed Oregon's, besides its lesser dependence on one industry—lumber—in which a market slump may make a big difference in income.

Washington's population is urban in a much greater proportion than Oregon's—63.2 per cent in 1950 compared to 53.8. Urban incomes are higher than rural incomes.

Also there are three more males per 100 females in Washington than in Oregon. More men than women work and, as a rule, draw higher pay. The number of children under 5 years of age has increased by a larger ratio in Oregon since 1950, according to government estimates. Children are included in dividing up the total income to arrive at a per capita figure but, of course, do not contribute any cash.

The per capita figures are obtained by dividing the total income by estimated population. Since the total personal income was given as \$3,090,000,000 for Oregon in 1953, the statisticians must have estimated population at approximately 1,680,000 and increase of 160,000 since 1950. We are not convinced that the state has grown so much. An over-estimate of population obviously would reduce the per capita income figure.

Over a considerable period of years, Oregon has done well in per capita income, compared with the average for the country. There is a need, of course, to attempt to obtain more, particularly diversified, industry. But let us not sell the state short.

Any Questions?



Hal Boyle

NEW YORK — A man here who wears two hats feels he has a simple cure for the nation's juvenile delinquency. "It would be cut 75 per cent if every boy in America went through military reserve training," said Alfred G. "Tubby" Tuckerman.

When he puts on one hat, Tuckerman, who started his business career as a clerk, is a partner in William E. Hill & Co., a top Manhattan management consultant firm.

When he puts on his other hat, Tuckerman, who began his military career as a private, is the two-star general who commands the 77th Infantry Division. It is one of 10 "ready reserve" divisions in the United States equipped for almost immediate combat duty in the event of mobilization.

Why should a boy of 17 or 18 join the Army Reserve? Wouldn't it be better to wait and gamble on the draft?

Tuckerman, who enlisted himself in 1918 and feels his own business success springs largely from the results of military training, says no.

He points out that, if drafted, a youth has to serve a full two years on active duty, plus four years in the reserves. The same youth, if he enlists in the reserve program, has to spend only six months on active duty, can work out the rest of his obligation to Uncle Sam by spending one night a week at a reserve training center and attending two-week summer drills.

"It really does the kids good," he said. "It often provides them a career incentive at a period of life when they are unsure of themselves and uncertain of their future goals."

"They can elect their specialty, and get a basic grounding in such fields as administrative routine, radio, electronics, radar, atomic energy, or motor maintenance."

"They also learn other things they don't pick up on the streets—such things as discipline, respect for property, law and order, pride in themselves, and a devotion to duty."

Bruce Blossat

The revolutionary changes Britain has decreed in its military policy seem destined to rank as one of the landmarks of the post-war decades.

Seldom if ever in military history has anything so drastic been proposed. By 1962 Britain's 700,000-man army will be slashed nearly in two, reduced to the size of Spain's. Along the way, in 1960, the draft will be abolished.

The Royal Navy, once the protector of peace on the seven seas, will be stripped of all battleships. It will be reorganized around fast carrier forces able to speed to trouble spots.

The RAF fighter command, savior of Britain in 1940, will slowly be scrapped, to be replaced by a guided missile defense system.

Research on super bombers and supersonic aircraft generally will be halted, and all energy focused on rockets and missiles, especially with nuclear warheads.

Those are the bald facts. Their significance for Britain, for the United States and for all the West is tremendous.

This astonishing switch reflects the impact of nuclear force and electronically guided weapons upon modern warfare and defense. Other nations, including America, seem sure to move in the same direction, though perhaps without such sweeping speed.

The heavy cuts in conventional defense tell one of the painful facts of Britain's life. It no longer has the strength to holding economy under the weight of a really huge military establishment.

In acknowledging this, the British also are conceding openly what

"A boy who learns these things isn't likely to wind up a juvenile delinquent."

Unlike many reserve officers, Tuckerman doesn't soft-pedal the military aspects of reserve training. He feels that, even in the event of atomic war, trained ground troops will always be essential. And he stresses the survival benefits that proper training gives in combat.

"If little Johnny isn't trained, you can just about cross him off," he said. "He isn't likely to come home."

"A trained man is five times as likely to escape death or wounding as an untrained man."

On this point Maj. Gen. Tuckerman can speak with considerable authority. He commanded a regiment in the Pacific in the last war, won the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Air Medal, the Bronze Star with two clusters, and the Silver Star for bravery.

He got the Silver Star on Luzon during the Philippine campaign when he organized a force of two tanks and a squad of dismounted cavalrymen and destroyed an enemy force that had driven to within 300 yards of his brigade headquarters.

Tuckerman, still athletic at 55, is active socially and a vice president of the board of the National Horse Show Assn.

This is his summary of the civilian benefits of military training:

"It teaches you to analyze a problem, organize a solution, sell that solution to others verbally, and get it carried out."

"It also teaches you how to get along with other people, the fine art of human relations and"—here General Tuckerman grinned—"something you need to know in both business and warfare: When to take proper evasive action."

Bruce Blossat

they and others have known for some time. They are heavily dependent upon the United States for survival in the struggle with hostile communism. This move casts out all pretense.

4. At the same time it appears to raise a grave question whether Britain and others now turning more fully toward "all-out" weapons will have left any real means at all for fighting small, "conventional" wars which might erupt in minor war spots.

5. By its frank reliance upon America, by its clear purpose to give its civilian welfare economy greater ascendancy, Britain in this historic change may encourage other West European peoples to follow suit. The result might only be still heavier burdens upon the United States.

