

"Yessir Ike, Y'Can't Beat Realism"



## EDITORIAL PAGE

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## As Respectable As Any Group

Some Americans of Italian ancestry are indignant about recent publicity linking prominent racketeers to Italian origins.

In a big broadside sent to newspapers by the "Order of Italian Sons and Daughters of America," and headed "The Mafia: Fact or Fable?" An attempt is made to show that organized crime and Italians have nothing in common.

This broadside admits that all of the 60 people present at the November, 1957 Apalachin conference were of Italian origin, and most had criminal records. "We do not defend them in the least," the Italian order states. "We do not condone them. Instead we must and do castigate, chastise, condemn and exorcise them. We vilify them. We hate them."

This anger comes about because "Apalachin illegitimately fathered the spectre of the Mafia in America today." TV and movies started using Italian personalities as villains again.

The net result: "Twelve million decent men, women and children of Italian origin are being forced to pay the price for the misdeeds of a slovenly hundred fold of cheap racketeers."

The order of Italian Sons and Daughters may be over-sensitive on this point.

A recent investigation disclosed that all the leaders in a particularly bad racketeering union in New York bore Jewish names. No one has suggested that this automatically means that all Jewish people have a crooked streak in them.

Similarly the existence of the Mafia in Sicily, Italy or the United States, in the past or right now, does not mean that Italian people, or persons of Italian descent, are by nature not law abiding.

The order of Italian Sons and Daughters protests against CBS running a movie about Al Capone. It objects to a popular comic strip portraying an Italian female movie star as a "pig-girl."

America is made up of people of virtually all nationalities. None but the Indians are pure Americans. No one can offer acceptable proof that one group of Americans, whether they are of Italian, Jewish, French, Irish, Oriental, or any other nationality, is any better or worse in their general moral characteristics than any other American groups. Accordingly the presentation of evidence that the ancient Mafia still exists in this country is not an attempt to prove that Italian Americans are less honest and respectable than any other group.

## We Hope They Don't Use It

The Inbler Fire District has a new resuscitator.

This might not draw much attention. The new piece of equipment might never be used.

We hope not.

A resuscitator is strictly emergency equipment. When it has to be called into use, someone is in real trouble.

## Minimum Wage Hike Would Cause Trouble

The federal minimum wage is \$1 an hour. Organized labor is pushing for an increase to \$1.25. Asked at his press conference what he thought about this, President Eisenhower said he agrees with Sec. of Labor Mitchell that such an increase would simply pour more fuel on the inflationary fires.

Why would it be that? The answer lies in the phrase "wage differential." Highly prized by a skilled worker is the difference between his earning ability and that of an unskilled person. Thus if the very bottom legal wage scale was increased by 25 per cent over night, the differential between unskilled and skilled labor would be narrowed considerably. This would result in immediate pressure to push all wage scales up proportionately.

This is naturally a desirable thing for those whose business it is to get wage scales increased. But when forced wage increases are simply passed on to the

public in the form of higher prices, as they almost invariably are, they are undesirable to those trying to keep inflation from pushing the cost of living any higher.

That's what Ike had in mind when he came out against the \$1.25 minimum wage bill.

### Barbs

Fellows who burn the candle at both ends often find themselves caught in the middle.

The cost of meat is so high a young man can't afford to call his girl "lambie pie."

Folks bitten by mosquitoes immediately develop an itch to get window screens.

A lot of modern art is like the other side of the moon—Obscure.

DREW PEARSON SAYS:

## Headline-Hunting Solons Play Into Castro's Hands

WASHINGTON — The inside story can now be told how immigration commissioner Joe Swing and red-hunter Julian Sourwine kept Fidel Castro's escaped Air Force Chief, Maj. Pedro Luis Diaz Lanz, away from the State Department until they could exploit him for their own purposes.

Their conspiracy resulted in sensational headlines that severely damaged Pan-American relations. It also gave Castro an opportunity to blast the U.S. for interfering in Cuban affairs when actually we have remained meticulously out.

What most North Americans may not realize is that Sen. James Eastland of Mississippi, chairman of the Internal Security Committee, is unpopular with dark-skinned Latin Americans not only for advocating white supremacy but for championing the Dominican Republic's hated Dictator, Rafael Trujillo. So when Major Lanz testified under Eastland's auspices, it played right into Castro's hands.

Major Lanz happens to be against all dictators, whether it is Castro, under whom he once fought, or Trujillo, whose kind he fought against. But being innocent of American politics, Lanz was easily hoodwinked by Eastland's agents. Result: by reminding Latin America that Eastland had praised Dictator Trujillo lavishly in a speech to the Dominican legislature, Castro was able to discount the sincere young Major's testimony.

