

Puppeteer . . .



DREW PEARSON SAYS:

Soviets Occupied Space As U.S. Troops Guarded School

WASHINGTON—It was just two years ago yesterday that Russia scored its greatest scientific victory over the United States by launching the first Sputnik. It weighed 400 pounds. In the interim Russia has launched one weighing 3,000 pounds. Our largest weighed 50 pounds.

At that time it was said that Russia occupied outer space, while the United States occupied Central High School in Little Rock.

One year later, Oct. 5, 1958, the United States suffered a different kind of defeat when the Clinton High School in Tennessee, which had bowed to a court order to admit nine Negro children, was almost completely destroyed by three well-placed charges of dynamite.

There were those who said at the time that Russia's earlier conquest of outer space was not as disastrous as the fear which gripped many communities as bombs damaged a total of some 80 schools, churches, synagogues and homes.

In Clinton, a little town of about 6,000 tucked away in the hills of Tennessee, the school board had met on Oct. 4 to consider a new junior high school. Next morning they awoke to find the senior high school gutted. The town needed two schools instead of one.

On the morning of the explosion, people came out in the early dawn in their pajamas wondering

what had happened. They saw the schoolhouse they had worked so hard to build and still had not entirely paid for. It was in ruins. Strong men wept.

But the strong men of that community also showed more determination in combating hate than scientists have shown in conquering outer space.

That day, a Sunday, the Clinton school board determined that not one day of school should be missed. Regardless of the vengeance of dynamiters, they decided, school must continue. It did.

School moved to nearby Oak Ridge; people pitched in to scrub floors, move desks, and not one day was lost.

No Help in Washington
It was only after locating the children in Oak Ridge that the Clinton school board went to Washington to see President Eisenhower. They were philosophical at first about the fact that he was "too busy" to see them. But after getting only piddling promises of help from his assistants and learning that he took that afternoon off and left shortly thereafter for three days of paying bridge with Cliff Roberts, his investment banker, George Allen, the White House jester, and Alton Jones of Cities Service, they wondered whether the President placed bridge-playing ahead of children.

"When we were forced to integrate," said Judge Yarnell, "the government gave us no protection. They said the protection of the school and the children was a local problem. Now when our schoolhouse is blown up, again Washington says this is your problem. It isn't fair."

However, a lot of other people decided it was their problem. Contributions began pouring in from all over the nation, especially from school children. They found that it cost five cents to buy a brick for the new schoolhouse, and hundreds of schools all over the country collected a nickel each from their children to rebuild the Clinton school.

Other people, including the AFL Building Trades who offered their labor, Mayor Richardson Dilworth of Philadelphia, station WCHB in Detroit, Nelson Rockefeller in Albany, Sen. Estes Kefauver and a whole cross-section of the United States, chipped in to help make the rebuilt schoolhouse in Tennessee a symbol of American determination to combat terror.

As of today, the Clinton schoolhouse is being rebuilt. The children are still going to school in Oak Ridge until it's finished. But the work is progressing. Some more money could be used to do the job up right, and anyone wanting to help write direct to the Clinton schoolhouse, Clinton, Tenn.

But the important fact is that although we still may be behind Russia in the conquest of outer space, the American people are determined not to lag behind Russia in the conquest of terror.

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REMEMBER WHEN

25 years ago, Howard C. Glenn was commissioned as a second lieutenant of infantry in Company E, 166th Infantry, National Guard. He had served as National Guard member for 10 years, working his way up through the ranks.

Eastern Oregon Normal's football team tripped Albion by 21-6 score as Jiggs Burnett pranced 55 yards to open scoring for the locals early in first quarter. EOC coach Bob Quinn was elated.

A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Donald Cole, their first, and infant was named Sharon Marie. She weighed 8 and three quarter pounds. Mother was

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former Virginia Smith.

15 years ago, the St. Louis Cards beat the St. Louis Browns by 5-1 to even the World Series. American troops breached big hole in German lines south of Aachen.

Al Smith, Democratic candidate for president in 1928 and a staunch Roman Catholic, died. Thousands of persons paid tribute to the "Happy Warrior" in New York City.

