

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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Red Trap in Italy

How accurate the Quaker analysis that the core of the cold war is economic is illustrated in a July Harper's article on Italy's troubles with the communists.

In Italy, as in other beneficiaries of the Marshall plan, the pattern of red reasoning is clear: the poor masses are the first to rise to the communist bait of promised social reform, therefore discontent must be fomented and wretchedness exploited; economic recovery will mean better living standards for peasants and workers — ERP aid and increased productivity spur recovery, therefore ERP's effectiveness and farm and industrial output must be sabotaged.

The fine art of tossing monkey wrenches has been perfected by Moscow's southern branch in Rome. Postponing violence, the commissars have innovated less dramatic but equally crippling weapons.

Communist-controlled labor unions, in the name of peace and plenty, use their 4,000,000 unsophisticated members to lower production: One method is called "noncollaboration." — each man does exactly what he is hired to do and not one bit more. This cuts production 30 to 50 per cent and makes the employer finance the time lost. Other neat tricks are the "check-board" strike with stoppages in one department after another so that those working cannot do so efficiently, and "time-outs" which call for a 10 or 15 minute "rest" every hour. Thus there are strikes every day, chipping away at production goals and causing loss of million of dollars worth of good which Italy might export to balance her Marshall plan imports.

Another subtle technique is the communists' demand for immediate benefits from ERP funds — cash for the needy, bigger public works schemes. This would whittle away the money the government wants to save for reconstruction and capital investment and other long-term projects when ERP stops.

The Marshall plan has kept Italy from going communist so far but obviously the U. S. cannot continue to dispense relief and bribes. There are suggestions for throwing the workers a social reform sop, but the government health program in Britain did not greatly increase efficiency on the assembly line there. Land reform, more equitable distribution of the untapped wealth in Italy so that the common people may live a little better than coolies are some of the programs the communists promise. If the government enacted them the reds would be left with an unbaited trap.

Jobless Funds Due for Drop

The reserve fund for unemployment compensation reached a year-end peak of \$81,955,597 on June 30. Despite increased outgo in the last fiscal year receipts topped it by about \$885,000. This may be the last year for a while that the fund will increase.

The last legislature increased the maximum benefits to be paid unemployed to \$25 for 26 weeks. The previous maximum was \$20 for 20 weeks. Thus the outlay will be increased by about one-eighth, the commission estimates.

There also will probably be a reduction of income. Wage scales are no longer mounting; unemployment has increased, so the wage rolls on which collections are based may decrease. Then

the last legislature when it did a turn for unemployed workers also did one for employers. It revised experience rating so that after next January requirements to get the lower tax rates on payrolls will be reduced. This may give a cut of \$4,500,000 a year.

The fund will suffer also when the federal GI aid of \$20 for 52 weeks runs out. Then those GIs who qualify under the state law will collect from the state fund.

The present reserve fund is excessive measured by prewar totals of less than \$20,000,000. It can well stand reduction from present swollen figures. Even if the recession is more pronounced the fund will still stand up, because the limit of compensation is 26 weeks.

The money is freighted with a purpose, to relieve distress that comes through loss of jobs. It is not something to be hoarded but to be used when the "rainy day" comes. So no alarm should be felt if the 80 million plus fund starts to shrink. It ought to, to come within limits more closely related to the volume of industry and accompanying payrolls in Oregon.

Not Retired from Public Duty

Townsmen of Silverton gathered the other night to do honor to Dr. P. A. Loar, who has recently retired after practicing medicine for nearly 40 years. They paid tribute to his long professional career and to his activity in civic affairs, which has brought him prominence beyond the confines of his home community.

They knew very well that while the good doctor has quit writing prescriptions and setting fractured bones he hasn't retired from interest in community affairs. He worked hard for the recent bond issue for improving the water system and was disappointed that it was defeated. He has been a zealous advocate of good roads, particularly the Cascade highway; and it is safe to say that just as long as his strength permits he will keep battling for projects in the public interest.

But dropping the rigors of a physician's practice will give him more time for communion with nature, which is his real delight; for fishing and hunting and for ranging the foothill country which he knows so well. Silverton folk did a good turn when they honored Dr. Loar, who through the years has given much to his community and asked little for himself.

A congressman from Michigan thinks that President Truman should "suspend" his military aide, Brig. Gen. Harry Vaughan, as being too familiar with the "five percenters." Harry — Vaughan we're referring to — is hail fellow well met to all the ax-grinders and apple-polishers in Washington. He has earned the agate, for dumbness if not for graft.