Here is how he was maneuvered away from the state department into Eastland's clutches.

### How They Escaped

Before he fled from Cuba, Lanz used Associated Press Correspondent Harold Mills as a go-between to inform the American Embassy of his plans to defect. His half brother, Sergio Diaz Brull, sailed into Havana harbor in a sailboat to pick him up.

The brothers loaded a small arsenal of weapons aboard the boat before casting off. They were accompanied by Lanz' 19-year-old wife, Tania, and a faithful friend, Carlos Echegoyen. They had one anxious moment at the docks when a Cuban patrol helicopter hovered overhead, then settled down less than 20 yards away. But the helicopter crew apparently was interested in something else.

Upon their arrival at a Miami oil dock, Brull promptly called the customs office, which notified immigration authorities. When they discovered the Cuban wetbacks included Castro's former air force head, district immigration director Edward Ahrens in Miami sent word to commissioner Swing in Washington.

Army intelligence officers, who had been tipped off by the military attaché in Havana, also showed up. But upon orders from General Swing, a West Point classmate of Eisenhower's, the immigration authorities whisked Lanz away from army intelligence and held him incommunicado on a yacht. The state department, which is supposed to handle international matters, was kept in the dark.

### An Eye For Headlines

Instead, Swing called Eastland's committee and reported Lanz's arrival to its counsel, Julian Sourwine. Recognizing the headline value of such a prize witness, Sourwine arranged with

Swing for Lanz to be turned over to the committee. Next day Frank Schroeder, a committee investigator, showed up in Miami with a subpoena.

The ex-cuban air force chief, of course, was eager to cooperate with American authorities and had no idea the committee simply wanted to exploit him for headlines. Sourwine carefully coached him on what he should say and how he should answer.

The first hearing was held behind closed doors; after which Sourwine solemnly instructed the Major not to speak to newspapermen for at least a week. What Lanz didn't know was that Sourwine had arranged to let a friend, Milwaukee publicity man Robert Siegrist, break the exclusive story.

But Sourwine hadn't calculated on Connecticut's Sen. Tom Dodd, a committee member, who refused to keep the closed-door testimony secret even for a week.

When Dodd threatened to release it himself, Lanz was hastily called back to repeat in open session what he had told the committee behind closed doors. At one point, the hearing was dramatically interrupted while a bomb-disposal crew searched the room for an alleged bomb.

After the hearing Sourwine secretly sent Lanz to Robert Siegrist's home in Milwaukee "for security reasons." With cavalier disregard for his guest's security, however, Siegrist arranged a radio interview at his home and negotiated to sell Lanz' story to Life Magazine.

Life finally paid \$2,000 for the rights to the Lanz story, and the Cuban refugee dutifully allowed himself to be interviewed by Siegrist.

Then, sick of all the fanfare, Lanz fled from Milwaukee, as he had from Cuba, to seek a quiet life in Texas.

### Headlines and Footnotes

Arizona's flamboyant GOP senator, Barry Goldwater, has won his dogged battle to get the Senate rackets committee to investigate his arch-foe, Auto Workers' Boss Walter Reuther. The Republicans will be permitted to investigate their charges that auto union officials have misused a volunteer fund, called the "flower fund," which Reuther claims is collected to fight Communism and racketeering in the labor movement. The Republicans want to subpoena Richard T. Gosser, a UAW vice president in Toledo . . . Dictator Kassem of Iraq is on the verge of a crackup. He's been virtually living in his office, getting only three and four hours sleep, and is so tired that his doctors have warned him that if he doesn't slow down, they won't be responsible.

## QUOTES FROM THE NEWS

United Press International

Quotes From The News

(Reg. U.S. Pat. Off.)

United Press International

CHICAGO — Society girl Jacqueline Gay Hart, missing from her home in Newark, N.J. for two days before being found here, talking to her fiancé by telephone.

"They've taken my ring. Come get me, come get me."

NORFOLK, Va. — Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield, serving notice that he intends to continue his fight to ban from the mails the uncensored version of the D. H. Lawrence novel "Lady Chatterley's Lover."

"If that book is not filthy, pray tell me what is filthy."

MARION, Ohio — Patrolman Lloyd Potter, after United Press International told him George Patrick Geiger, 27, whom Ohio police had arrested for speeding, was wanted for the murder of his ex-wife's father in Jeannette, Pa.

