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4—Salem, Oregon, Monday, October 24, 1949

'The Privileged Few'

Cecil B De Mille, famed playwright and foremost moving picture producer since 1913, is one of the comparatively few distinguished men who has the courage of his convictions. When three years ago he was ordered to pay a small assessment for a labor union's political campaign and refused on principle, he was purged from the union and forced to forfeit a million dollar radio-theater contract.

Commenting upon President Truman's recent statement that "the strength of our nation must continue to be used in the interest of all our people rather than a privileged few," De Mille in a late bulletin says that denouncing "selfish" interests is one of the oldest tricks in every politician's bag.

De Mille asks who are these privileged few and what are their privileges? He points out that those very rich have the privilege of paying upwards of 90 percent of their incomes to the government. The capitalists cannot qualify because they are not "few" as there are more stockholders than union members. He points out the "real 20th century barons of privilege" as follows:

"Well, it's quite a privilege to be able to shut down the coal mines of the country. One man can do that.

"Then there is the privilege of being able to reach across the Pacific and throw a blockade around the Hawaiian Islands. One man did that.

"Not many feudal lords in the Middle Ages had as many serfs as there are, say, teamsters or musicians in the United States today—and we do not hear of any successful efforts to separate Mr. Tobin or Mr. Petrillo from their privileged positions.

"In the Middle Ages a runaway serf could stay in a city for a year and a day and become a freeman.

"In the United States, in this enlightened age, a union can say to a man 'You may get a job if you go to another state and change your name, but there's no work for you in this state.'

Commenting upon another of Mr. Truman's generalities, "No artificial distinction shall bar any American from a job he is capable of performing," De Mille remarks that the most potent privilege any man can hold is power over another man's right to work—"so let's strike privilege where it is strongest," by taking control out of the privileged few and give the right to work back to individuals.

De Mille comes from a distinguished family of playwrights. His father, Henry C. De Mille, was a collaborator with David Belasco in many successful theater productions. His brother, William C. De Mille, is well known also as a playwright.

Cecil De Mille, born in 1881, has over a score of spectacular movie productions that have had universal appeal since 1913. Among them are "The Ten Commandments," "The King of Kings," "The Sign of the Cross," "Cleopatra," "The Crusades," "The Plainsman," "The Buccaneer," "The Volga Boatman," "Union Pacific," "The Mounted Police," etc., etc.

Too Young to Judge Yet

Four years ago Monday Soviet Russia notified Secretary of State Byrnes of Moscow's ratification of the United Nations charter. Because Russia was the last of the Big Five powers and the twenty-ninth nation of the original 51 interested countries, the United Nations came into being. Approval of all Big Five powers and a majority of the smaller countries was necessary to turn the UN from an idea on paper into a formal world organization.

The irony of Russia's strategic part in taking the climactic move to create a group of united nations dedicated to peace and freedom of the individual is so striking today on this fourth birthday of the UN.

The nations of the world, which had gathered at the Dumbarton Oaks conference and then later at San Francisco, formed what they described as another attempt "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war." Basically, the UN described its avowed purpose as maintaining "international peace and security."

Is the world better off because the United Nations was created four years ago?

The test of the United Nations is a matter of comparison with what the world would be like if there were no international organization at all. So, from that general test, the answer would be "yes."

The UN is an attempt to substitute a rule of law for the rule of force. That attempt has not achieved as much as most people perhaps hoped in these past four years. But the world organization has had a restraining influence on military power. In Palestine and in Kashmir, mediation ended actual fighting between smaller powers.

Looking at the infant world organization, an observer could say the UN had created an outline which, if followed, might find solutions to world problems. At least, the weight of public opinion might impel governments to seek solutions through the UN machinery.

Four years is too short a time to judge properly any organization. If the United Nations can keep the pace for another four years, with some assurance after that, then the world will applaud and thank gratefully the organization which has its birthday Monday.

'R. U. Innocente?' Yes-But No

Los Angeles, Oct. 24 (AP)—The federal court judge called for the criminal calendar and Roberto Ulanco Innocente, auto theft suspect, struggled to the prisoners' stand.

"R. U. Innocente?" queried the clerk, without looking up. "No, I am guilty!" Innocente retorted.

Whereupon the judge sentenced Innocente to 10 months in jail on his plea of guilty to driving a stolen car here from Nevada.

