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4— Salem, Oregon, Monday, September 12, 1949

The New Rush to Gold Coast

The Pacific coast states, particularly California and Washington, are having a phenomenal growth in population. In an article in the New York Sunday Times Magazine on Los Angeles, Sam Boal comments:

"The questions are easy but the answers are not. Even the physical facts about Los Angeles, its phenomenal changes within the past 10 years, are hard to explain. People are today swarming into Los Angeles at the rate of 3,000 per week, and they have not come to see Van Johnson's house. They have come to stay. The metropolitan area has acquired just over a million and a quarter permanent residents since 1940. Within the last year Los Angeles has become the third largest city in the country nosing out Philadelphia."

Citizens from Washington here for the state fair, reported a similar rush is on to Washington with hundreds of families arriving every week. They attribute the influx to the state's new social security program, liberalized age pensions and social medicine and hospital service, that insure social security from "cradle to the grave."

This mass migration to the coast is a modern version of a gold rush for a social security bonanza which has an irresistible appeal to those seeking something for nothing stimulated by favorable climate and scenic attractions. It is the culmination of a long campaign which the magazine Time describes as follows:

"Ever since the depression, noisy prophets had been springing up along the Pacific coast to lead the aged in holy wars on the nearest state treasury. They were an odd lot—power-hungry communists, vote-hungry politicians, sharp-eyed promoters and croupy and lugubrious old bucks with top-heavy cargoes of park-bench economics. They herded their 'senior citizens' into irascible pressure groups, made pensions a permanent political issue, and damned those who opposed them as monsters who would starve their own grandmothers."

"The average citizen in California, Oregon and Washington voted for pensions with something of the attitude of a night-club set, listening to Mother Macchree—it was hard to be critical because the words were so sad. Furthermore, many of the old folks had a legitimate case. But this summer thousands of taxpayers were recalling their own generosity with purse-clutching alarm. The Pacific coast had become a minor league welfare state of its own, and new pension and welfare plans seemed to be pushing the states toward the brink of bankruptcy."

Californians voted last November for "Proposition No. 4," an amendment to the constitution, boosting pensions for the aged to \$75 a month, lowering the age limit from 65 to 63, ended the embarrassment of proving pauperism, permitting pensioners to have \$3500 in real estate, an auto, furniture and jewelry, \$1500 in liquid assets and support in part by relatives and still qualify.

In the first six months pensioners had increased from 198,000 to 245,000 and are still multiplying. The cost had jumped to over \$17 million a month and the state treasury faces bankruptcy. An effort is underway to modify by initiative bill the amendment, but the original "ham and egg" organizers are conducting a statewide radio campaign and protest meetings to "protect the old folk."

Washington's welfare system is even gaudier than that of the California gold coast. Its citizens voted for initiative 172, a measure put over by the communist dominated Washington Pension Union.

Under its terms, one out of every 12 persons in the state gets financial assistance for two years and the other 11 would pay almost as much to keep them as Grand Coulee dam cost.

The old folks not only get money for mortgage payments, rent, tax assessments, insurance, food and clothing, but free medical and dental care, free hospitalization, free home-nursing service, free medicine, glasses and artificial limbs. And the cost is bankrupting the state.

Oregon had a narrow escape because of faulty construction of the illegal initiative bill passed by our big hearted but thoughtless electorate. But they voted for increases that would have cost more than the whole cost of running the state, but failed to provide any means of paying for them.

Pensions, however, will still cost \$28 million for the next two years—as against \$300,000 in 1933-34. And another effort will be made at the 1950 election to put over a "large, wide and handsome" security bill that will spell bankruptcy, killing the goose that lays the golden eggs.

Farmer's Luck Ran Out

Windom, Kan., U.P.—Every grain farmer knows that growing wheat is a great gamble, but Carl Peterson can add a special attest to the statement.

Carl hammered down fields of wheat nearby. Peterson's grain grew unharmed.

High winds then hit some of his friends' crops. Not his. Wet weather diseases deeply slashed yields all over Kansas. The glume blotch, leaf rust and mosaic fungus were not as damaging on Peterson's farm.

