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Practical Politicians

Practical methods are to rule the conduct of the campaign of the CIO political action committee in its endeavors to re-elect President Roosevelt and lesser candidates friendly to labor. Under the direction of Chairman Sidney Hillman, who learned his politics at the feet of the master mind of the New Deal, the PAC has established a school for politicians in which every labor man and woman is urged to enroll. It is a practical school, and its textbook is the "Political Primer for All Americans," a pamphlet printed and distributed by the committee.

There is nothing idealistic about the instructions contained in the textbook, which teaches the tactics employed by successful politicians from the top to the bottom, from seekers of the lowly office of constable to those aspiring to the presidency. It teaches that the successful politician is the one who gets the most votes.

"Politics," says the pamphlet, "is the science of how you get what, when and why. Politics exist in every civic group, church, labor union, and family. The key man is always a politician. He keeps things going, wheels turning. Politicians are good, friendly people."

The Hillman theory is that every laborer should be a politician, according to the above definition. And he defends that ambition as being justified to achieve the ends sought. Of the morals of his teachings he says:

"The truth is that politicians are no more corrupt than the people who elect them. The people corrupt the politicians. They demand traffic enforcement along with ticket-fixing. They want an efficient, honest police force and civil service so long as their sons and cousins get the jobs—and a fine school system with the faculty staffed with relatives. The politician who refuses requests for patronage and spoil is told that he'll not be re-elected."

The textbook of the PAC gets right down to business in the matter of making one's self effective politically by advising active participation in local politics, and recommends an endeavor to become precinct captains or leaders. It also gives advice as to how to achieve that ambition and outlines a practical formula as follows: "Know the number of your ward and precinct. Do anything which needs doing. Become acquainted with your bosses and neighbors. Listen to your neighbor's beef, but don't argue with him. . . . do whatever favors you can for people. Get control of more votes than anyone else in the precinct—and the job is yours." There are a lot more of these instructions but they are all in the same tenor—the products of Boss Hillman's experiences and observations and practical politics as practiced by the present administration.

Fiendish Winged Terror

Despite the fact that many of their launching places have been destroyed and hundreds of them shot in the air, those blind winged messengers of death, the German robot bombs, continue their sporadic destruction in London. They have already compelled the evacuation of women and children from the British metropolis for safety, and while they will not turn the tide of war and can no more weaken the British spirit than the Luftwaffe could, they are far from being the "nuisances" they were first termed.

These rocket bombs fly several thousand feet above the earth with an angry buzzing that can be heard for miles, then a silence as they fall to a glider landing and explode sending death and destruction over a wide area, though its explosive load is fractional compared with those dropped during the London blitz. Their worst effect is the mental strain and wakefulness they force on people who have already suffered so much. They appear at any time and storms are no obstacles.

The buzzing is so penetrating that all who hear it think their locality is the target. The vibration only ceases after the rocket has glided to the earth and burst. The explosion is so powerful that the concussion makes the ears of those at a distance ache. They plummet so fast after their force has been spent that it is almost impossible to get out of the area of destruction. They are easier to see at night because of the flame that streams out behind them, which enables ack-ack guns and fighter planes to hit and explode them in the air. But in day time they are not seen until they drop. So they create a serious problem until magnetic or other devices are discovered to destroy the sightless terror that is not military at all but wanton murder for the sake of murder.

It is reported that the Germans have used these robot planes against the Americans fighting alongside the British flank at the center of the Normandy line. Such tactics will immensely strengthen the morale of the doughboys and inspire them with a fighting hatred of the enemy similar to that of the Russians.

It is quite logical that the Nazis should adopt such tactics as the robot torpedo and bomber. They have already trained their soldiers as robots—mechanically efficient but devoid of sensibility, brutal automatons qualified only for mass murder and heiling Hitler. In another war the fighting may be done entirely by automatic, mechanical contrivances operated by means of radiant energy or sound waves—as in Karl Capet's prophetic play "R U R—Rossum's Universal Robots."

No Exemptions for Pre-Medics

Disagreeing with prominent members of the medical profession, President Roosevelt has turned thumbs down on a proposal that he relax selective service regulations to permit draft boards to grant further exceptions to pre-medical students, asserting that the needs of the armed services for "young, vigorous men" outweighs all other considerations. In a letter to Rep. Miller of Nebraska, the president wrote in further support of his decision:

"The inter-agency committee on deferments . . . gave careful consideration to the case of pre-medical students. I am told that this committee recommended that there be no deferment for pre-medical students who are not in medical school by July 1 of this year. The committee, I am advised, took into account the fact that none of these pre-medical students could be of service in the practice of medicine prior to 1948, and that many of them would never practice medicine. The committee also gave attention to the fact that young men who do not come up to the exacting physical standards of the armed forces, as well as young women, are available to become pre-medical students."