Crime Doesn't Pay Note:

Seattle (AP)—A youth walked into a women's gift shop, bought a box of stationery and a gift card, and proffered a \$5 bill in payment.

Then he told Mrs. Bessie A. Freeman, the proprietress, to "stick 'em up—I'm sorry, but I need the money."

He took \$1 from the till and \$2 from her purse, then fled Mrs. Freeman still had his \$5 bill. Net loss: \$2.

BY BECK

Parental Problems

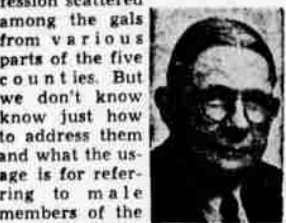


SIPS FOR SUPPER

Welcome Visitors

BY DON UPJOHN

About 1000 school marmas are assembled in Salem today and tomorrow for two big conferences, one of the teachers from five counties hereabouts, and the other made up of the elementary teachers from Marion county. We presume, however, they're not all school marmas and that there are some males from the profession scattered among the gals from various parts of the five counties. But we don't know just how to address them and what the usage is for referring to male members of the profession to match up with 'school marm.' One expert says it is school master, or maybe it's just "Prof." At any rate, they're a fine bunch of persons, about the cream of the crop, as it were, dedicating their lives to what ranks well up as the noblest profession. It may surprise some of their younger pupils to know that at this conference this evening has been set aside as "fun night." Perhaps, they don't know that their teachers ever have any fun, but they do occasionally, and they're sure entitled to it.



Don Upjohn

in the South African Airways system said today that he milked a full-grown lioness to win the hand of a farmer's daughter in marriage. Daniel C. Esterhuysen, 22, said his bride's father, a farmer from Outjo, South Africa, refused to permit the marriage unless Esterhuysen performed the feat. "So with help of a couple of natives, I went into a lioness' den and set a trap," he said. "She fell into it, with front paws first. I tied up her back legs and went to work. It was a tough job, but thanks to my study of Yogi, I got half a pint."

We're not quite sure but what it would take some nerve to marry a gal who'd drank a half pint of lioness's milk.

As far as Oregon is concerned the matter of the Rose Bowl was quite conclusively decided on all hands. But it's not much to worry about. They can have their old Rose Bowl for all we care up here. It's just as well to let a California team take a trimming come next New Year's day.

Love Laughs at Lions

Johannesburg, South Africa (AP)—The youngest radio officer, day.

A Couple of Homeless Strays

Palm Springs, Calif. (AP)—A few days ago three pretty cats wandered into the hillside yard of E. R. Burchiel. The family fed and housed the homeless strays.

Then Burchiel leaned down to pet one of them. He was clawed severely. A physician, summoned to treat the scratches saw the animals and remarked:

"Heck, those aren't kittens. They're wildcats."

MacKENZIE'S COLUMN

U. S. Aid for Yugoslavia to UN Not Signal of a New Policy

By DeWitt MacKENZIE

(AP Foreign Affairs Analyst)

Sensational as is the election of Yugoslavia to the United Nations security council over the fierce protests and threats of Russia, we shouldn't make the mistake of jumping to the conclusion that this signals a new American policy in the cold war.

True, the United States led the western legion against the Red bloc in the peace organization. But that didn't represent a new Washington policy.

It was a strategic development under a long standing policy, which was to fight the cold war to a finish—to take advantage of every device to push the Russians back to their own frontiers. The revolt of Marshal Tito against the dictatorship of the Kremlin provided an opportunity upon which America and other western nations have seized. However, the drama stage in the election of Yugoslavia to the Security Council was a sequel to America's move weeks ago in selling steel mill equipment to Yugoslavia's Marshal Tito to bolster him in his resistance to Russia.

Thus the United Nations vote was merely another sign of a development which had started previously but which had lacked the dramatic qualities to impress its full significance on the general public. The real significance of the event is that western action in the cold war has advanced into the preserves of the communist bloc.

At long last we are operating behind the Iron Curtain. As previously indicated, the strategy which marked the support of communist Yugoslavia in the United Nations really had its inception when Tito wig-wagged to the United States for steel mill equipment and for monetary loans. That called for a major decision in Washington, for while

the marshal had broken with his masters in Moscow, he still remained a communist and a dictator in his own right.