He harvested 1,200 bushels of wheat and stored it in his combination granary and machine shop.

Then came a bolt of lightning in a post-harvest rainstorm. It set fire to the building and the entire 1,200 bushels were destroyed, along with machine tools, a 1½-ton truck and 1,200 pounds of clover seed.

Angler and Bass Change Places

Batavia, N. Y., U.P.—William J. Housenger caught his first bass in 30 years because he thought he had met up with a snake while fishing for bullheads.

Housenger and a companion were angling for bullheads on Silver Lake when they heard a commotion in the water near their boat. Thinking it was a watersnake, Housenger jumped out of the boat, which was close to shore.

A few minutes later he and Smith discovered that a 3½ pound bass had jumped into the boat.

He Must Be a Tough Sarge!

Tacoma, U.P.—The state patrol reported today that a convertible driven by Sgt. Melvin R. Kenoyer, Ft. Lewis, had done the following in this order on the highway near here:

Passed a truck on the right hand side, struck a light pole, turned over completely, continued on for 684 feet, knocked down two guard rails and went over a small embankment near a motel.

Power in the district was off for an hour. Sgt. Kenoyer was booked for investigation of drunken driv-

BY BECK
Easier Said Than Done



SIPS FOR SUPPER
So Be It

By DON UPJOHN

We note by press reports that now the Russians claim to have been originators of the tank. As far as we're concerned there's no objections to the claim. From what we've heard about their bouts with vodka they were not only the original tanks but are still at it.

Numerous arguments today about town as to whether by the switch over again to time as it was intended folks lost an hour's sleep or picked one up. It seems there are arguments for both sides of this question or there wouldn't be any arguments. It seems so restful to get back on a regular time schedule again maybe we did make up an hour's sleep. And we're not going to lose any more of the same by further arguing about it. At any rate, as our friend Paul Hauser indicated in a communication sent over, the grandfather's clock in the courthouse tower finally caught up with the citizenry again after lagging an hour behind them all summer. And through it all the clock maintained the same inscrutable face letting the city council think what it may.

Profess Without Honor
South Gate, Calif., U.P.—Just after her honeymoon Mrs. John Duke said she was warned that her marriage couldn't last because her bridegroom "had such an unholy temper." They were wed in Edgerton, Mo., Sept. 11, 1879. She was 18 then and John was 20. Yesterday they celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary.

What's in a name. For instance there's Pete Haveluck who got into the city jail this week and Martha Washington also picked up by the police and returned to Hillcrest home.

Now that the pari-mutuels have folded up after a busy week there should be quite a run on shirt counters around town today.

The weather started off in such nice shape this morning seems too bad there couldn't be another week of that fair.

Making Movies
Hollywood, U.P.—A new version of the Hollywood wolf has turned up to pester (and blister) girls on Hollywood boulevard. Miss Shirley Weinberg, 25, told police yesterday that she was plunked on the you-know-what by buckshot-shooting youths who pelted her from a parked auto. She thus became the second "oops" girl in recent days. Earlier, Miss Kathleen O'Connor, 19, had reported that she too was a target for a B-B gun.

This Time It Was on the Snake
Wheeling, W. Va., U.P.—Charles Johnston was picking berries when a copperhead sank its poisonous fangs into his leg. Calmly, he killed the serpent and went on with his work. The leg was artificial.

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN
Both Tito and Stalin Say No Armed Strife, But—

By DeWITT MacKENZIE

Marshall Tito, Yugoslavia's hard-boiled dictator, reaffirmed his belief Friday that his country isn't headed for armed strife with Russia despite the propaganda-war and economic-boycott by the Moscow-controlled cominform.

At the same time, Pietro Nenni, a pro-communist Italian socialist leader, stated in Rome after a visit to Moscow that Russia will stop short of war with Yugoslavia. Nenni said the Soviet never will intervene "at the point of the bayonet" but proposes that the Yugoslav people themselves "judge and condemn the policies of Tito."

These and similar declarations have brought me an inquiry as to whether there is a communist policy that one communist nation won't go to war with another.