"I nearly fell out of my chair when UPI told me we had a suspected murderer. The lieutenant who brought in Geiger nearly dropped over himself."

MICHIGAN CITY, Ind. — Lake-land Town Marshall Ed Warner, discussing difficulties involved in a hunt for possibly dangerous mountain lion believed prowling the heavily-populated Lake Michigan resort area.

"There also are the cranks. Last night, while fast asleep, I was awakened by a prowler who growled."

## Lake County's Geyser Eyed For Tourists

LAKEVIEW (UPI) — A hot springs geyser which erupted near here on the Charles Crump ranch may become a tourist attraction if the Lake county Chamber of Commerce has its way.

The geyser is thought to be the only continuous one in the world. State engineer Lewis A. Stanley wants the geyser capped because he said it is wasting water.

Secretary of state Howell Apling has recommended that the geyser be made into a tourist attraction.

Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton earlier asked the Thermal Power Co., of Nevada to cap it because of a dispute regarding permits to drill the well in the first place.

Charles Crump said he would give the land to the county for a park if the county court and Chamber of Commerce are interested. The Chamber said it is interested.

## Hope Clowns For Charity

LONDON (UPI) — Bob Hope clowned for charity in a post-midnight matinee today despite his pledge to give up benefit performances for the sake of his health.

Hope abandoned charity shows and many other extra activities last winter after incurring a blood clot in one eye and dizzy spells from overwork.

But he was on stage at the Palladium until 2 a.m. London time today as the top star of a hundred-member cast performing for the Actors Orphanage, a stage charity that supports 35 orphans.

Audrey Hepburn also defied doctors orders to appear. She is convalescing after losing a baby two weeks ago and was told not to travel from Switzerland until August.

"I just skidded in under the deadline," she said.

Hope made an elaborate show of taking it easy during his act. He was stretched out full length on a pink chaise longue singing a song called "lazy" and remarking to the audience he was "too pooped to pucker."

"My doctor says its O.K. to chase girls if I forget what I'm chasing them for," he said.

"Imagine admiring Jayne Mansfield for her acting," Bob added.

### TO FINANCE TOURIST PLAN

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The United States plans to finance a tourist promotion project which Israel has been urging for two years, it was revealed today. Albert E. Farwell, chief of the Near East division of the International Cooperation Administration, told the House Appropriations Committee that \$30,000 from a technical aid fund of \$1,600,000 was earmarked for the Tourist Corp. of tourist industry.

## Lower Crop Production Seen For Current Year

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Agriculture Department said today mid-year prospects point to lower crop production this year than last, but a rising livestock volume is likely to keep total farm output within 2 per cent of the 1958 peak.

The department said crop production, though down 4 per cent from 1958, is well above any other past year.

Corn is the big gainer with 14 per cent more acreage and high yields expected to boost the prospective crop to 4,250,000 bushels, up 424,000,000 bushels from last year's record. Crops of oats and barley are smaller and the feed grain total probably will fall a little short of 1958.

The wheat crop is below the 1958 peak, but 7 per cent above average. Non-citrus fruit production is up 6 per cent. Farmers planted 28 per cent more cotton than last year. Soybean acreage is down, after 9 consecutive years of increase.

The crop outlook still is tentative. Weather developments the remainder of the growing season can alter production prospects considerably.

Meat animals and poultry products are leading the way to a new high in production of livestock and livestock products. Hog production is likely to reach 104,500,000 head, a new peacetime record.

Egg production topped 1958 by 5 per cent in the first half and the year's total is expected to exceed the 1956 record. Broiler production also was up. The 1959 turkey crop is likely to break the 1957 record. Milk output has been running a little below 1958, partly because favorable prices for slaughter animals has stimulated heavy culling in dairy herds.

Net farm income for the first half of 1959 was 8 per cent below the same period last year, on an annual rate basis. Department economists estimated 1958 net farm income would be off \$1,100,000,000 from last year. Production expenses were 3 per cent higher than last year. Prices were higher for all major production items except feed and fertilizer which declined.

Harvest started in Oregon as hot-dry days pushed maturity in the Pacific Northwest. About one-third of Montana's winter wheat shows a golden hue—indicating near harvest time.

## Army Experimenting With Bone Mender

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Army says it has an experimental plastic glue designed to repair broken bones and gets a patent on his feet in two days.

The substance could prove vitally important to ground forces because 60 per cent of combat casualties are bone fractures, the Army said.

The plastic, a polyurethane polymer, is a foam which can bind broken bones together until bone cells grow through the substance. Natural bone eventually would replace the plastic.

Cash prizes will be given for float entries.

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