Should America back Tito and so strengthen his hand in his resistance to Moscow? The point of such a move, of course, wouldn't be affection for Tito but that here might be a chance to enlarge the area of freedom in eastern Europe.

There is unrest among most, if not all, of the Russian satellites. Successful resistance by Yugoslavia to Moscow might well encourage other eastern European states to follow suit. Washington decided to strengthen Tito's hand, and acted accordingly. The U. N. election battle was just a part of the plan which evolved from that decision. This meant no change of policy but merely the seizure of an opportunity to further that policy.

So it is safe to assume that we shall see other moves along this line. In a speech on foreign policy a couple of nights ago in New York, Secretary of State Acheson branded Russia as the "aggressively imperialist power of our times."

He charged that the Soviet Union is trying to "extend its domination" and to spread "confusion and disintegration" in those parts of the world beyond its grasp. Acheson appealed for popular understanding of great foreign policy issues. He declared it is American citizens, "acting directly through public opinion and through the congress, who decide the contours of our policies and whether those policies shall go forward or waver or stop."

WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

NAM Lends Some Support To Brannan Farm Plan

By DREW PEARSON

Washington—The last pressure group you would ever expect to support President Truman's fair deal is the National Association of Manufacturers. In fact, if the powerful NAM says anything good about the White House, it's headline news.

However, believe it or not, but the NAM is now sending its members a confidential analysis of the most controversial feature of the fair deal—the Brannan farm plan—putting it in a favorable light. Without hysteria, the NAM has prepared a detailed, factual analysis of the Brannan plan, which is neither for nor against. But the sum total of these facts is surprisingly pro-Brannan.



Drew Pearson

Though not yet off the press, preview copies have been sent to several NAM members along with a letter explaining: "Many, even though they recognize the importance of the Brannan plan, nevertheless found it too abstruse for ready understanding. To help remedy this, the NAM research department has done a painstaking analysis of the plans, objectives, operations, etc."

Here then is what the NAM says about the Brannan plan: "Qualified persons have pointed to several apparent advantages in using the Brannan plan to support farm income. They emphasize its directness and simplicity of method, fairness of the period 1939 to 1948 as a starting point for an income base or 'yardstick,' encouragement to continued high level production of nutritional foods, logical classification of storable and nonstorable farm products, 'orderly marketing' provisions, financial coverage of farm groups hitherto inadequately provided for in farm programs, and its importance to national security.

"On the other hand, several weaknesses in the plan are apparent. These shortcomings mainly concern the objective of trying to narrow the gap between farm and nonfarm income. The price distortions present in the period of years selected as the starting point for an income base or 'yardstick,' the unsoundness of attempting to project these distortions into the future, the discretionary power to alter prices dictated by the pricing formulas of the plan, the lack of built-in flexibility in the pricing formulas, and the practicability of again resorting to subsidies, production controls, marketing controls and other techniques of manipulation designed to implement the support of farm income...."

Then the NAM proceeds to answer some of these criticisms. "From the standpoint of those who believe that agricultural prices must be maintained at near wartime levels in order to keep agriculture healthy," the NAM diagnosis continues, "the choice of the base period 1939 to 1948 is a logical one.

"Considered from this viewpoint, it must be pointed out that only with the price relationships existing in these years were farmers as a group in a position to lift their social and financial standards from the depths to which they fell following World War I.

"It was the level of income from 1939 to 1948 that enabled farmers to correct many of the maladjustments that were said to be depressing agriculture in the preceding 20 years. With this income, mortgage debt was reduced, housing and living conditions improved, more machinery and efficiency in farming operations were introduced, the number of tenant farmers were substantially reduced, schools, roads and other transportation facilities serving farmers were expanded and improved."

The NAM report also points out that past price supports have chiefly aided a few basic and storable commodities. The Brannan plan, on the other hand, would help a much broader group of farmers. It would support, the NAM continues, "income of the producers of most of the nonstorable commodities such as meat, dairy and poultry products and fruits and vegetables.

"Thus, this plan would extend financial assistance in times of stress to a large and important segment of the agricultural industry that has so far probably not been adequately provided for in the basic farm programs of the country. In this respect, the Brannan plan would probably be more closely integrated with the entire farm problem than has been the case with the farm programs in past years."

