

"It Wasn't ME Who Yelled 'Uncle!'"



EDITORIAL PAGE

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Only Seems Like Carefree Existence

At every opportunity Russia's Premier Khrushchev repeats his firm belief that it is only a matter of time until Russia will demonstrate to the satisfaction of everyone, including Americans that its system is best. Then, he says, we shall adopt the Russian system and scrap ours which will be obviously inferior.

We can scoff at such a forecast, but it is possible for a Russian to argue his case in various ways. He might, for example, take three baffling problems that now confront the United States and tell how quickly they would be solved under the Russian system.

One of these would be our agricultural surpluses. We spend billions to pay farmers for growing wheat that is not needed, and spend billions more to store it. Under the Russian system the farmers would simply be forbidden to grow any more wheat than was needed, and land taken out of wheat production would be planted to something else. If something else was not needed, the land would simply be left idle and the farmers moved to the cities where they would be told to take industrial jobs.

Production of steel is stopped in the United States because one steel union is able to strike 90 per cent of the industry. Under Russia's system no strikes are allowed. The steel workers would

get an increase in wages only if the boss—in Russia's case the government—felt that such an increase was justified.

The United States is plagued by inflation. The purchasing power of the dollar has declined due to a number of factors. In the managed economy of a Communist state, prices, like wages, are set, not according to economic laws, but according to the manipulation of the government.

But, under such a system, we would answer to a Russian arguing these points, the individual would lose his freedom. He would be virtually a slave to the state, told at every turn what he could not do.

The Russian, who has never known anything else even under the Czars would be in no position to argue on that point. Having never known freedom he would not be aware that it is wrong to be without it. Khrushchev and his cohorts really believe that their system is best. They will go on citing statistics and records of progress to prove it.

Where the danger really lies in our country is in people being convinced by these statistics and records to the point where they forget the price to be paid for such a managed economy is far too heavy a price to pay for what might seem like a carefree existence.

DREW PEARSON SAYS:

Former President Truman Talks Turkey To Butler

WASHINGTON—The meeting which Democratic Chairman Butler had with House Speaker Sam Rayburn and Sen. Lyndon Johnson made headlines, but another important meeting didn't. This was with former president Harry Truman at Independent, Mo.

The beleaguered Democratic chairman went to see Truman on his own volition to get advice and straighten himself out with the party generally. Truman, friendly but blunt, gave him this advice:

"The job of the national chairman is to keep the party together. Not stir up trouble. When the party platform is adopted at each convention it's the job of the national chairman to carry it out. It's up to the chairman to see that there's harmony in the party."

Butler told the nation's No. 1 Democrat that he was sorry he had caused lack of harmony.

"When he left here," Mr. Truman said, "he was in complete agreement."

"There was a report that you had written Butler a stiff letter," I told the former president. "No, he came here on his own initiative and I was glad to see him." Then he added with a chuckle, "you know I'm trying to stay away from writing letters."

Getting the Polish Vote
The state department isn't talking about it, but its officials have been worried about Vice

President Nixon's trip through Poland. In fact, they were firmly opposed to his making the trip at all.

Reason: He's likely to put the Polish government on the spot and undo some of the progress made in cementing American-Polish relations. The Poles are naturally friendly toward the United States and state department officials were fearful that Nixon might get a warmer welcome than Premier Khrushchev. This, it was feared, might cause bad repercussions. It was even feared the Polish government might stir up some deliberate anti-Nixon demonstrations so the Polish people would not appear too friendly.

Nixon, however, overruled the state department. He had made his plans for the Warsaw visit even before he left the U.S.A., though they were announced later. He had even been in touch with Poland's Catholic leader, Cardinal Wyszynski. What the vice president has in mind was a chance to influence the huge bloc of Polish-American votes in Detroit, Chicago, Buffalo, and Milwaukee.

Ike's Democratic Candidates
Newsmen who met with the president at an off-the-record dinner recently are very close-mouthed about it, but report that Ike was asked whom he favored as the Democratic nominee for president. He is reported to have replied:

"Spessard Holland, John Stennis, or Frank Lausche."

Those present were incredulous, though Eisenhower was joking. Sen. Holland of Florida is a conservative Democrat who frequently votes with the Republicans. Senator Stennis of Mississippi is a loyal, able Democrat, but couldn't carry a state north of the Mason-Dixon line. Senator Lausche of Ohio not only votes frequently with the Republicans, but couldn't make up his mind at first to side with the Democrats in the organization of the Senate.

However, the president apparently was dead serious about these men as Democratic candidates for president.

