

Capital Journal

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A STRIKE AGAINST PUBLIC WELFARE

The strike of 400 photoengravers that shut down the seven daily newspapers in New York City, with a circulation of 5,500,000 daily and 8,500,000 Sunday, has been temporarily settled—a truce rather than a settlement by the acceptance by both publishers and unions of a formula offered by federal mediators of submitting the issues to a fact-finding board which can only make recommendations. Because the other unions refused to cross the picket line, the 20,000 other newspaper employees were idled.

Under the agreement, the 400 photoengravers involved will get a \$3 weekly wage increase, plus 75 cents worth of other benefits, the same package which the publishers stood on all along even while proposing arbitration which the union twice rejected. The fact-finding board can recommend additional amounts.

The union had sought originally a \$15 package; but scaled this down to \$7.50. Wages are now \$120 a week for day work, \$131 for night, the highest in history.

The publishers estimated that the \$3.75 package, extended industrywide in New York would cost them more than \$3.75 million a year. Any added grant by the fact-finders would figure out at a million dollars a year industrywide for every weekly dollar gained by the engravers.

Publishers are taking the industrywide view since eight other unions, including the CIO American Newspaper Guild and affiliates of the AFL Printing Trades Council, have contract negotiations or wage reopenings pending or due to come up soon. Editorial, business and some other employees are represented by the guild.

All these unions are going to want shorter hours, more holidays and higher pay. They get six paid holidays and want 10. The engravers have been working 36 1/2 hours a week and demand a 32-hour week. They want more fringe privileges. They seem intent on killing the goose that lays the golden egg and their policy which has already forced the suspension of many newspapers and the merger of others, will force a decrease in the number of men employed.

Such a strike as that staged in New York City is plainly against public welfare. It deprives the public of news, the stores of sales and industry, agriculture and transportation of markets and the strikers of wages. It emphasizes the need of amending the Taft-Hartley law to cover such abuse of monopoly by labor unions. The worst feature, however, is the open repudiation of contracts by labor unions to continue work during the period covered by contract. A labor union contract has become, like a communist contract, only a scrap of paper to be torn up at will against the employer who furnishes the payroll as enemy Number One—to be penalized for providing jobs.—G. P.

FRANCE TO ELECT A PRESIDENT

France is about to elect a president, but quietly, in contrast with all the flubdub the American electorate is subjected to more than a year before it happens.

The presidency of France is a different kind of an office, which better resembles the English kingship than its American counterpart. France's president is head of the state socially, but the premier is the head man of the government. Our president is both.

The French president now possesses some authority. He presides over cabinet meetings and he names the premier-designate in political crises. Thus he sometimes decides who is to be premier, and once in a while which party is to form the government. So he cannot be entirely discounted as a force in French affairs.

The office is filled not by a general election as in the U.S. but by the two houses of the French parliament, by secret ballot. Hence there is a lot of inside maneuvering, little public campaigning. The tradition is that one must never be openly a candidate.

It is as important not to have too many enemies as to have many loyal friends, for the French do not want their president to be a controversial man. He is expected to command the affection of all the people as the English sovereign does. Therefore the tendency is to elect rather mild individuals, though Raymond Poincare of World War I was not of this type. The job is a good one, a seven-year term at about \$125,000 a year in terms of our money. The vote is scheduled for December 17.

RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUAL STILL PRECIOUS

Reversal of conviction in a sordid Douglas county murder case by the Oregon supreme court comes as an eloquent reminder that the ancient Anglo-Saxon precept that everyone, rich or poor, high, low or intermediate, is entitled to a scrupulously fair trial is still in full force and effect in this state.

The high court, in an opinion by Justice Tooze, concluded that certain prejudicial information was allowed to reach the jury, and that the jury was not informed by the judge that it could return a verdict of life imprisonment as well as death.

The opinion concluded that "palpable errors" were committed, "to which this court cannot close its eyes without violating its firm duty to see that the constitutional rights of an accused person are ever protected and preserved."

