

Is the 'Common Man' Fit to Rule?

Population May Backslide To Low Intelligence Level

By BAUKHAGE
News Analyst and Commentator.

WASHINGTON.—When the Henry Wallace for president movement was launched in California it made a lot of Republicans happy just to think about it, although they never really believed that a third party was possible. (When I was in college a friend of mine wrote an essay entitled: "Why a Third Party Is Impossible in America." This was just before Teddy Roosevelt came out with his Bull Moosers in 1912).

If Wallace were to become president of the United States it is unlikely that the "common man" whom he champions would have any more to say about running the country than he does now. However, when Wallace says this is the century of the "common man," he isn't far wrong.

The revolutions which have swept the world in the past decade certainly would not have been possible if they had not had the support of the people.



Baukhage

This support was not necessarily the result of free choice, intellectual decision or popular vote. In fact, for the most part — certainly under Mussolini, Franco, Hitler and Stalin — it was the opposite. Nevertheless, they were not revolutions of the upper classes.

Even in the case of Great Britain's very mild revolution, which was the result of popular vote and a free choice, the traditional political and intellectual leaders were swept out of office.

Americans are committed to the idea that the majority should rule and the theory always has been that the people would be wise enough to select a person of sufficient intelligence, experience and integrity to represent them at the job of ruling.

Of late, however, a number of persons approaching the problem from quite different angles, have expressed concern about the education and training of the men available for the responsibility of carrying on the business of government.

I have been assured by old-timers here who have been familiar with the personnel of congress over a number of years that we perhaps have as high type of men, mentally and morally, in congress today as we have ever had. In fact, I am told they are making excellent use of the greatly expanded sources of information on the issues they have to consider and are, therefore, better informed than any congress has ever been.

Nevertheless, we hear from educators, from economists and statisticians, all sorts of dire warnings.

One that has recently stirred up the press considerably was by Guy Irving Burch, head of the population reference bureau. It seems Burch read a survey made in England by Sir Cyril Burt at the request of the royal commission on population.

As a result of his survey, Sir Cyril suggests that in 50 years the number of students of scholarship ability in Britain will be approximately halved and the number of feeble-minded almost doubled. This conclusion was based on psychological tests and size of families in Britain.

Nation of Dollars Seen in Future

Burch has studied population statistics for the United States from the standpoint of psychological tests, educational attainment, economic status and type of occupation. He says: "We may reach the general conclusion that the lowest third of our people in each one of these four categories has families about twice as large as those of the highest third."

And he concludes:

"As a voting participant in helping to solve the many intricate problems of our complex civilization a dull and backward individual is almost as helpless as an idiot. In fact, he may be more dangerous to democratic institutions because he is easily commanded by demagogues and dictators."

This gives us quite a different picture of the century of the "common man."

Dr. Francis Brown, staff associate of the American Council on Education and the executive secretary of the President's commission, doesn't quarrel with Burch's figures but he says: "This population-intelligence report does not give enough importance to the possibility of improving intelligence by education." In other words, if we broaden the base of our teaching we can regain a lot of the potential waste material that Burch has discovered.

What the Burch report overlooks is this, says Dr. Brown, "human intelligence never has been developed to its fullest among the great masses of people. No way has been found accurately to measure the ultimate capabilities of the human mind."

There are others, however, who while they may agree with Brown's postulation, question the methods now being used to develop these innate abilities.

A very dim view of the situation is taken by Canon Bernard Iddings Bell, educator, pastor, author and consultant on education to the Episcopal bishop of Chicago.

He thinks Henry Wallace is correct in his description of the current century but he says: "It does not follow because the common man has suddenly been lifted into control that he is thereby automatically made competent properly to exert control." He thinks Wallace's definition ought to be expanded. He says: "Ours is the century of the perpetually adolescent common man, of the common man unskilled in the art of living. Untrained in the wisdom of the race, he is incompetent either to rule or to be ruled."

Need Education For Common Man

The canon isn't snobbish. He is not looking down his canonical nose at anybody. As a member of society he takes his share of the blame by saying that society has played the common man a low trick "for which those who control education are chiefly chargeable."

Bell quotes the late Dr. William Rainey Harper's definition of an educated man: A man who by the



Canon Bernard Iddings Bell
"...unskilled...untaught..."

time he is 25 has a clear theory, formed in the light of human experience down the ages, of what constitutes a satisfying life, a significant life, and who by the age of 30 has a moral philosophy consonant with racial experience.