"What about your fellow Texan, Lyndon Johnson?" he was asked.

There was another significant pause.

"I think Sam Rayburn would be fine," Eisenhower replied.

Ike's silence meant that the unofficial alliance between Eisenhower and Johnson which has long irked many Democratic senators, is off.

Enemy of Power Companies
Jim Stietenroth, ex-treasurer of Mississippi Power and Light, who testified before the SEC that his company had kept double books and used dummy directors, is now running for state senator in Mississippi and has the power companies in a furor.

Stietenroth resigned during the Dixon-Yates expose to come to Washington and throw a monkey-wrench into the attempt of southern power companies to stop expansion of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Now running for the Senate, he is still fighting the battle for cheaper power. He has claimed that his old company, Mississippi Power and Light owes the state of Mississippi \$918,269.74 in unpaid taxes; that the company has unlawfully refused to pay, and that the chairman of the state tax commission has violated his oath of office by failing to collect.

Stietenroth also claims that the cost of electricity in the state capital, Jackson, Miss., is \$3,000,000 more annually than in Tupelo, Miss., which gets its power from TVA.

This, from a former executive of a private power company, is quite a statement. Private and public power interests all over the country will be watching the state Senate race in Mississippi.

Under the Dome

House GOP Leader Charlie Halleck is boasting privately that he lined up enough Republican and Dixiecrats to ram a tough labor reform bill through the House. Halleck has made a deal with Congressman Howard Smith of Virginia to support the very tough substitute bill introduced by Congressman Griffin of Michigan and Landrum of Georgia. President Eisenhower will then throw the weight of the White House behind the Griffin-Landrum bill. A Senate subcommittee on Asiatic trade has sounded out the state department about going to Red China. The state department is trying to discourage Chairman Warren Magnuson of Washington from applying for passports, but his committee members are determined to go if the Chinese Communists will admit them. New York's GOP Leader Judson Morhouse confided to friends that what Governor Rockefeller does at the governors' conference in Puerto Rico may give him a big push toward the presidency.

Regardless of the governors' conference Senator Goldwater of Arizona, the Republican Senatorial campaign chairman, has already launched a Nixon-for-President boom.



NIXON LEAVES FOR HOME—Vice President Richard Nixon (right) talks to Wladyslaw Gomulka (left), First Secretary of Poland's Communist Party, through an unidentified interpreter in Warsaw. Nixon ended his historic tour today.

MOSCOW FIRST BY 12 MINUTES

Ike's Special Press Meet Caught Reporters Unaware

By FRANK ELEAZER
UPI Staff Writer

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Jim Hagerty was up with the birds. By 7 a.m. he was at the White House, conferring with Ike. By 9:18 they had the details worked out and Hagerty flashed word to correspondents, via the city news wires, that the President would meet the press at 10:30 a. m. It was the fourth such extraordinary news conference Eisenhower had called in his 6½ years in the White House. The call caught some of the regulars in

Poland with Vice President Richard M. Nixon, and others away on vacation. Some were straggling back sunburned and late from a fine week end at the beach.

Sarah McCienden of the San Antonio Light and other newspapers did not get the word. Some others heard but couldn't make it in time. Several who missed by a nose were left panting in the corridors outside the old treaty room when the main doors were closed as Eisenhower approached a side entrance.

139 On Hand

But there were 139 hardy souls who bolted their breakfasts, set aside thoughts of an early start on another rough week, scrambled for cabs, and raced to the ugly stone pile next to the White House in time to answer Ike's emergency call.

Though the morning was cool, the room was blistering hot, as usual. A battery of sweating workmen, swarming over the place to install an air conditioning system, had steamed it up in advance.

The anticipatory buzz was louder and a little more nervous than usual. As the clock neared toward the appointed minute, somebody suggested we couldn't go without Sarah but May Craig was there, for the Portland Press Herald and other Maine papers, and it was the consensus that this made it all legal.

Ike strode in smiling at 10:30 a. m., in a light gray suit and vest, white shirt, and dotted blue tie. Despite the vest he was the only one in the room, besides May, who managed somehow to look cool.

Reads Announcement
As everybody had expected he had an announcement that Khrushchev was to visit this country. As we hadn't expected, he said he himself will tour Russia. He read the announcement off a statement in giant type, and put his glasses back in his pocket.

He said the Russians were at the same moment making the same announcement in Moscow. If that was a hint, we didn't take it. We had questions. We wanted details. He had no details but he tried helpfully to answer the questions.

He smiled a little wistfully. I

thought, when he explained why he proposed that Khrushchev visit this country. He said he did this "with the hope" that it might contribute something toward peace.

