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"Can't Lift Yourself By The Bootstraps"

Deep into the autumn, if not the winter, of their industrial discontent, some of the New England states are seeking to promote new payrolls by the creation of state supported development corporations somewhat in the pattern of the municipal enterprises which have been undertaken in Tennessee and Mississippi.

A state-owned corporation is created to buy or build industrial plants suited to the needs of attractive industries.

Revenue bonds of this state corporation would be issued and sold in the open market to cover all costs of this promotion.

Rentals or purchase payments by the industrial tenants would be scheduled to amortize these revenue bonds.

Since the state-owned plants would be exempt from property taxes, the state corporation would pay certain annual fees to cities and school districts in lieu of taxes.

In Rhode Island, the state would guarantee the revenue bonds as to principal and interest, meaning that if the ventures should fail the taxpayers would be stuck.

In Massachusetts, the state does not guarantee the bonds but sets up the initial financing by a state appropriation.

As we pointed out last July in commenting on the municipal promotion schemes in the South, it is difficult to see how these state or city schemes can avoid conflict with the ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States nearly a hundred years ago in the famous Topeka case (Citizens Savings and Loan vs. Topeka—vol. 87, U. S. Reports 655). The doctrine of that case is very simple:

"Public funds cannot be used to aid private industry."

This is still very sound doctrine, in

our opinion. Of course, the federal government itself has violated this principle many times in many ways, especially in its subsidies in various forms of transportation and tariff protection. It probably will be argued that the revenue bond scheme for promoting industry does not involve direct taxation except as to the initial advances of state funds, or in case of the ultimate collapse of the ventures, but it is still bad business. Certainly, in states as notorious for political corruption as Massachusetts and Rhode Island have been in recent years, it is dangerous business.

It has long been our belief that no community can lift itself by its bootstraps. Most of the millions that are spent annually by chambers of commerce and other booster organizations endeavoring to lure new smokestacks are wasted — except where the promotion is limited to providing factual answers to the questions which industrial prospects raise as to resources, transportation costs, labor conditions and markets.

Most industry worth having is lured by free sites, tax rebates or special favors of any kind if the economic factors are not propitious. Everywhere in the country speculative enterprises have usually turned out bad.

New England has been hard hit by the migration of many of its textile and metal industries to more profitable areas. It would be interesting to inquire how far political mismanagement has stimulated this migration. We doubt if it can be brought back by manipulation of public funds.

Test of the Primary Eyewash

President Truman's decision to let his name remain on the ballot in the New Hampshire primaries despite his first pronouncement that primaries are all "eyewash," reminds one of our friends of a little incident involving eyewash. It was during World War I when an epidemic of pink eye hit his training camp:

"One of the boys had pink eye for which the quack had prescribed a mild lotion of boric acid. The soldier across the aisle had a sore toe for which the quack had, as usual, prescribed iodine. In the middle of the night the soldier with pink eye reached out and filled his eyeglass with what he thought was eyewash but it turned out to be iodine. It took half the company to restrain the wild man."

President Truman may be inviting a similar experience.

Truman has amended his slur on the primary system by saying that he meant only that the state primary results do not control the National conventions of either party. This is, unfortunately, true. However, the primary results do have considerable influence, the best evidence of which is Mr. Truman's decision to have a show-down with Kefauver in New Hampshire. It would be a blow to Kefauver's hopes to lose to Truman

in New Hampshire and it would restore Truman's prestige if he could win that state under present circumstances. For Taft, Eisenhower, and Stassen, likewise, the New Hampshire primary is a prestige test.

(Truman states that he would favor a nation-wide presidential primary system. That would require a constitutional amendment and is perhaps years in the future.)

Because New Hampshire is a very small state (only two senators and two congressmen) even less potent than Oregon politically, many people are puzzled by the importance attached to the New Hampshire test. New Hampshire's population is only 533,242. At the present time, its governor and all of its senators and congressmen are Republican. It has seldom gone Democratic except in 1936, 1940 and 1944. Nevertheless, New Hampshire is pretty evenly balanced between rural and industrial interests and it might give a pretty fair sample of what the rest of New England, and especially Massachusetts, might do.

Years ago we gave up trying to rationalize the behavior patterns of politicians.

Fifteen "Valley Authorities" Are Proposed

Under a report issued Monday by President Truman's Water Resources Policy Commission, headed by Morris L. Cook, the United States would be divided into 15 major regions based on river basins. The development of these regions would be entrusted to 15 basin commissions in each of which the federal government would have seven representatives and the local people two.