Bell thinks that what we do not do and what we ought to do to educate is, first, to give children a knowledge of the race's wisdom, imparting to them what they ought to know rather than teach them what they would like to study; second, to teach children how to read, write, listen to and speak the English language; third, they must be taught decent manners, the rights of others; fourth, they must learn that honest and craftsmanlike achievement is the only door to social approval; fifth, teachers must "inspire reverence for the unseen and impart some objective knowledge of what the various faiths about us are to do and teach."

I wish that some smart statistician would try to figure out if the kind of education which would give a man a high income likewise makes him fit to run a country as complicated as ours in a world as complicated as ours.

FARMERS BENEFIT

AAA To Resume Soil Program

WASHINGTON.—Extensive operations of the AAA soil conservation program were ordered resumed by the department of agriculture after congress finally approved a 255 million dollar administrative fund for the setup. Administrative expenses are in addition to the 265 million dollars which will go directly for payments to farmers participating in soil-saving practices.

Inaugurated in early days of the New Year, the AAA program offers cash and materials, principally lime and fertilizers, to farmers for carrying out approved soil and water conservation practices. Local details of the program are carried

out by more than 100,000 farmer committees.

The program was halted in May when the house voted to appropriate only 165 million dollars for the setup this year and to end it altogether next year. The AAA had worked out a 300 million dollar program and President Truman had recommended that amount in his budget to congress.

Although the 255 million finally voted by congress is lower than the sum asked, the soil program is being resumed on the same basis as originally planned. The appropriation for administrative expenses is about 18 per cent less than last

year. Bulk of the reduction in personnel and other expenses will be absorbed in Washington and state offices, allowing local AAA offices to retain most of their present staff.

A farmer may sign up for any number of approved projects, but he is promised only a certain amount of money with the provision that he will get additional payments if any funds remain after all farmers have been paid their minimum guarantees.

The program will be cut drastically next year. At insistence of the senate, however, the house agreed to go along with an appropriation of 150 million dollars for 1948.



HOW BLUE YOUR EYES ARE . . . Anything can happen at a baby show, as witness this scene taken during judging at a Los Angeles competition. One-year-old Leland Dexter, contestant for the bluest eyes, went to sleep in midst of excitement and had to be judged in his carriage.

NEWS REVIEW

British Economy Menaced; Traffic Fatalities Slashed

Like a kaleidoscope in which several apparently unrelated chips of glass shift suddenly from a meaningless jumble of color into an understandable pattern, so at least some of the whirling segments of the world's intricate economy have begun dropping into place to form a coherent unit.

For masses of Americans, to whom economics could be boiled down into a matter of "you either have it or don't have it," the international hysteria of monies, credits, loans, spending, inflation at home and crises abroad began to take on some meaning.

Within a matter of hours came a sudden spate of developments, starting in England and ending up on virtually every farm in America. Having no ostensible connection on the surface, each fresh turn of events was linked inexorably with preceding occurrences. To philosophers, as well as economists, it was a perfect chain of causes and effects.

This is how it began:

1. Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery, chief of the British imperial general staff, suddenly was called home from a tour of the Far East.

Montgomery returned to Great Britain to advise the government concerning drastic curtailment of the nation's military establishment, cost of which (3.6 billion dollars a year) could no longer be borne by the threadbare British economy.

2. In London, Labor government officials, no longer able to stave off a frank admission, told the world that England's plight was desperate, that the tight little island was on the sharp brink of ruin. Prime Minister Clement Attlee, assailed with charges of "bungling" and "failure to act," nevertheless was given a vote of confidence when he sketched out a plan which would have British miners work an extra hour each day to increase England's coal production, key pillar in its economic structure.

The British crisis was born out of four factors: Shortage of American dollars (the U. S. loan will have been used up by Christmas); shortage of coal (not enough to permit industries to operate and rebuild stockpiles); shortage of manpower, and inflation.

3. Morally weakened under the threat of domestic political and economic crises, the London stock market broke swiftly, as sharp selling hit all sections.

And, although U. S. state department observers scoffed at the idea that developments in England had produced a reaction over here, it appeared to be something more than coincidence that:

4. Shortly after London stocks broke, wheat prices on the Chicago board of trade showed losses of nine to nine and one-fourth cents a bushel, while corn and oats dropped off from three to four cents. Industrial stocks also receded somewhat on the New York stock exchange.