Is Russia's hope for world peace based on the idea that, if all nations should turn communist, there couldn't be wars among them?

Russia hasn't announced such a policy in so many words. She has, of course, frequently declared that she maintains a policy of non-aggression against all countries—communist and otherwise—and will fight only in self defense. She hasn't differentiated between communist and non-communist nations in this respect.

However, Moscow has identified its political aim as "international communism," as opposed to the nationalism for which Tito stands. The sovereignty of a nation under international communism rests in Moscow.

The marshal has refused to surrender his country's sovereignty, and on that point hinges the current conflict between Russia and Yugoslavia.

It is, I suppose, logical to assume that there can be no armed strife between loyal "in-

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND
Truman Coached Vaughan
On 5-Percenter Testimony

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—White House intimates say President Truman is taking the battle over Maj. Gen. Harry Vaughan more seriously than the fight over government reorganization, arms for the North Atlantic or any of the main planks on the fair deal program.

Before Vaughan testified, President Truman personally coached him on every possible question the senators could ask.

Vaughan's statement was re-written three times and reduced from 20-odd pages of vitriol to a reasonable length. The president also urged his military aide to be all sweetness and light, not to lose his temper, never to insult the senators, never to mention his critics by name.

Mr. Truman was chiefly worried over any probing of Vaughan's campaign contributions, since the haphazard general had insisted on bypassing the Democratic National committee and worked direct with Louis Johnson.

How much Vaughan raised in the last campaign probably he himself doesn't know, but some insiders estimate it at around \$100,000, from all sorts of sources.

The White House has really been using police-state methods in connection with the Vaughan investigation.

Not only do senators have a pretty good idea that their phones are being tapped, but certain witnesses and investigators have been subjected to pressure.

Francis Flannigan, ace investigator for the senate committee, got a threat from the Trumanite Charles Clark, formerly attached to the Truman committee. Clark now draws \$1,000 a month as lobbyist for Franco Spain, and is in intimate terms with the White House.

Congressman Schafer of Michigan, Republican, also says he got a threatening phone call from the White House immediately after his public statement that General Vaughan should be court-martialed.

Others who have tangled with General Vaughan also have strangely backtracked, with the appearance of having been either threatened or politically bribed.

For instance, Col. Wm. Lee, who got into a scuffle with John Maragon in Rome and was subsequently reprimanded and demoted, at first told newsmen that the army crackdown came as a result of the Maragon incident. Lee even put this in writing, while the official text of his reprimand specifically cites the Maragon incident.

Despite these written statements, however, Colonel Lee backtracked, said he didn't really think his demotion resulted from the Maragon incident. The reversal had all the earmarks of a quick and powerful reminder from Washington that he would be up for promotion again soon.

The behavior of Judge James McGranery of Philadelphia is also interesting. In 1946, McGranery, assistant to the attorney general, was sore at Truman because he wanted a Circuit Court judgeship and Truman would only appoint him to the District bench. At that time McGranery also told this writer, who was in his office when General Vaughan phoned, that the general sought to intervene in the W. T. Burton case in New Orleans, Burton having been indicted for bribing a jury.

Today, McGranery, a U. S. District Judge and a Catholic, cherishes an ambition to fill the next vacancy on the Supreme Court. Shortly after Catholic Justice Frank Murphy died, McGranery even made a special trip to the White House.

And with Justice Rutledge seriously ill, McGranery last week denied that General Harry Vaughan had ever intervened in the Burton jury-bribing case in New Orleans.

Russian "Tourists"—The French foreign office has warned the state department there are nearly 6,000 Russian agents in Albania disguised as tourists. The French report these Russians are actually supervising the storing of huge quantities of arms that Moscow is sending to Albania. French diplomats incidentally are the only Westerners in Albania today.

Friends who have discussed plans with her, found the Madame living in oriental splendor at the home of her billionaire brother-in-law H. M. Kung. She seemed high-strung, and chain-smoked as she talked. Almost every time she lit a cigarette, a bodyguard popped into the room to make sure she was all right.