This is America in the mid-twentieth century, an era in which such rights are disappearing for millions who once had them and are not even a hope for hundreds of millions more.

It's a bright light Americans had better keep shining.

OPEN FORUM

GOP Not Unanimous In 'Barb' at Morse

To the Editor:

I refer to the article on page one of your December 9 issue headlined "Young Republicans of Two Counties Praise Ike," which discusses a resolution passed by the Marion-Polk Young Republicans. The main point of that resolution was, of course, its censure of Senator McCarthy, which action was taken by the group in response to a talk by one of its members which discussed only the methods and mo-

tives of Senator McCarthy, and his most recent attack upon the administration's foreign policy.

However, any inference that the group also unanimously intended to direct, as the article puts it, "a pointed barb" at Senator Morse is incorrect. I for one specifically stated that I did not accept the resolution on that basis, and there are indications that I was not alone. Further, I believe that the majority of the members were interested solely in stating their opinion on the actions of Senator McCarthy and not in gratuitously insulting others.

HAL ADAMS, Salem.

AT SUCH CLOSE QUARTERS



WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Ike's Advisors Now Agree 'Can't Appease McCarthy'

By DREW PEARSON

Washington — White House advisers, previously split as to whether the president should crack back at Senator McCarthy, are now less divided. The McCarthy strategy of swamping the White House with telegrams, plus his charge that the White House was concealing Western Union figures, plus earlier McCarthy criticism, has made even General "Slick" Persons realize that Ike can't appease McCarthy.

General Persons, with Vice President Nixon, has been the most persuasive of the Ike-advisers who believe the president must get along with McCarthy, not oppose him.

But now it's the belief of almost everyone who tries to counsel an idealistic but politically inexperienced president that the senator from Wisconsin has used the Eisenhower administration to build himself a rabid following which can't be dissipated overnight. In effect, the administration has supplied the steppingstones by which the man who now defies it has risen to power.

Here are some of the steppingstones the administration has inadvertently handed its chief Republican critic:

Steppingstone No. 1—Carbon copies of all Eisenhower administration investigations are automatically given McCarthy. That was how he knew the army was probing the signal corps at Fort Monmouth, N. J. The army had been working on this for months, and after McCarthy obtained copies of army reports, it was a simple matter for him to call witnesses, usurp the headlines.

Steppingstone No. 2—Attorney General Brownell whitewashed the senate investigating committee's report on McCarthy; also let the statute of limitations expire on the senate probe of the Maryland election and McCarthy's part in it. A senate committee had submitted a unanimous report, including amazing photostats of McCarthy's concealed financial operations. Yet Brownell announced that the matter was being dropped.

Steppingstone No. 3—The administration appointed two McCarthy men to the federal communications commission. This is one reason the big radio and TV networks have leaned over backward to give McCarthy free time. The White House even appointed to the FCC, Robert E. Lee, the McCarthy henchman who, according to a senate report, handled some of the money in the Maryland election. Lee's extremely limited knowledge of radio or TV came as a moderator for the McCarthy-Hunt TV program, "Facts Forum."

Steppingstone No. 4—The administration gave McCarthy's chief financial angel, H. L. Hunt, and other financial backers, a tax reduction on contributions to his TV program, "Facts Forum." In other words, the administration which has suffered from McCarthy's attacks helped build him up by ruling that those who finance McCarthy's TV program get a tax deduction of

20 per cent for individuals and 5 per cent for corporations on the amounts they contribute.

McCarthy Network This TV program gives significant insight into the McCarthy propaganda network. If the Republican party tried to get away with the same tax deductions it has given McCarthy's followers, it would be laughed out of court. However, "Facts Forum," though touted as educational, is actually an effective propaganda vehicle for the philosophy of America Firsters Isolationists and the Fascist fringe.

On its advisory committee are Gen. Robert E. Wood, former head of the American First committee, which vigorously opposed war with Hitler; also Gen. Hanford McNider, an active leader in the same group.