At the same time, it became apparent that the U. S. government, faced with high prices of grain and food and continued shortages abroad, would issue a call for another big wheat crop this year instead of reducing wheat production goals as was planned previously.

As the picture began to take shape, the dominating motif appeared to be economic insecurity.

DEATH ROAD: Safety Report

Compared with 1946, death is taking a back seat on the nation's highways this year, the semi-annual report of the National Safety council has shown.

For the first six months of 1947 the cross-country death toll stood at 14,480. That figure is 9 per cent below the 15,890 fatalities recorded for the same period last year. At the same time, travel was 11 per cent heavier this year.

According to the safety council's report, 2,490 lives were lost during June, which represents a 5 per cent increase over the June, 1946, record. In view of the increased traffic, however, it was a marked improvement.

Even the larger cities in the nation were decreasing their traffic fatalities. New York whittled its deaths by 15 per cent and Los Angeles by 16 per cent. Jacksonville, Fla., was tops on the record book with a 69 per cent decrease from 1946. Indication was that cities were becoming more traffic conscious.

INDONESIA: U.N. Looks

It was a matter of regret, the Dutch government said, that the matter of the Dutch-Indonesian fracas was being brought before the United Nations security council.

To a few million other observers, it was not so much a matter of regret as it was a surprise. U. N., it seemed, was even then overdue in its action.

Australia and India laid the problem before the council, where it immediately began to vie with the Balkan issue for priority of debate.

Although the Australian and Indian delegations told the council that the strife between Dutch and Indonesian forces threatened world peace, a Dutch spokesman in Washington said U. N. had no jurisdiction.

Netherlands authorities insist on terming the struggle a Dutch "police action," designed to control rebellious Indonesians who hate to wait until 1949 to attain their independence as a sovereign state. The Indonesians, however, say that the Dutch are waging a colonial war and that it looks like imperialism to them.



ROCKY GRAZIANO, the Dead End kid from Brooklyn, is now middleweight champion of the world.

Rocky is not what you would call a lovable or a likeable character, packed with intelligence and charm. But, he is still the middleweight champion of the toughest division we have. The only active division we have left.

His profession is prize fighting, which is the lowest form of making a living. And the toughest. But, it is still his profession. And it is a profession that demands certain important qualities before you reach the top.

As we understand the case, Graziano was barred in New York by the district attorney's office, with Eddie Egan of the boxing commission forced into a position he was never too keen about. Graziano's main offense was a matter of politics. Too many were looking for headlines. This is a normal situation.

As we have said before, Graziano is not a likeable or a lovable character. But he has proved that he can fight. He doesn't wear a tie and his manners leave much to be desired. But, he can nail you and hurt you, and that happens to be his trade.

The main answer is that right now Graziano is the middleweight champion of the world. There is no one even close to Joe Louis in the heavyweights. There is no one even close to Gus Lesnevich or Ray Robinson in their class. They are three Robinson Crusoes on a desert island.

But, outside of Tony Zale, Graziano still has LaMotta and Cerdan left, and one or two others. He happens to be in the fistful land flowing with milk and honey. And, I believe, he has earned his place to make one of the big killings of his game.

He proved both his ability and his gameness against Zale. He had to hurdle the handicap of their first fight, where he was accused of taking a quick powder. He was being beaten again when he came from behind to win. He had to show double courage here.

Hans Wagner's Successor

In lining up baseball's all-time stars, you run across one spot that has only one guardsman.

Back of the bat you have Mickey Cochrane, Bill Dickey, Gabby Hartnett, Johnny Kling and back in the dim past a great catcher remembered as Buck Ewing, a master.

In the box we have Cy Young, Walter Johnson, Christy Mathewson, Old Pete Alexander, Carl Hubbell, Rube Waddell, Lefty Grove and others.

At first we have George Sisler, Lou Gehrig, Hal Chase and Bill Terry.

At second there are Eddie Collins, Pie Traynor, Art Devlin and Bill Bradley.

In the outfield we have Ty Cobb, Babe Ruth, Tris Speaker, Joe Jackson and Joe DiMaggio.

But at shortstop we come to a big, shuffling, bowlegged wonder by the name of Honus Wagner. Wagner has been so far in front of all other shortstops as an all-around star—fielder, hitter and base runner—that no one else has been offered in comparison. Such names as Herman Long, Hughie Jennings, Travis Jackson, Dave Bancroft and Marty Marion have been given their share of acclaim. But none of these has been even close to Wagner.