It was a serious conference, but it produced a few laughs.

One, in which Ike joined, came when Fletcher Knebel of the Cowles publications asked him "could you say, sir was it just two items of correspondence—you invited him and he accepted—or was there more than that?"

15 Minute Session

"Well," said Ike, in what was possibly a considerable understatement, "I'd say it is a little more complicated than that."

A reporter with an eye on the clock and a mental picture of the speed with which things just might be progressing in Moscow broke it up at 10:45 with the customary, "thank you Mr. President."

Ike hung back a moment and grinned at the drive for the door. UPI and AP reporters, correspondents for the big afternoon dailies, and radio men lowered their heads and bulled their way toward the exit. Tom Foley, for UPI, burst into the clear ahead of the pack. His bulletin said what a UPI bulletin from Moscow had said 12 minutes earlier.

In Moscow, the Russians had merely called in the press and handed out the printed announcement. They provide the additional background that the President gave reporters here.

ORCHESTRA BEGINS TOUR
NEW YORK (UPI)—The New York Philharmonic Orchestra flew to Athens today for the opening concert of a foreign tour that will include the raising of the Iron Curtain. The orchestra will play in Communist nations for the first time when it performs in the Soviet Union, Poland and Yugoslavia later in its 10-week tour.

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Dawn To Dusk Driving Is Dangerous

A timely warning about marathon driving comes from the Automobile Club. This is the time of year when people take long trips. Because many are short on time or money, they often try to get the maximum number of miles in a day of driving. This is hazardous. We all get tired and often sleepy on long drives. The danger of accidents increases.

Everyone knows the advice about stopping to take a brief nap when he gets sleepy at the wheel. But how many have ever done it? Not many. We just

plug along fighting sleep until it's convenient to stop for a cup of coffee. Some drivers are smart enough to carry awaker pills that are caffeine in concentrated form. They have the same effect as drinking coffee.

Long trips can be made safely, if two or more drivers take turns driving, and rest stops are frequent enough. But the safety authorities say it is best not to plan trips that call for dawn to dusk driving.

Our home has been here many years prior to the present garage affair. A few times in the past, we submitted a reasonable bill to the city for loss which was paid by an insurance adjuster after some detailed questioning of small items. We had hoped a small claim would call attention to correction of the menace.

We are sure the good citizens and authorities of La Grande want to take care of their responsibility of being good neighbors and do something to remedy the existing conditions.

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Ruth Hughes
Mr. and Mrs. Lester McClune

Speaking of seat belts in autos, some smart alec kids need them—good and hard.

Poor handwriting sometimes does a splendid job of covering up mistakes in spelling.

Letter to the Editor:

We desire to call the attention of the citizens of La Grande to the bad conditions of their city garbage dump.

Six times in the past few years their fire has burned over a considerable number of acres of our farm. We live under a constant fear of the fire danger to our buildings, home and crop losses. Waste paper is always blowing into our fields above our buildings. The prevailing wind blows the smoke from the garbage fire over our home.

Under the Dome
House GOP Leader Charlie Halleck is boasting privately that he lined up enough Republican and Dixiecrats to ram a tough labor reform bill through the House. Halleck has made a deal with Congressman Howard Smith of Virginia to support the very tough substitute bill introduced by Congressman Griffin of Michigan and Landrum of Georgia. President Eisenhower will then throw the weight of the White House behind the Griffin-Landrum bill. A Senate subcommittee on Asiatic trade has sounded out the state department about going to Red China. The state department is trying to discourage Chairman Warren Magnuson of Washington from applying for passports, but his committee members are determined to go if the Chinese Communists will admit them. New York's GOP Leader Judson Morhouse confided to friends that what Governor Rockefeller does at the governors' conference in Puerto Rico may give him a big push toward the presidency.

Regardless of the governors' conference Senator Goldwater of Arizona, the Republican Senatorial campaign chairman, has already launched a Nixon-for-President boom.

Not A Party But A Conspiracy

Not much is heard about the American branch of the Communist party anymore. That is because it had to go underground some years back.

The Reds sought to gain the right to operate in the open again by seeking court reversal of the ruling that the party is dominated by Moscow. Last Thursday the U.S. Court of Appeals upheld that decision by the Subversive Activities Control Board. An appeal will be made, of course, to the Supreme Court.

If upheld there, the Communist party will continue to remain suppressed as a political force. But as the servant of Moscow, operating beneath the surface, it will not be stamped out. For it is not

Barbs

Nothing stops work quicker than people who have nothing to do and spend their time with people who are busy.

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