In further explanation of his ideas as to where the medical schools will get the students needed for a continuing supply of doctors, the president called attention to the fact that ex-servicemen already being discharged from the army and navy will undoubtedly be attracted to medicine and surgery as future professions. "These men," he wrote, "and the far larger number later to be demobilized must be given every opportunity in the way of education and training." Logical as the president's argument appears, it does not answer the question, vital to the public health and welfare, of what is to be done to fill the depleted ranks of the medical profession after the war.

Life at Low Ebb

By Reck



Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

A bumper crop of rumors is now floating around about the disposition of Camp Adair, if any. In the navy they call this sort of stuff scuttlebutt. Most of them we've heard sound like just plain bull to us.

The Statesman has developed a small war with the internal revenue department for intimating that that department acted without authority of law in assessing the \$5 fines on delinquent auto stamp purchasers. The department is huffy about it, wrote a letter to the editor, and now the editor thumbs his nose back at the department.

It must take quite a bit of nerve these days to thumb one's nose at the internal revenue department. However, the Statesman should remember that the guys who forgot to buy their auto stamps on time were also acting without authority of law and we expect that next year they'll be lined up at the post office window a month ahead of time to pick up their stamps. Maybe the Statesman has forgotten that there's a war on.

Dust Bowl Nostalgia
(Gladys Shields in Jefferson Review)

Yes sir, porch sitting in the midwest is an old institution. Like attending a band concert on the courthouse lawn every Wednesday and Saturday night. As we remember the lowly of our youth, almost every town of any consequence had a town band with a bandstand on the courthouse lawn or in the city park where the entire populace gathered on warm evenings to hear the town band boys play "Poet and Peasant," "Silver Threads Among the Gold," "Stars and Stripes Forever" with maybe the "Blue Danube" thrown in for romance. The courthouse lawn, in our town, didn't have rows of seats for the audience. They usually sat in groups or by twos and twos on the grass. Sometimes, they sat in their buggies or surreys, or the more "modern" or opulent sat proudly in their model T Fords, Maxwells or Reos—the envy of every eye. One time we remember, the audience on the courthouse lawn ran over out into the street, when Sousa and his band visited our town.

We're glad to print foregoing from the facile typewriter of Gladys so that old time Iowayans, et al, now in these parts, can brush away a few homesick tears. Even Fred Zimmerman, erstwhile Hoosier of many years back, almost put on a boo hoo as the description of these "porch sittings" took him to the old home on the banks of the Wabash.

And Furthermore—

Portland, Ore. — The New York office of the American Society for the prevention of cruelty to animals asked the Oregon humane officer to check reports that 2,000 wild horses captured in the eastern Oregon roundup were driven over cliffs into the ocean.

The officer's reply:

(1) No wild horses were captured. They all got away.
(2) And, if they had been captured, the eastern Oregon roundup area is 400 miles from the ocean.

Cowboys on the Loose

Portland — Harry Daniel, president of the Oregon Humane society, complained about New Yorkers' knowledge of north-west geography. A letter from the executive vice-president of the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals said he had heard that wild horses in eastern Oregon were being driven over cliffs into the ocean.

The army of Carthage, from 264-202 B.C., was made up entirely of soldiers of fortune.

The War Today

By DeWitt Mackenzie

An interpretative analysis of war developments by a famous Associated Press war correspondent.

With due caution one records that catastrophe is treading on the heels of the Hitlerian armies which are being rolled back with heavy loss of life and materiel by a multiple red offensive which is developing the greatest striking power ever let loose in such an operation.

The German danger is so acute that disaster of the first magnitude might overtake them at any time. They apparently are trying to engineer a wholesale withdrawal of great depth to new defenses, thus straightening their long and unwieldy front and shortening their communications.

The nazis will have to be mighty lucky to succeed. We've seen their generalship achieve many masterly withdrawals, and it would be a serious mistake to underestimate German resourcefulness in emergencies. However, Hitler no longer has the manpower or equipment to enable him to manipulate his defenses as he has in the past.

Berlin military spokesmen for several days have been preparing the German public for a great withdrawal on the eastern front. While not avoiding the seriousness of the situation, they've advertised this as part of a revised strategy.