Steel companies finally agreed to the 60-day truce proposed by the president. That's what the period is, because the signs point to a showdown over the "fourth round" of wage increases.

Vaughan Typical of Truman's Failure

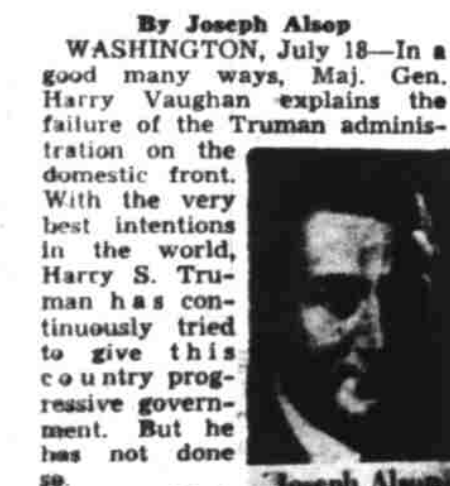
WASHINGTON, July 18—In a good many ways, Maj. Gen. Harry Vaughan explains the failure of the Truman administration on the domestic front. With the very best intentions in the world, Harry S. Truman has continuously tried to give this country progressive government. But he has not done so.

The trouble is that the two essentials of successful progressive government are, first, ideas and second, ideas. You cannot very well progress, unless you have some notion of where you want to go and why. And you cannot induce people to follow you along the difficult road of social change, unless you can inspire them with an inner fire and excitement. For these reasons, the fact that the president has chosen such a favorite as his military aide becomes exceedingly significant.

Certainly no one would ever accuse General Vaughan, with his peculiar talent for blunders and smoking-room stories, of possessing either ideas or ideas. He himself, no doubt, would scorn the imputation. And a presidential atmosphere in which General Vaughan can bloom and flourish is not the sort of atmosphere in which new deals, or square deals or new freedoms are born. If the president's "Fair Deal" is not taken altogether seriously, it is because Vaughan and the other less colorful, more importantly placed men of his stripe, are so impossible to picture as leaders of a great crusade.

But what makes the subject of General Vaughan pertinent at the moment is not the interesting question of what the general really thinks about housing or social security or national resources conservation. It is, rather, the fact the general is probably about to become a serious political issue.

The truth is — as Saturday's



Joseph Alsop

events demonstrated — there was a good deal more than comedy in the New York Herald Tribune's brilliant study of the life and habits of the Washington "five percenter," Colonel James V. Hunt. This busy little man, it may be recalled, is one of the swarming high-pressure operators who take fat fees from businessmen for getting them contracts and favors from the government.

Photographs of the great, if possible suitably inscribed, are standard equipment in the offices of the five per cent tribe. Prominent in Colonel Hunt's picture gallery was General Vaughan. Most often, of course, the photographs in such offices are mere bait for boobs. If the average five percenter delvers on his projects, it is not because of friendships with the great, but because of his familiarity with the shabby by-ways of the government. The joke is, however, that Colonel Hunt was evidently not a fraud of this sort.

Perhaps the colonel was not intimate with all the originals of all the photographs he so proudly displayed. But at least it seems that he was genuinely close to General Vaughan, and genuinely able to secure General Vaughan's help for his clients. Important documentary evidence to this effect is now in the hands of the Senate Investigating committee.

Detailed disclosure must await a public inquiry. But a public inquiry is undoubtedly justified, and indeed made necessary, by the indications that are available to date of the nature of the Vaughan-Hunt relationship. Army contracts are involved, and so are the careers of army officers — which, lends special interest to the recent White House blockade of an army promotion list, commonly attributed to the White House military aide. Other kinds of favors, such as permits for race tracks, crop up here and there.

Altogether, if what is known to date cannot be disproved by General Vaughan, he will appear on the record as one of the most useful and obliging friends a five percenter ever had. What makes the joke all the better, is

the absence of any indication that General Vaughan's favors were ever substantially reciprocated. Apparently he lent himself to the five percenter's profitable game for the pure pleasure of showing what a very big man he was.

The absence of any imputation that General Vaughan was cut in on Colonel Hunt's profits does not make the matter much less serious, however. It is squallid that this sort of thing should go on in the American government. It is worse than squallid that it should be assisted by the borrowed authority of the White House. It casts a sharp light on the prevailing standards of public conduct.

Those standards need to be carefully reconsidered. A solution is urgently needed for the basic problem of staffing the government of this country in such a way that petty fixers and five percenters will not find cracks and crevasses to aid them in their upward climb toward prosperity and glory. And for these deeply serious reasons, the chairman of the senate investigating committee, Senator Clyde Hoey, and his chief investigator, William Rogers, are pushing forward their inquiry as rapidly as possible.