Yet President Eisenhower's policies are the exact opposite. He commanded the chief of offensive against Hitler, later advocated international cooperation as head of NATO in Paris.

A typical "Facts Forum" lecturer is Allan Zoll, whose American Patriots organization was put on the attorney general's list as subversive and fascist. Among the books and literature which "Facts Forum" urges TV viewers to buy are those written by Merwyn K. Hart, who Justice Jackson described as "Well known for his pro-fascist leanings."

President Eisenhower, of course, has taken exactly the opposite stand from these McCarthy followers, has made public pleas for tolerance and understanding. Yet his treasury department gives tax benefits to an organization fighting his policies under the guise of education.

"Facts Forum" urges TV viewers and radio listeners to participate in the "Facts Forum book plan," of which the most widely promoted book is McCarthy's "The Fight for America." This contains a distasteful attack on Eisenhower's close friend, Gen. George Marshall, now in Stockholm receiving the Nobel Peace prize; also accuses such publications as the Christian Science Monitor, Time and Life magazines, Washington Post, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Portland Oregonian and the Milwaukee Journal of following the communist line.

McCarthy's Angel "Facts Forum" angel, Texas oil millionaire H. L. Hunt, is also in a favored tax position, due to the 27 1/2 per cent oil depletion allowance. Hunt is a man of rather extreme ideas as to who is or is not a communist, as illustrated by a conversation with Clare Boothe Luce, now ambassador to Italy. Mrs. Luce, visiting in Dallas, invited Hunt to visit her and her husband when he came to New York.

"Who is your husband?" asked Hunt. "Henry Luce, publisher of Time, Life and Fortune." "What," exclaimed Hunt, "that communist?" Hunt's and McCarthy's potent backing have put "Facts Forum" on about 200 radio and 40 TV stations, not counting the ABC network, according to its publicity claims. Per-

Salem 20 Years Ago

By BEN MAXWELL

December 10, 1933

Temperature in Salem at 7:30 a.m. 25 years ago had dropped to five degrees below zero.

Salem had reverted to old-time "moonlight" night. Under a plan to effect a saving of \$3000 a year in the city's light budget all street lights, except downtown clusters, were turned off between 7 p.m. and 4 or 5 a.m. on clear nights when the moon is half full or better and when the sky is not obscured by clouds or fog.

Congress, facing desperate economic problems, had been told the Postmaster General Brown had obtained a \$3,500 sedan for official use and then had the government buy him another because the first car's roof was so low he could not wear his top hat in it.

A new monetary system for the world based on the value of wheat, silver and gold, had been presented to financiers in America by Frank O'Hearn, former vice president of the standard stock exchange.

No. 2 white wheat in Salem had a price of 43 1/2 c a bushel, top steers 3c a pound, hens 6c, medium eggs 19c, local cheese 12 1/2 c and butter cubes 29c a pound.

Independence city council had received and filed a permit to sell malt liquors in event sale is legalized by congressional action.

Zaso Pitts, screen comedienne, had been critically ill following an abdominal operation.

The bill repealing Oregon's prohibition law had carried by a majority of 67,844 in the recent general election.

DISRUPTER OF PEACE

Boise Statesman Premier Chou En-lai of Communist China, in a statement denouncing the charges of Communist atrocities in Korea, accused the United States of attempting to disrupt peace in Asia.

Wonder what "peace" he's talking about?

Rev. Jedidiah Morse, whose school geographies were important in early-day U. S. education, was the father of Samuel F. B. Morse, inventor of the telegraph.

One reason for its success is the Eisenhower appointment of "Facts Forum" moderator Lee to the federal communications commission, which regulates all radio and TV stations.

Merry-Go-Round

Secretary of agriculture Benson's plan to get rid of American farm surpluses in Europe has been given a setback by little Denmark. The Danes flatly turned down an offer of four to six million dollars worth of farm surpluses. They grow a lot themselves. President Quirino had to be talked out of issuing a blast at the United States after losing the Philippine elections. He had a statement all drawn up, charging American interference, but his advisers persuaded him to tear it up. (Quirino is right. His rival, President-Elect Magaaysay, received contributions from several big American firms.)

