

The FBI Story CHAPTER 30

by Don Whitehead

A Case for Liberal Logic

When President Theodore Roosevelt ordered an investigative force organized in the Department of Justice in 1908 to combat the land thieves, the "rusts" and other federal law violators, there were dark warnings that the move was leading to political espionage and the oppression of civil liberties.

And almost half a century later the question was being heard at times: "Is it true there is danger the FBI will become a Gestapo?"

Sometimes this question was asked for political purposes. Often it was asked by Communists and their sympathizers with the deliberate intent to create suspicion and fear and to undermine the FBI's position. But there can be no doubt that the question was asked in some instances because the American people knew little about the "mystery" organization called the FBI.

Absurd Comparison The Gestapo was Hitler's secret police system which had the power to make arrests, hold prisoners incommunicado, make searches without warrants, execute without trial, and persecute anyone whose political thinking and racial background didn't conform to the Nazi ideology. It was the twin of Soviet Russia and her satellites.

No one who studies the FBI operation from the inside—reading the orders from J. Edgar Hoover to his agents, leafing through the policy directives, and watching the transformation of a politically corrupt agency into a force struggling to achieve an ideal—can come to any other conclusion but this:

Here's Why The FBI cannot become a repressive arm of government or of a clique as long as—

—The President of the United States is a man who rejects the idea of a secret political espionage system.

—The FBI is manned and directed by men of integrity who respect the spirit of the law as well as the words.

—Establishing innocence is as important as establishing guilt in agents' investigations.

—Congress watches the FBI's spending and operating policies with a critical eye and the Budget Bureau continues to keep a close check on how and why the FBI spends its money.

—The judicial branch of the government remains free to question investigative procedures in all criminal proceedings, to review the evidence gathered by agents, and to protect the rights of the accused by due process of law.

—The nation's press has the freedom and courage to expose wrongdoing.

—The Bureau is kept free of politics.

Story of America But there is one condition under which the FBI could become a "Gestapo." This could happen if the traditional checks and restraints were corrupted or eliminated by a dictatorial government, and the FBI were then used as a political tool.

The history of the FBI, in reality, is the history of America itself and the struggle for an ideal. It wasn't perfect, but it has made progress in giant strides, and it's incomparably better than it was 30 years ago.

One of the strengths of the FBI has been in the continuity of its leadership, which has meant a continuity of policy. The basic policies established by Hoover under the direction of Harlan Fiske Stone in 1924 have remained unchanged. Hoover has remained at the helm of the FBI through and into the administrations of five Presidents and 11 attorneys general.

Intellectual Antagonism Since 1924, when Hoover was appointed Director, the cost of operating the FBI has totaled \$893,179,444, while fines, savings and recoveries have totaled \$1,390,093,138. In other words, the FBI balance sheet shows a net profit of \$496,913,294. In addition, a total of 157,110 fugitives have been arrested and 226,087 convictions have been recorded in cases investigated by the FBI.

In looking over the years, one interesting strand of the story has been the FBI's relationship with some of the liberals and the intellectuals during the Bureau's fight against communism. By all logic, the liberal intellectual should have stood shoulder to shoulder with the FBI in its fight to expose communism as the most reactionary and imperialistic movement the world has ever known.

Many liberal intellectuals did stand by the FBI. But among others there was antagonism. The myth was born that an attack on communism was an attack on freedom of thought.

The record suggests that many intellectuals have not been willing to face the hard truth which is this: Communism is the brain child of the intellectuals—Marx, Engels and Lenin—and not of the toiling masses. Communism is a disease.

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ism didn't spring from the workers as a liberal movement for personal and intellectual freedom. Red 'Scientific' Mind Communism is a brilliantly thought out plan to destroy the old world and build a new one in which "The Party" will be the center, all powerful brain ruling the world's millions. It is a dictatorship by the "scientific" mind, which uses the workers as a means to an end. Marx and Lenin and those who followed them understood this well. The top command of the FBI has an illusion that communism can be destroyed in the United States by the investigation, prosecution and conviction of Communist Party leaders who conspire to overthrow the government by force and violence. That is merely one phase of the job. The FBI knows that the bigger job lies with the free world's intellectuals—the philosophers, the thinkers wherever they may be, the professors and scientists and scholars and students. America's top labor leaders have never had any illusions about communism. They have fought the Communists in their ranks for years. These leaders know that wherever communism has taken over a country, the "toiling masses" have lost their rights and whatever chance they had for personal dignity.