Wrathfully Morse wrote to the secretary of the army: "I have looked into the value of beach resort property in this area of Florida sufficiently to assure myself that any such appraisal on this property would have to be classified as an unconscionable low one, and I wish to advise you at this time that I intend to follow very carefully this case in order to satisfy myself as to whether the department of the army, when such bills as this are passed by the congress, takes the steps necessary to see to it that a fair market value is placed on the property."

What the army did was appraise the property at the ridiculously low price of \$2500, though some appraisers said it was worth \$65,000. This would permit Okaloosa county to buy the beach for only \$1250—a saving to them, but a great loss to the taxpayers of Okaloosa county.

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BY GUILD

Wizard of Odds



John Quincy Adams Called Misunderstood President

By OSWALD WEST

One of the most misunderstood of our presidents was John Quincy Adams. His diary covering the period 1794-1845, was published in 1929. It is a most charming book, and opens the door to both the clean and dirty politics of the era dominated by Jackson and Clay.

Upon Madison's inauguration, in 1809, he was appointed minister to Russia. While serving in that capacity, he was named as one of the British peace commissioners. The others being Bayard, Clay, Russell and Gallatin. They held their meeting at Ghent.

Speaking of Clay, Adams says: "He is essentially a gamester, and with a vigorous intellect, an ardent spirit, a handsome elocution, though with a mind very defective in elementary knowledge, and a very undigested system of ethics; he has all the qualities which belong to that class of human characters. As to Clay, John Randolph of Roanoke, went Adams one better. He said: 'Clay is so brilliant, yet so corrupt; like a rotting mackerel in the moonlight, he shines but stinks.'"

On a particular morning just before an early rising to complete the minutes of the previous days meeting, Adams heard three of the British commissioners leaving Clay's chamber, where they had spent the night playing cards—for money, of course.

Washington, D. C., in the days of Monroe's administration, was short on bath tubs. So, Adams, then secretary of state, took to the Potomac river for both cleanliness and exercise.

On his fifty-seventh birthday, he writes: "Swam with Antoine an hour in the Potomac. We started for the bridge, but after

swimming about half an hour, I perceived... that we had ascended very little above where we had left our clothes, and that the current and tide was carrying us into the middle of the river." After a futile struggle against the tide, he headed for shore and, in fifteen minutes, landed near the rock where they had left their clothes, which the incoming tide had reached and soaked. They had been an hour and five minutes in the water without touching ground.

In his book, "The Presidents and the Press," James E. Potlatch says: "John Quincy Adams paid a triple price for the Presidency. He paid for being his father's son, for his own unyielding nature, and for thwarting temporarily, the political ambitions of Andrew Jackson. He was a man of marked talents, but, as chief magistrate, was singularly deficient in popular appeal or, what may amount to the same thing, effective public relations."

When his term ended, he gave a sigh of relief, as he had expected to go into peaceful retirement. But, as this was a period when politics were dirty and bitter, there was no peace. Said he: "I go into retirement with a combination of parties and public men against my character and reputation such, as I believe, never before was exhibited against any man since this union has existed."

Thoughtful, Polite Newspaper Boys

To the Editor: I suppose you receive more or less complaints but I wonder if anyone ever tells you how thoughtful and polite some of your paper carriers are.

Our Capital Journal boy was a boy by the name of Howard Saling and we have always noticed how particular he has always been, rain or shine, to see that our paper was in the little entrance to our porch and it is narrow and as our house sits back from the street he often had to get off his wheel and he often even handed it to us.

Our neighbor has a long flight of steps up to her glassed-in porch, and when she was on her vacation he would get off his wheel and take her paper up and put it in the porch. So when another boy started to bring our paper we were sorry at first for we didn't expect to find another one who would be so polite and thoughtful, but he is just as nice as the first one.

I thought they might be brothers but inquired their names and the first one was Howard Saling and the one we have now is James Searcy and I have seen him get off his wheel when it was raining and deliver the paper to the door of trailers (just across the street from us).

It is nice to know such fine dependable boys and we appreciate them.

M. MAUDE BOONE
2049 State Street,
Salem, Oregon

One of Life's Tragic Quirks

Chicago, Oct. 24 (AP)—Oliver Alford, 38, toured suburban Park Forest in a jeep selling tickets for a dance to provide an inhalator for the local fire department.

Suddenly, Alford collapsed with a heart attack. His fellow firemen summoned an inhalator from Steger, Ill. Several miles away.

Alford died before the inhalator arrived.

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