Even this unbalanced provision for representation of regional inhabitants seems to be a concession to the years of clamor for some measure of home rule. There are some other innovations in the new program:

1. Benefitted areas, state and local, would be required to help pay for valley projects by assessments for "secondary regional benefits."

2. Persons owning more than 160 acres of land under irrigation would no longer be required to sell their surplus at a price fixed by the Authority, but would be allowed to hold their acreage provided they pay "a share" of the cost of all projects.

Washington says that President Truman will ask immediate enactment of a bill setting up the 15 valley commissions, but there is slight prospect that Congress will respond with an enact-

ment in this election year. Indeed, the report and the proposed legislation that goes with it seems to be another testing of the political winds.

Even California's Representative Engle, a Democrat, raises a question as to whether the program would not add to the confusion resulting from the many agencies now attempting to deal with regional problems. Regional organization by river valleys has much to recommend it, but this paper has always contended:

"The relationship of federal and local governments must be a partnership and not an over-lordship of federal officials in which the people of a region have no voice or vote or any means of saving themselves from the abuses of remote control."

When the late Harold Ickes boasted at the Missouri Valley hearings that it was proposed to change the form of American government "as we have known it for 150 years," we promptly said that such a proposition was unthinkable. "Taxation without representation" was the wacry of the American Revolution. In this democracy any form of administration in which the people are denied a voice and vote violates the basic concepts of this nation.

Mac May Make Last Minute Bid

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WASHINGTON—Something new is being added to the Republican presidential picture. Gen. Douglas MacArthur is coming around to the view that he must himself be prepared to accept the GOP presidential nomination.

He has made this growing belief known to several recent visitors to his presidential suite in the towers of the Waldorf-Astoria in New York. It is still in the category of the familiar cloud on the horizon no bigger than a man's hand. But it is a fact with extraordinary potentialities for both party and nation.

Only within the past few weeks has this change come about. Up until then, to almost everyone who saw him, MacArthur had sung the praises of Sen. Robert A. Taft. He urged loyalty to Taft on the Republicans who talked with him. Get on the Taft bandwagon, MacArthur argued, while there is still time.

Today it is not that the general is any less personally loyal to the Senator. But he is reported by his visitors to be fearful there will be a deadlock; that, as he is understood to have put it, "Bob can't make it." Therefore, he must be prepared to abandon his announced determination to say no to all political office.

THIS IS NOT LIKELY to be disclosed in any official or public fashion until convention time in July. Meanwhile MacArthur can change his mind again if the threat of a deadlock diminishes and Taft seems assured of a majority of the delegates on the first or second ballot.

But the word is circulating among politicians by the grapevine route, and they attach considerable importance to it. For some this means a way out of the choice between Taft and Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. Gov. John S. Fine of Pennsylvania is reported to be holding in reserve the delegates whom he can control, with the thought that they will go eventually for MacArthur. This is a fairly sizeable portion of Pennsylvania's bloc of 70.

As for Taft, he continues to have complete confidence in MacArthur's loyalty. The Ohioan has heard, however, that some of MacArthur's most passionate admirers have long sought to convince him that he, and he alone, can save the Republican Party and the nation from disaster.

FOREMOST AMONG THESE is MacArthur's friend and aide, Maj. Gen. Courtney Whitney. As a cynic once expressed it, General MacArthur is a large, imposing body almost entirely surrounded by Courtney Whitney. That was true in Tokyo when MacArthur was the able American proconsul for Japan. It is only slightly less true now that MacArthur is installed in the fastness of the Waldorf towers. While no one has actually clocked it, the devoted Whitney is believed to tell his hero at least once an hour that only he can save the country from doom.

Word came to Taft about an incident involving the entry of MacArthur delegates in the Minnesota primary. Under Minnesota law, it was pointed out to Whitney, unless the delegates are willing to withdraw voluntarily, the proposed candidate must submit a sworn affidavit with his request that his name be taken out. In that affidavit he must state that he will under no circumstances be a candidate for the nomination of his party. Whitney is reported to have dismissed this somewhat airily as a mere detail.

The speculation about MacArthur as official keynote of the convention has been off the beam. He could not be keynote since he will not be a delegate. But even though other candidates may be jealous of his intentions, it would be difficult to hold out against an invitation to the general to address the delegates.

SUCH AN INVITATION would be common courtesy to one of the greatest of the nation's living military figures and a loyal party man. It could be, of course, that he would be invited to give an inspirational speech after the candidates have been chosen.