BESIDES FARMS, FORESTS

3 Willamette Valley Counties Each Have Distinctive Resource

EDITORS NOTE: This is another in a series of articles condensing and summarizing reports made by J. W. Forrester Jr., editor of the Pendleton East Oregonian, on economic trends and prospects in all parts of Oregon. BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS In the rich heart of the Willamette Valley, three counties are distinguished for their agricultural and forest contributions to Oregon's economy. And in each there is another, and distinctive, resource. These were noted by J. W. Forrester Jr., editor of the Pendleton East Oregonian, as he made a swing through the state in quest of news of economic conditions. He called attention to: Marion, and the state government, Benlon, and Oregon State College, Linn, and the light metals industry. The State government and Oregon State College have long been stabilizing economic factors in their counties. The light metals industry is new; it "has only been in development. It has exceeded the expectations of Linn County's most fervent optimist."

Red Colleges Out 'Rebels'

BERLIN — Communist East Germany has begun a campaign to eliminate disloyal students from its universities. The Red newspaper Freiheit said Communist youth leaders have asked the University of Halle to expel a student for having pro-Hungarian sympathies. The official East German news agency ADR said a student at East Berlin's Humboldt University has been expelled for "counter-revolutionary activities."

Dairymen to Share Ideas

LEBANON (Special) — A program planned to interest Linn county dairymen will take place Tuesday at Morning Star Grange hall, starting at 10:30 a. m., combining meetings of the Dairymen's Assn., Linn-Benton Dairy Breeders and Linn County Dairy Improvement Assn. Glen Wilson, assistant manager of Oregon Dairy Breeders, will discuss the past, present and future of artificial breeding at 11:30 a. m., and women of the Grange will serve a free dinner at 12. Glen Thurston of Scio, Homer Webber, Chances Barnes and Floyd Fisher will give panel talks on "State of Our Dairy Operations."

PPL Might Mine Coal in Coos to Fuel Power Unit

PORTLAND — Experts now are trying to determine whether coal mining is feasible in southern Coos County, the Pacific Power & Light Co. reported here Thursday. The company has proposed a 67,500-kilowatt hydro-electric plant 23 miles upstream from Powers. It would be augmented by a 100,000-kilowatt steam plant, to be fed by coal at that location if the mining is feasible. The experts have drilled 16 holes to depths of 500 to 1,000 feet to study coal seams. Drilling is continuing. D. R. McClure, executive vice president, said the coal can be slope-mined, but the remaining questions are whether there is enough coal in the Levan River deposits and whether it is high-grade enough for use.

Children Pay Ruling Not to Affect Farms

Action Comes as Protest Made To Ruling

PORTLAND — The state Wage and Hour Commission Friday decided that the 50-cent per hour minimum wage for minors shall not apply to agricultural workers. This means that the traditional method of paying youngsters by the pound for their work in bean and berry fields will be continued. The commission acted after a delegation of farmers appeared before a meeting here Friday to protest a recent interpretation of wage regulations that minor agricultural workers are not excluded from the minimum wage provisions.

Among those protesting was George Dewey, secretary of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation. He said: "This order is un-American. What kind of a father would I be to send my boys out to pick berries for 50 cents an hour if I know they can produce only 40 cents worth?"

The farmers indicated they would not oppose a minimum scale for such work as hoeing, stringing beans, stringing wires and cutting out dead stock. But they made it clear they opposed any minimum for harvesting crops.

INCOME TAX TIPS—NO. 6

Home Owners Able to Deduct Expenses When Computing Tax

(Editor's note: Tax savings possible for home owners are treated in this article prepared by the tax information committee of the Oregon Association of Public Accountants and presented by The Capital Journal as a public service.)

Are you a home owner or in the process of buying? If so, this is the time of year that you have the edge on your rent-paying friends since many expenses involved in home ownership can be deducted. Because details often slip from memory and since proof will be needed if the return is challenged, now is a good time to start a file of cancelled checks and other necessary papers for next year.

For most home owners, the biggest deduction will be the amount of interest paid on the mortgage during 1956. Other major allowable items are property taxes and casualty losses.

Check Deductible Costs Naturally, ordinary costs of running and maintaining the household are not deductible. So don't claim redecoration items, light bills, insurance and other personal expenses.

Home purchasers in the early stages of a mortgage will find it especially important to check out their deductible costs. For about the first quarter of the life of the mortgage, interest payments exceed the amount of the principal every month. Then, as the home owner builds up his equity over the years, the amount of his income tax savings from interest dwindles accordingly.