It's represented that this realignment will permit of the transfer of nazis forces from the eastern front to the western theater for a major assault on the allies in Normandy. The idea is to administer a quick, decisive defeat on the western allies and then whip back to the Russian front in time to protect the eastern frontiers of the reich.

Well, as the stage magician would say, it's a good trick if they do it—and it's a good trick if they don't. It's a strategy of desperation, but the Hitlerites are in desperate straits.

One of the astonishing aspects of the Russian offensive is that the red armies have been averaging more than ten miles a day in vital sectors, with heavy fighting, for a score of days without rest. Whether they can continue much longer without a breather remains to be seen, but the launching of their new Latvian drive doesn't look much like a pause. Their stamina is amazing.

If they do halt it may give the nazis a chance to pull up their socks a bit. But if the red machine keeps on rolling as it's going now, Hitler may have to abandon the Baltic states and East Prussia on the run. The nazis command has anticipated this contingency by evacuation of German nationals from some areas. The way the signs read now the enemy will be compelled to fall back at least as far as the line of the Vistula in the heart of Poland.

Presbyterians Name Richard Moderator

Portland, July 13 (P)—The Oregon Presbyterian Synod continued its 15th annual meeting today after electing Dr. Herman S. Reichard, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Grants Pass, as moderator.

Dr. Reichard succeeds Rev. William L. Killian of Nizpah church, Portland. The Synod voted to triple its christian education support, with Lewis and Clark college to receive \$10,500 next year. Support of other western church schools also will be boosted.

To make all the milk products shipped under lend-lease in 1943, less than four percent of the total U. S. milk production was used.

'Austus' Has Post-war Angle

San Francisco, July 13 (U.P.)—The sport of "Austus" developed in Austria to bring Aussies and Yanks together on a football field—offers the post-war prospect of unequalled entertainment for American grid fans.

You can take it from H. Archie Richardson, sports feature writer for the Christian Science Monitor, that Austus will more than satisfy a football bug's demand for (1) spectacular passing and (2) great kicking.

"Those Aussies never kick the ball less than 65 yards—and they go up to 83 yards," says Richardson, a staunch supporter of sports for cementing international good will.

"Austus" jumped into the news with the announcement of two special awards by the Helms Foundation to Ernest Cowley, Melbourne Sporting Globe and Marine Pfc. William C. Jost, Jamaica, N. Y., for developing the game which combines American and Australian football.

Last year at Melbourne 40,000 persons turned out for the Aussie football matches. Special passing and kicking competition between U. S. servicemen and Aussie athletes was billed for added entertainment.

That was the first time Jost appeared on the scene. He wasn't a member of the American squad but by insisting that he could throw "that pigskin farther than anybody else can kick it," he got on the team—and proved his point with a heave of 72 yards.

That started Jost on a run of 10 special matches, passing against the best kickers the Aussies could muster. He won seven matches—and topped it with a 76 yard, 1 foot, 6-inch heave for a new international competition record—and in the three he lost, he went down before one kick of 83 yards, 11 inches. Jost's passing fell below 70 yards only three times—the other times he was heaving the ball over 71 yards to nose out the terrific boots of the Aussies.

O'Connor Appointed Davis' Successor

Washington, July 13 (P)—President Roosevelt today appointed D. Basil O'Connor, head of the national foundation for infantile paralysis, as chairman of the central committee of the American Red Cross to succeed the late Norman H. Davis.

O'Connor, former New York law partner of Mr. Roosevelt, will serve the remainder of a term expiring December 11 this year. Davis died several days ago.

"Mr. O'Connor is admirably qualified for this position," the president said in an accompanying statement, "because of his first-hand knowledge of almost every part of the United States and because of his association with the medical and nursing problems through the years he has served as president of the national foundation for infantile paralysis."

"All this is in addition to his excellent executive ability."



Distances on Russ Front (P)—Mileage figures on broken lines distance indicators show space between red army drives and several major objectives. Heavy broken line is the approximate battle front.

Major Goodson, Army Supply Ace, Missing Schedule Lags

Washington, July 13 (P)—The production of army equipment and weapons was \$400,000,000 behind schedule in the second quarter of this year, Acting Secretary of War Patterson reported today.

The acting secretary told a news conference he had seen published statements that current production schedules were being met, and added "that statement is not true."

The dollar volume lag represented eight percent of the schedules set on April 1 for the second quarter, Patterson said, and "those schedules at the time were deemed to be feasible and achievable."

Among the items behind schedule he said, were "the Long Tom" 155 mm. field gun, medium tanks, tank destroyers, bulldozers, heavy duty trucks and field wire.

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