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Better English

By D. C. Williams

1. What is wrong with this sentence? "I am through with my dinner."
2. What is the correct pronunciation of "duel"?
3. Which one of these words is misspelled? Desimal, desolation, despotism.
4. What does the word "pensive" mean?
5. What is a word beginning with lat that means "uprightness"?

- ANSWERS
1. Say, "I have finished my dinner." 2. Pronounce the u as in fuel, not as in fool. 3. Desimal. 4. Drearily or somewhat sadly thoughtful. "She remained in this pensive state for a long time." 5. Integrity.

Now Henry! Banks Aren't All Like That

By Henry McLemore

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., July 18—There is only one thing in the world that really frightens me, and that's a bank. Any bank. Let me walk into a bank, be it



the Arkansas Bollweevil Bank and Trust company, or the Big Town Bank and Trust company of New York City, and my knees behave in the manner of the most timid bridegroom.

Banks may not know it, but through the years they have developed an ability to frighten customers. Bankers, excepted, no one has ever loved a bank.

The first person you meet upon entering a bank is a watchman or a policeman, and he is possibly a policeman who was fired from the police force because he was too mean. He gives you the impression of being a trigger-happy fellow who wants to fill your full of lead slugs, each one placed where it will hurt the most.

What do you get in a bank after you pass the doorman? I will tell you. Vice presidents.

They are scattered all over the place, each wearing a deep-freeze look. Their expressions seem to say to the customer, "No matter what you want, no matter what you need, we are here to see that you don't get it." I speak without fear of contradiction when I say that some of the most pompous individuals on earth, without having any reason to be pompous, are bank vice presidents.

As far as I have been able to discover their chief talent is an ability to get bald at an early age. Perhaps the best picture ever drawn of bankers was that done by J. P. Marquand in his best seller, "Point of No Return." It lacked only one thing — it made bankers out as human beings, and most depositors will swear they are not.

Today's discussion of bankers was prompted by my going to a well-known New York bank for traveler's checks, which I needed for the trip I am soon to make. I walked in the bank with the money in my hand. Perfectly good money. It would have been accepted without question by grocers, filling station attendants, restaurant owners, or train conductors.

The bank didn't like it. I was referred to a Mr. Jones. Mr. Jones said I would have to see Mr. Phillof. Mr. Phillof looked me up and down as if I were Jesse James or Lana Turner and said, "Do you have an account here in this bank?"

I told him that I didn't. His hair receded another quarter inch, and he asked, "Where do you have an account?" and his tone made it quite clear that he didn't believe that I had so much as a Christmas Savings plan.

I held out my money and told him that all I wanted were some traveler's checks.

Now, Mr. Phillof's bank was going to make money from my purchase of traveler's checks. For every one hundred dollars' worth I bought the bank would make seventy-five cents. Mr. Phillof kept eyeing me skeptically. He kept thumbing my money, looking at it as if he weren't in the middle of a place where the stuff grows, and didn't know what it was.

After about 10 minutes of this, Mr. Phillof rose to his feet, adjusted his bow tie and his second chin, and said, "Wait here for me, will you?"

That was too much for me. I walked out of the bank. When I leave here in a few days I will have my money, in money, not traveler's checks. Risky? Sure. I will undoubtedly lose half of it before I get to Madrid. But I will have the satisfaction of knowing that for once in my life I was man enough to stand up to a bank.

Why can't banks be nice? It seems to me that banks, with all the money they have, could be as friendly as delicatessens, roadside diners, and a hundred other institutions you can name that have far less money.

You don't suppose banks have let money go to their heads, do you? Yes, I'm afraid they have. McNaught Syndicate, Inc.



Your Health

Written by Dr. Herman N. Budensien, M.D.

Wonderful as it is, penicillin won't do everything. There are certain germs—and hence certain diseases—against which it is powerless. For this reason, biochemists are constantly on the hunt for new antibiotics which can be used where penicillin fails. Antibiotics are substances which stop the growth of germs. One of the newest to be added to our growing list is aureomycin.

The Safety Valve

Objects to Merger To the Editor:

A few reasons why West Salem should not merge: In the first place the Salem city council by their published statement don't want us and by their former actions don't want anything that would help the community as they have worked against any industry that has tried to locate in Salem and West Salem has benefited by their action and we don't want to be under that kind of government.

It will only be a short time until we would have one-arm bandits (meters) on our streets. And two-gun bandits (the police) prowling our streets.