But if he should appear on the first or second day, his impassioned oratory could have an incalculable effect. He might want to point the finger of destiny at his friend, Senator Taft. He would have all want to point that finger in the opposite direction from General Eisenhower, who was once so junior to him. With so many of his most ardent admirers in the hall, the convention could be dramatically stamped into going for the hero of the Pacific.

Little imagination is required to conjure up that scene—the emotionalism, the intensity of devotion, the wild cheering, the purple periods of MacArthur's pro-rolling out in his organ-tone of a voice. And one could be sure that at that point not less than 50,000,000 television viewers would be looking and listening. For all the drama crowded into his 72 years of war and peace, that might well be the highest point.

TAFT, IN HIS pre-convention campaign, is every day contributing to the ardor of the MacArthur following. In almost every speech he pays the general a ringing tribute, and the cheers and applause come up in response. It would be one of the great ironies of politics if this should prove to be part of the wave of the MacArthur future. Yet that is not impossible in the atmosphere of uncertainty growing up around the Republican choice.

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The Shepherd OUR DUTY "Hath gotten him the victory." Pg. 98.1 He kissed his Mom goodbye today...

Love Doesn't Always Find a Way



In The Editor's Mailbag

WORLD RELIGIONS

EUGENE—(To the Editor)—In my opinion, the Parliament of World Religions on the campus of the U. of O. a few days ago could have been a mighty event for the glory of God—constructive in its nature, but it was lamentably destructive. It seemed as though an effort was being made to fashion an idol and bolster him up by calling in any old kind of religious doctrine, to keep the dead thing on its feet, but at the same time throw a monkey-wrench into the Christian doctrine.

In God's Word the Lord Jesus states: "No man cometh unto the Father except by me." I'd like to know how a Moslem, Jew or Gentile of any kind can possibly get into the presence of God, the Heavenly Father, without the aid of His Son, Jesus said it couldn't be done. Pray, where is the "similarity of the Indian religion and the Christian religion? The first has no Son of God—recognizes no such Person, denies that there is such a Person, knows nothing about the operation of the Spirit of God (Holy Spirit) and what the Spirit is doing to make disciples for God the Son, and has been doing for the past 2,000 years. (Some day His work will be finished.)

One of the speakers declared (quoting the R-G) that salvation is not a "personal" affair, but that "salvation was possible through 'belief in the highest teachings of one's own faith.' In other words, a man can save himself, if he has the necessary faith, but I find that God's Word declares that "Faith cometh by HEARING, and hearing BY THE WORD OF GOD." A screw is loose somewhere, and any born again Christian can tell you where to find it.

Editorially, the R-G states that "The patterns of similarity in the world's great religions are more apparent than the differences." (You ignoramus, read that again.)

Most of us have heard of Mecca, and that every so often there's a great influx of religionists to that place. The Parliament of World Religions might term it a national spiritual (?) revival, but from what I've read about these events, I'd call it a drunken debauchery. In the book of Ezekiel, one reads that God plans to give us also a new heart, and a new spirit WITHIN us. It would be beyond my comprehension to hear of one of God's people—indwelt by the Spirit of God—taking part in any drunken spree and call it a "revival of religion." Neither can I comprehend how anyone can discern any similarity between Mecca and Billy Graham's revival. I prefer Graham's. How about you? Another vital point is that the Word of God very definitely teaches that the most abject criminal can be "regenerated, and made an entirely new creation in Christ—not in some Hindu monk, but IN THE LIVING LORD JESUS CHRIST."

The rabbi is quoted as saying that Abraham is truly Father Abraham for all of us assembled. That might be found in some obscure Jewish publication, but it is diametrically opposite of New Testament. Mr. Minto is quoted as saying that the Moslems loved Jesus, but if I were traveling in their territory—as a Christian—I would think twice without taking a bodyguard along with me. I'd be overcome with their enthusiasm at my being in their midst. To substantiate speakers at the Parliament, we read the following from the R-G editorial column: "Uprisings Spread in 'Moslem World.' (Yes, we are to understand, the Moslems are just like the Christians, because the editorial goes on to say): 'Bloody battles in the Suez canal area, incendiary riots in Cairo, outbreaks of Arab (Moslem) territories in French-held Tunisia tell of the dangerous ferment which is running through 'THE MOSLEM WORLD.' And: 'It is significant that the Cairo mobs are crying: 'LONG LIVE

RUSSIA, FRIEND OF EGYPT"

Well, well, how much this sounds like an uprising of the children of God. Here's some more, just digested this too from my editor's column: "There is nothing in Mohammedan beliefs which is inherently antagonistic to Christianity, Judaism or any of the other great world philosophies. On the contrary, by its very nature Islam present a great positive force against Communism." (I just quoted that the mobs in Cairo were crying "LONG LIVE RUSSIA, FRIEND OF EGYPT." (Another screw loose.)