POOR MAN'S PHILOSOPHER

No Baby Makes a Fool of Itself Unless an Adult Sets Example

By HAL BOYLE

New York (AP)—Some people have been spreading ugly rumors about babies. They say babies are little animals that make you get up at 2 a.m., to feed them. They say babies often get cross for no reason and cry merely for exercise. They say babies get spoiled quicker than any other known protein.

It is a good thing babies don't know the adult half-truths and plain perjuries that are told about them, or they might all get colic.

Some four months ago a young lady named Tracy Ann, who will be half a year old on Christmas eve, came into our home and adopted my wife and me after a brief trial. The first thing I learned about her was that all I had ever heard before about babies was absolutely wrong.

This isn't mere parental pride. It is pure fact. You simply have to have a baby around to realize how much more common sense one has than the average grownup.

A grownup will weep, rail at the world, indulge in excesses, or feel sorry for himself for almost any reason, and often for no real reason at all. He needs no excuse to become temperate or to indulge in self-pity, the most widespread of human vices.

But a baby is born temperate and reasonable. I have a feeling that no baby makes a fool of itself until some grownup sets it a bad example.

Tracy Ann, for example, has already worked out a simple four-rule formula of life that has kept her healthy and happy, and might profitably be followed by many an adult. These are her rules for successful living:

1. Eat three balanced meals a day with no snacks in between, and be sure to get rid of burps promptly.
2. Sleep when you're sleepy.
3. Keep your diaper dry, or arrange to have it changed promptly if it isn't.
4. Avoid loud noises. They are hard on the nervous system.

In the four months since Tracy Ann adopted us there has been no such thing as a 2 a.m. feeding. She has cried a total of exactly four times—once when a burp got lost in her and we had a hard time getting it out, once when we kept her up too late, once when

we failed to recognize her diaper emergency alarm signal, and once when a playful visitor bellowed imitation baby talk in her startled face.

The important thing was she never shed a tear except when one of the rules that kept her happy was broken. And she never breaks the rules herself.

"Wait until she gets bored and you have to entertain her," friends say. But so far Tracy Ann doesn't need to be entertained, and I suspect few happy babies do. They entertain you.

Tracy Ann recently discovered her toes, a meeting that can be compared historically only with that between Stanley and Dr. Livingston.

She also has her music lessons to keep her occupied. I certainly don't intend to brag on her, but do you know any other baby who can play Beethoven's Fifth Symphony with her feet?

Her musical instrument is her first toy, a rubber cat with a whistle in it. She likes to thump it with her feet and play the famous first four notes of the Beethoven symphony—"Boom-ti-ti-boom! Boom-ti-ti-boom!" I doubt if the cat will hold up until she learns the

rest of the score. It's whistle is getting a bit hoarse.

Tracy Ann is also doing well in mathematics. I let her play with my high school algebra book, and the minute I turned my back she was trying to absorb the table of contents and the first four problems.

That is the way with babies. They have an insatiable curiosity and self-confidence. They are sure they could digest the universe itself—if they could just get it in their mouth.

I suppose that is why some adults go around spreading those ugly rumors about babies. They are just downright envious of the infant wonder and eagerness to know everything about the world that they themselves have somehow lost somewhere back along the trail of time—a rainbow beauty they are now blind to, a vision of the heart they yearn to find again if they but knew how.

FREE DRINKS — IF

Baltimore (AP)—Tavern operators in Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia and the District of Columbia have agreed to offer free drinks to their customers during the holiday season, under one condition.

Bar patrons will be given a free one "for the road," provided they surrender their car keys first.

Texas has 254 counties, Kentucky 120, Georgia 159, Missouri 114, Kansas 105, Illinois 102 and North Carolina an even 100 while at the other extreme Rhode Island which is not divided into counties.

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