The La Grande High School Tigers walloped Enterprise by 32-6, with Coach Cecil Sherwood using his second and third string much of the game. Terry Carey and Knapp sparked the Tigers. Enterprise was hurt by loss of Bob Denny.

Tribute was paid to Cpl. Donald J. Caldwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mason E. Caldwell, 1711 Russell St. He was stationed with U.S. forces in India.

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EDITORIAL PAGE

LA GRANDE OBSERVER

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1919 Black Year For White Sox

The Chicago White Sox won the American League pennant fair and square, and they probably won't appreciate any reminders of what happened last time the White Sox went into the World Series 40 years ago.

There is no point in bringing up what did happen except to emphasize that it couldn't happen again, mainly because the motives that prompted players to "throw" the World Series of 1919 have been removed.

The incredible story of the Chicago "Black" Sox was uncovered by a Philadelphia baseball writer a year after it happened. The White Sox of 1919 were reputed to be one of the greatest teams of all times. But they were also probably the most underpaid team of all times and very much divided.

A current magazine article reports that the scholarly team captain, Eddie Collins, wouldn't even speak to one faction of his teammates off the field, and would speak to it only when absolutely necessary on the field. They were a rough bunch of ball players, and when it is considered that Ed "Knuckles" Cicotte, was getting only \$6,000 for his greatest season, it is no wonder that he and six of his teammates were easy prey for professional gamblers who offered them each \$10,000 if they would throw the series.

Cicotte was such a skillful pitcher that he could control the games when he was on the mound. Others would hit or not

hit at will. They made it look good. The series ended up with Cincinnati winning five games to three.

The whole thing wound up a scandalous shambles. The players who were in on the fix didn't get their pay-off. Eight of them were indicted, including the famous "Shoeless" Joe Jackson, there were four confessions—which, incidentally, mysteriously disappeared—but in the end all were acquitted.

The 1919 scandal resulted in organized baseball determining to discipline itself. Kennesaw Mountain Landis was appointed as the new czar. He banished eight of the Black Sox from baseball for life.

The worst tragedy was the disillusionment of many baseball fans, and the fact that the national sport's good name had been so badly besmirched.

Nowadays ball players are well paid compared to 1919, so no player could excuse his conduct as Ed Cicotte did that he "done it for the wife and kiddies," and those who police baseball keep such a close eye on things that it would be virtually impossible for some men on one team to be bribed to throw games.

When The White Sox and the Los Angeles Dodgers are having at it, there will be dollar signs dangling in front of all players, but they'll be legitimate ones. All World Series participants get handsome bonuses, but to the victors goes the lion's share of the loot from the turnstiles.

New CCC Viewed With Mixed Emotions

There is before a House of Representatives committee—which doesn't seem to have done much with it—a proposal to establish a Youth Conservation Corps in this country. The senate posed the bill.

This is somewhat along the lines of the old Civilian Conservation Corps, which operated in the period from the early days of the New Deal until the outbreak of World War II.

From two points of view the proposal is a bad one. It calls for increased government expenditures at a time when an increase in the cost of government is decidedly unnecessary and unpopular.

And at a time of generally full employment, make-work programs are not necessary. This country is more likely to face a labor shortage than a labor surplus in the next few years.

These two main objections cover the bad side of the proposal.

For this area—and indeed for most of the Pacific Northwest which is so largely owned by the federal government—there is another side.

There are several uses of this land. There are three principal non-destructive uses—the raising of trees, the production of forage and the use of the land and its streams and lakes for recreation purposes.

The annual financial returns—per acre of land—from the publicly-owned portions of the Northwest is low. More money is received by the government—and the states and counties—from west side areas, but the average for the eastern portions of Oregon and Washington runs around a dollar per acre per year from all sources.

More intensive management of the lands—a concentrated pruning program in the pine forests, for example—would return big dividends.

Range lands could be improved through reseeding programs, the construction of water diversions and other well-known improvement programs.

Improvement of game and fish habitat and food conditions, construction of camp facilities, would improve recreation uses.

These three uses provide large sums of money to the Northwest. Taken together they provide well over two-thirds of our income in this area.

For purely selfish reasons, then, establishment of a Youth Conservation Corps, to operate in the type of projects outlined, would be an excellent move.

One must not expect the immediate return of the old CCC organization, however.



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