EVEN if no train of events is started through France, West Germany, Italy, the Lowlands, and elsewhere, the net effect manifestly is a loss of defensive power in Europe against an aggressive Kremlin.

Conversely, however, Britain's turn to nuclear arms will mean a vastly heightened retaliatory power which may offset to a substantial degree the losses in conventional manpower and weapons.

Together with America's nuclear arsenal, the total effect would be an increased deterrent against a third world war.

All the meanings of this move cannot possibly be clear so early after the fact. But it is plain that the military structure of the entire western world is never likely to be the same again.

A turning point has been passed.

In The Day's News

(Continued from page one)

speeches to try to decrease government spending. Edgar, however, denied published reports that he believed at one time that another brother, Dr. Milton Eisenhower, was responsible for the President's switch to liberal views on spending. "The only thing I know about Milton's feelings on the matter were the remarks he made in a speech to a group of educators."

That brought Brother Earl into the picture.

HE spoke up in defense of Edgar's right to criticize the federal budget. He added: "I wouldn't say I agree with Edgar about the size of the budget, but I think federal aid to higher education would be a tragedy, Edgar, however, has a right to say what he pleases."

What of Ike? Ike laughed it off in his usual good-humored manner, saying in Washington this morning: "Edgar has been criticizing me since I was five years old." The Eisenhower family, you see, is a typical American family—with this difference: Whatever ANY Eisenhower says is BIG NEWS.

Let's get down now to the nub of the issue.

What about Ike and his views on spending—which admittedly DO seem to have changed quite a little recently?

For a possible answer to that question, let's turn to Cactus Jack Garner, former vice-president, who is now living in quiet and apparently happy retirement on his ranch in Texas.

He was interviewed a while back by one of the editors of U.S. News and World Report. Questioned on this same subject (of Ike's seeming change of views on government) he expressed immense respect for the President.

He then added—in substance: "We must remember that President Eisenhower is a dedicated professional soldier. The creed of a dedicated professional soldier is to GET THE JOB DONE—regardless of what it costs."

That is his training. That is the crushing responsibility that rests on his shoulders throughout all of his professional life. It influences ALL of his thinking. In estimating President Eisenhower, we must take that fact into consideration.

That is a pretty sound estimate of our President—who after four years of the heaviest responsibility that can rest on the shoulders of any living man may have come honestly to the personal conclusion that the job ahead of us is so important that we must get it done, regardless of cost.

Judge Rules Negro Birth Law Unconstitutional

BALTIMORE — A 250-year-old Maryland law which made it a crime for a white woman to bear a child fathered by a Negro has been invalidated by the chief judge of the Baltimore supreme bench.

Judge Emory H. Niles ruled the 1715 law unconstitutional because it is discriminatory and said he believed it violated the 14th Amendment to the Constitution.

Judge Niles dismissed without trial an indictment against a 20-year-old white woman.

There is one more factor that should be noted, namely that their belated recognition of the Christ in Glory will only add to their confusion. God, in infinite grace and mercy, permitted them to go as far as it was humanly possible to show their contempt for His Son.

They nailed Him to the cross, then God took over, with the indictment that still stands: "How often would I... and ye would not." Eternity is an awfully long time to spend in hopeless remorse.

Rev. David F. Siemens, Green Community Church

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U. S. Homebuilding Pace Declines Again In March

WASHINGTON — The nation's homebuilding pace declined again in March, to the lowest rate since 1949 for both the month and the indicated annual building rate.

The figures were reported by the Labor Department. The construction industry first back immediately with a statement, accusing the government of "economic brinkmanship" through the tight money policy. The builders called for immediate action to ease mortgage credit.

The Labor Department said March housing starts totaled 83,000 units, up seasonally 28 per cent from February but 16 per cent under March last year. It was the lowest March total since 1949.

The March starts figure out at a seasonally-adjusted annual rate of 880,000 units. This is the lowest such rate since 1949 and compared with the record 1,329,000 units actually built in 1955.

The 83,000 units started in March represented 73,500 privately-financed dwelling and 7,500 public units under a military housing program authorized by Congress.

The Labor Department report said first quarter housing starts amounted to 215,000, less than any other first quarter since 1949. Gains from February to March, normal in the spring season, were reported in all major regions of the nation.

The industry view was set out in a statement by George S. Goodyear, president of the National

Lumber Sales Boom Absent

EUGENE — The usual spring boom in green lumber sales "noticeably absent," the weekly market news letter Random Lengths reported this week.

It blamed adverse weather conditions in eastern and midwestern consuming areas for "a marked decrease in housing starts."

Until there is an upswing in house construction, the letter added, chance are dim for any material improvement in either demand or prices.

The only bright spot in the market now is in timber and heavy items which only a limited number of mills produce. Stud prices advanced sharply several weeks ago, but are now erratic, the letter said.

The plywood market has kept the "firmness gained slowly during the past few weeks," the letter added, and the pine market shows a steady volume.

Nehru Renames Menon To Foreign Affairs Post

NEW DELHI — Prime Minister Nehru today named V. K. Krishna Menon, his controversial foreign affairs adviser, as envoy, to be defense minister in his new post-election Cabinet of 12 members.

Nehru retained the Foreign Ministry for himself. Nehru submitted the resignation of the former Cabinet to President Rajendra Prasad yesterday, in preparation for the first meeting May 13 of the new Parliament elected in the recent general elections. Nehru's Congress party won a sizable majority in Parliament.

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