The Flying Dutchman led his league seven years. He was a .350 hitter. He could steal from 43 to 55 bases a season. According to John McGraw and Ed Barrow, two of baseball's smartest, Hans is the greatest ballplayer of all time.

Who Comes Second?

As both put it, "Wagner was a great shortstop—a great third baseman—a star outfielder—a good catcher—one of the greatest of all hitters and base runners."

Wagner still stands alone at short. But who is the second choice? Who belongs closer to Pittsburgh's brilliant star?

Our guess is Lou Boudreau of Cleveland. Boudreau has had to carry the extra burden of handling a losing ball club. In this respect, he has done everything you could ask with indifferent material.

Year after year, he has been a brilliant infielder. And this season he has been among the leaders of the American league at 54.

For some odd reason, outside of Wagner, few shortstops are .300 hitters.

Boudreau isn't Wagner, but he is at least close to a grip on the No. 2 spot, at the agile art of short-stopping.

He was born in 1917, and entered baseball in 1938, with the Three Eye League, after two seasons at the U. of Illinois. Before the year was up, Cleveland grabbed him. He has been hitting around .335.

Guide to Jobs: Where And How to Get Them



Ask These Questions When Choosing A Job

EENEY-meeneey-miney-mo is an amusing child's game, but it's hardly the way to choose your life work.

Deciding what field to enter, what job to go after, deserves careful consideration. Make a list of all the things you like to do, those you dislike. What's your weakness? What do you do best? That's how to narrow the field down to a few choices.

Dozens of fields are analyzed in our booklet No. 201, including salaries, chances for success, etc. Send 25 cents in coin for "Guide to Jobs: How and Where to Get Them" to Weekly Newspaper Service, 243 West 17th St., New York 11, N. Y. Print name, address with zone, booklet title and No. 201.

SAME LOW PRICE... 16 CENTS
LAYMON'S
ASPIRIN
10¢
Please ask your druggist or neighborhood store
WORLD'S PRODUCTS CO., Springfield, Ill.
GUARANTEED
Good Housekeeping

DON'T LET A DULL SAW WEAR YOU OUT
Right now is the time to replace that old worn blade on your bow or buck saw. The Bushman Blade is amazingly fast... has the speed of a 2-man saw... smooth cutting... stays sharp longer. 3 types. Lengths 24, 30, 36, 42, and 48 inch.

AT LEADING HARDWARE STORES
REPLACE NOW WITH BUSHMAN
Swedish Steel SAW BLADES
GENSCO TOOL DIV.
General Steel Warehouse Co., Inc.
1830 N. Kostner Ave., Chicago 19

Yodora checks perspiration odor
THE SOOTHINGEST WAY
Made with a face cream base. Yodora is actually soothing to normal skins. No harsh chemicals or irritating salts. Won't harm skin or clothing. Stays soft and creamy, never gets grainy.
Try gentle Yodora—feel the wonderful difference!
The GENTLER cream deodorant
McKesson & Robbins, Inc., Bridgeport, Conn.

HOT FLASHES?
Women in your "40's"! Does this functional "middle-age" period peculiar to women cause you to suffer hot flashes, nervous, light-headed, weak, tired feelings? Then do try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to relieve such symptoms. It's famous for this purpose!
Taken regularly—Pinkham's Compound helps build up resistance against such distress. Thousands have reported benefit! Also a very effective stomachic tonic. Worth trying!
LYDIA E. PINKHAM'S VEGETABLE COMPOUND

When Your Back Hurts
And Your Strength and Energy Is Below Par
It may be caused by disorder of kidney function that permits poisonous waste to accumulate. For truly many people feel tired, weak and miserable when the kidneys fail to remove excess acids and other waste matter from the blood.

You may suffer nagging backache, rheumatic pains, headaches, dizziness, getting up nights, leg pains, swelling. Sometimes frequent and scanty urination with smarting and burning is another sign that something is wrong with the kidneys or bladder.
There should be no doubt that prompt treatment is wiser than neglect. Use Doan's Pills. It is better to rely on a medicine that has won countrywide approval than on something less favorably known. Doan's have been tried and tested many years. Are at all drug stores. Get Doan's today.

DOAN'S PILLS