On a \$16,000 mortgage financed at 5 per cent for 30 years, the annual interest during the first few years will average \$800. Some banks itemize each payment to show amount of interest, principal, taxes or other charges. If the amount of interest is not itemized, ask the bank for a statement showing it.

Don't forget to include any interest paid on home repair loans or (renters, take note, too) on furniture and home appliances purchased on credit. When you claim property taxes, be sure to list only the taxes. Many municipalities include in their bills special fees for non-deductible expenses such as sewerage and street pavement.

In a casualty loss, the allowable deduction is the difference between the damage and the insurance reimbursement. A casualty is any loss to personal property as a result of fire, storm, flood, earthquake or other unexpected and unusual causes. Be prepared to substantiate a casualty claim if it is challenged. Before-and-after pictures, repair bills and written offers to buy will help support an official appraisal. When large amounts are involved, it may be wise to get expert appraisal immediately after the casualty occurs.

Capital Gains Tax Another important tax benefit that may accrue to the home owner is the capital gains allowance on home sale and purchase. If a home purchased in 1940 for \$10,000 is sold for \$15,000, the \$5,000 "profit" is not taxable if the full \$15,000 sales price is applied to the purchase of another home within one year. If another home is acquired for \$14,000, taxes must be paid on \$1,000.

As an alternative, you can start construction of a home within a year and occupy it within 18 months after the sale of your old home. If the new home costs as much as you received for your old one (with allowances for selling and "fixing up" expenses), you are not taxed on the gain. If your new home costs less, the gain is taxable to the extent of the difference. In any event, you must submit pertinent information concerning any sale of your home, whether there is a taxable gain or not.

Home Deductions Deductible home expenses that you claim should be itemized on Page 2 of form 1040, along with other allowable outlays like charity donations and medical expenses.

Ike-Macmillan Talks Date Set LONDON (UP)—President Eisenhower and British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan have tentatively decided to meet in Bermuda March 21, diplomatic sources reported today. The sources said London and Washington still are working out the details and an announcement probably will be made later this month. Government spokesmen declined to confirm or deny the reports.

DOROTHY DIX COLUMN 'Social Mess' Needs New Perspective on Life DEAR DOROTHY DIX: I am 17 years old, and a social mess! I've never gone out with a boy, but would like to get someone interested in me. I'm not at all good-looking; skinny, and very shy. I'm a student nurse, so don't have much chance to meet fellows my own age. I don't even get along well with other girls. My roommate gives me a hard time, since she is high-spirited. She likes a crowd and plays rock 'n' roll records, whereas I dislike both. She has many visitors who take delight in teasing me by hiding my things, messing up the bed, and silly things like that. Please help me. M.S.

DEAR M.S.: You need a different perspective on your problems, plus a new attitude on life. You have many advantages in environment and associates, which you regard as liabilities. Look at them in a new light. Take your pretty roommate, for instance. Instead of griping about her company and choice of music, learn to be part of the one and to tolerate the other. You want to make friends? Well, here's a steady stream of people right at your front door. Perhaps one of them will turn out to be the companion you want. Take your teasing with good humor. Then think of all the nice young men you meet every day. There are doctors, internes, patients, office personnel, and visitors. Be pleasant to all, cultivate an especially friendly smile and I assure you, you won't go unnoted. Good looks alone are not an open sesame to popularity, nor is lack of them a lifetime sentence to isolation and loneliness. Plain girls marry, too. Admittedly, they must try harder to win friends, but they make lasting friendships and happy marriages. Get rid of any notion that the world is against you because you lack glamour. Work for a good disposition and stop thinking of yourself as a "social mess."

DEAR DOROTHY DIX: When my boy friend comes to see me, he pays more attention to my mother and younger brother than he does to me. CRICKET: He's a diplomat! He knows he has your approval; now he's working on the rest of the family. Don't object! DEAR DOROTHY DIX: My husband and I have been married a little over a year. Last month he told me he had been seeing another girl. He said there was nothing to it; he had been discouraged and she gave him helpful advice. I know I haven't been too understanding with many of our problems, and my bad temper doesn't help. Now that he has told me, I keep bringing it up because I'm hurt. Should I leave him? MARTHA: If you realize that your own lack of understanding was partly responsible, that constant nagging never mended anything, and that you would learn to bear and forbear, you can have a happy marriage. Leaving your husband would be the worst way out. Do your share to make your husband happy, your home peaceful, and you'll get cooperation. Send your problem to Dorothy Dix, Or. Write for her free leaflet, "Patty Tyrants" in all cases, be sure to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope, and send request to her, care of this newspaper.

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