I enjoy quoting the editor, and I'll give you some more. "Anybody listening last week (he says) to Bashir Ahmad Minto must have been impressed with the many opportunities for the reconciliation of differences. If Minto had his mosque across the street from any of our churches (shades of night) THERE WOULD BE NO MORE CONFLICT THAN THERE IS NOW BETWEEN DENOMINATIONS. Mohammedans need edu-

friendship, economic rehabilitation,

friendship." In other words, on one side of the street (Moslem who do not believe in God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit), are practically the same as those WHO DO, and can easily reconcile their differences. (shades of night) Listen: "They that have the Son, have life, and they that have NOT the son, have NOT life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." All you've got to do is to disbelieve in the trinity and all will be Moslem. Is this what the Parliament of World Religions want of you and I? Well, I WON'T.

HICKEY-FREEMAN CLOTHES Baxter & Hemming STORE FOR MEN McDonald Theater Bldg.

Woman At Pyramid Killed By Airplane

MEXICO CITY—A woman was killed by the crash of a low-flying airplane which hit her as she stood atop the 216-foot monument from here.

The dead woman was Mrs. Wernimont, of Austin, Tex., wife of Agricultural Attaché Wernimont of the U.S. Embassy here.

Her sister and niece, William Bailey of Yorkville, Gertrude Bailey, 20, was showing the historic monument when she was killed, mid, were injured by the crash.

The accident occurred on the 18-year-old plane, plane, Jose Gall Velazquez, Colombia, landed his plane safely amid the ancient ruins surrounding the pyramid.

He and another 18-year-old man, Francisco Garcia of Mexico City, were on charges of homicide.

The pilot said he got his flying license last month, flying low to take pictures of the pyramid.

Mrs. Wernimont had come to party to see the ancient San Juan Teotihuacan, archeologists believe date at least 2000 years ago.

As they stood on top of the pyramid, the little plane dashed through the group.

ARTHRITIS SUFFERER

Mr. J. H. Casey writes: "I cannot praise it enough. I have suffered from arthritis in my lower back for many years. I could hardly move my fingers, my joints stiff and sore. After taking of Casey's Compound, I am now free and still today." (McLaughlin, 1115 Ross St., Eugene, Ore.)

Ask Your Druggist for J. H. Casey Box 131... Portland, Ore.

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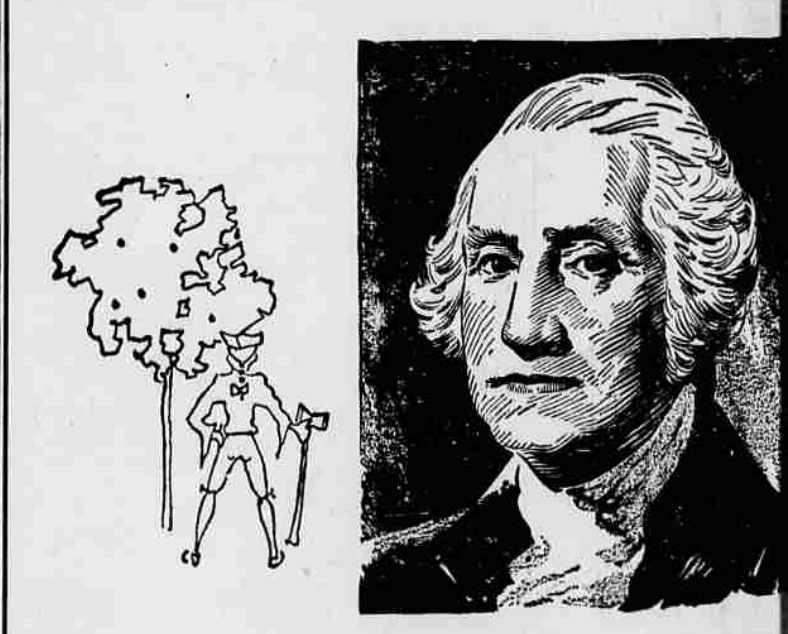
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We pay tribute to the father of our country... commemorating the event of his 220th birthday. As a service to Oregon. The First National Bank of Eugene will remain open February 22.

OPEN 10 to 5 ON WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

The First National Bank of Eugene feels that adequate service requires being open on the days, and at the hours, that banking facilities are most needed. Therefore, we will be open to serve you Friday, Washington's Birthday.

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