As to taxes I have property in Salem and West Salem and I pay 20% more on the Salem than on the West Salem property of comparable valuation.

As to the sewer we will have to pay for whatever we get as it is the policy of Salem, to tax it to the property and one reason that our levy is what it is, is because the street improvements is paid by general levy while in Salem it is charged to the adjoining property and doesn't come under the general levy.

I can't boast of our present city council as we have lost more industry than we have gained since they took office.

Fred Kuhn seems to me that banks, with all the money they have, could be as friendly as delicatessens, roadside diners, and a hundred other institutions you can name that have far less money.

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Five Czechs Executed for Alleged Plot

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, July 18—(AP)—The hangman took the lives today of five Czechs convicted of plotting with a British diplomat to overthrow this country's communist-led government.

A one-paragraph announcement by the official press agency reported the execution of the five at Prague's big Pankrac prison.

The government had described them as the ringleaders of a conspiracy to set up a military dictatorship headed by Gen. Alois Liska, wartime tank troop commander now exiled in England.

Their secret trial early last month was one of the biggest pot cases since the communists took over control of Czechoslovakia in February, 1948. Of ten other Czechs on trial, eight were sentenced to life imprisonment and two to 25 years.

The government charged that the Czech plotters had the aid of Capt. Philip Wildash, formerly British military permit officer in Prague with the rank of vice consul.

It was alleged that Wildash had arranged to smuggle Liska from England as soon as the uprising started. The government claimed a state had been set for the Putsch, but never published it.

The charges were denied by Wildash before he was expelled from Czechoslovakia. The British embassy also protested them.

Normally Kansas produces one fourth of all the wheat in the United States.

disorder is becoming much more common, it is fortunate that such treatment is available for periods varying from 23 to 77 days. While being treated with aureomycin, four of these patients improved promptly, while the fifth was not helped.

Aureomycin does not seem to cause reactions of any particular note. Occasionally, there is a feeling of fullness in the stomach, and vomiting. Now and then there may be an itching rash.

These studies on aureomycin would seem to indicate that it is effective in Q fever. Since this

Covered Refuse Holders Aim Of City Plan

"This Container Is Condemned for the Use of Garbage." Some Salem householders are going to read that on a red label on their garbage pail soon, Dr. W. J. Stone, Marion county health officer, announced Monday. Those who get such a warning ticket will be expected to replace the container with a sanitary garbage can. Metal ones with close fitting lids are recommended.

It's a new wrinkle to rid the city of uncovered refuse which is a breeding haven for disease-carrying rats and flies that imperil the health of the city, the department announced.

The state flower of Delaware is the peach blossom.

EAT TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT AT NOHLGREN'S NEW BUFFET DINNER ALL YOU CAN EAT FOR 99c (Best Food in Town, Too!) NOHLGREN'S DOWNTOWN ON STATE STREET 5:00 p. m. - 8 p. m. Every Day Except Sunday

Literary Guidepost

By W. G. Rogers

CARDINAL MINDSIZENTY: THE STORY OF A MODERN MARTYR, by Bela Fabian (Scribner's; \$2.75).

This account of Hungary's Primate, Cardinal Mindsizenty, is written by a Jew who has known him since Nazi days; who served in the Hungarian Parliament in the 1920s and was for a time president of it; who was held in Russian prison camps in World War I and German extermination camps in World War II; who didn't like the Russians under the Czars and has never liked them since under the communists.

It's the story of a church dignitary who believed in traditional procedures for giving effect to his profound humanitarian convictions. He comforted the sick and fed the poor, often at personal sacrifice, and he required wealthy parishioners, says Fabian, to contribute till it hurt to good works. He became parish priest and disciplinarian. Later he was named bishop. When he was made a cardinal, we are told, it was only with American help that he was able to leave his country for Rome to receive the red hat. As a child he learned how wrong was anti-Semitism, he once went to a Jewish doctor for an operation; he complained in the highest quarters against government failure to protect Jews; he opposed Nazism.

In the same way, he has opposed communism, says Fabian,

and he was accused by both groups, says Fabian, on practically the same counts. If he favored land reform he did not favor the Russian method of bringing it about. In his trial confession, which has, according to Fabian, "a fairly routine content," he admitted that he was a royalist, that he advocated the reunion of Hungary and Austria, that he expected the Hungarian government would be overthrown with foreign, including particularly U. S. aid; and that he had received a communication from the exiled Otto ... but the emissary named has denied it, and Fabian adds his denial that Mindsizenty saw Otto while cardinal and pretense were in this country. Mindsizenty said further that he was now willing to accept the sovereignty of the republic.

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