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When Franklin Roosevelt was president of the United States, he applied to government the same strategy a military commander applies to his men in the field. If a member of his administration became a liability, made too many enemies in congress, Roosevelt eased him out—even though they were intimate friends—just as a military commander sometimes has to desert men in the field.

Reford Tugwell, once summarized it this way to friends when he resigned as undersecretary of agriculture: "A general in battle can't afford to go into the front-line trenches. He's got to stay behind at staff headquarters. When his subordinates become casualties, they either get shipped back to hospitals or get buried. No commander can hold up a war because of them."

"In the battle over pure food and drug advertising," continued Tugwell with no bitterness, "I was carrying out Roosevelt's ideas. But it was much better for me to take the rap and let him stay behind the political firing line."

"All the advertisers in the country, plus the newspapers, are now sore at me, and it's better for the chief if I now resign."

He did.

Harry Truman, however, believes in getting into the front-line trenches, regardless of political shot and shell, and taking just as much criticism as his wounded subordinates.

It's a fine personal quality, but seriously impedes his political program.

And, after all, Truman was elected on the basis of his program, not because of his ability to defend a bumbling major general.

CAPITAL NEWS CAPSULES
Madame Chiang in Exile—Madame Chiang Kai-Shek is still confident she can raise enough money to save China by appealing to the American people. All she has to do, she believes, is turn on the charm.

Friends who have discussed plans with her, found the Madame living in oriental splendor at the home of her billionaire brother-in-law H. M. Kung. She seemed high-strung, and chain-smoked as she talked. Almost every time she lit a cigarette, a bodyguard popped into the room to make sure she was all right.

BY GUILD
Wizard of Odds



POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER
One of Hal's Fables
For the Atomic Age

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—Once upon a time there was a great scientist named Dr. Alfonso Cortez. No mind like his had ever entered the world before.

The day he was born he asked the nurse if he could borrow the hospital's microscope. He wouldn't take his afternoon nap unless his mother sang him a lullaby from an algebra book.

By the time he was five he could recite the Encyclopaedia Britannica from memory, forward or backward, including index, he graduated from college at 7—before he could play hopscotch well.

At 10 he competed in a radio giveaway quiz contest. They couldn't think up a question he couldn't answer. The network finally paid him \$5,000,000 to quit—it was the only way to keep from going bankrupt.

With that nest egg the young scientist bought himself his first pair of long pants and dedicated the rest of his life to science.

In time every branch of human knowledge was illuminated by his brilliance. His inventions enabled men to live forty years longer, drink all night without getting a hangover. Get by on half-an-hour's sleep, and earn all they wanted by working one hour a day.

The fame of Dr. Cortez was world-wide. His name was a household word—in households where people could read. But in his old age that great scientist was unhappy.

"There is still evil in the world," he said. "I must solve the problem of right and wrong." So he went into his laboratory and stayed there for five years. Then he emerged.

He summoned the world's leading statesmen, bankers, clergymen, industrial leaders, generals, admirals and educators to his laboratory. When they were all assembled, he walked into the room carrying a large box.

"Gentlemen," he said, "in this box I have 3,604,385 mosquitoes. I have bred, and cross-bred them for five years to breed out their vicious instincts. I have read them the Bible, the Koran, the Talmud and passages from the philosophers. They have been taught not to sting anyone who is wholly good. They are the only trained moral mosquitoes ever reared."

"See." And with that he opened the box, and out swarmed the mosquitoes. "Don't be alarmed," smiled Dr. Cortez. "They know right from wrong."

The mosquitoes began settling on his uneasy guests. For a moment there was a sudden silence, a vast squirming, and then—"Ouch!" "Ouch!" "Ouch!"

The famous people, slapping at their faces, ran en masse from the laboratory, all except a stubborn general. He walked out. Brushing the mosquitoes from his cheek—and his medals.

Dr. Cortez looked sadly around his deserted laboratory. "There must be some wholly good person in the world," he said. "All my mosquitoes can't be wrong."

Just then he felt something on his neck. "Ouch!" cried the scientist. Moral: Never trust an educated insect.

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