

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

DREW PEARSON

TRUMAN COMMITTEE CARRIES ON

Senators Kilgore of West Virginia (Dem.) and Brewster of Maine (Rep.) had an interesting experience while probing conditions in Germany for the Mead committee, formerly the Truman committee. Calling at the headquarters of Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch, they were received courteously by the general himself, who talked with them for ten minutes, then went off to keep an appointment.

The two senators then proceeded with their usual investigation. Settling down in one of the U. S. military offices, they called in witnesses, and cross-examined them with a stenographer taking down everything that was said.

This continued for nearly three hours. Unlike most visitors, Senators Kilgore and Brewster seemed intent on really finding out what was happening in that part of occupied Germany. Finally, Gen. Arthur White, chief of staff to General Patch, appeared nervously in the background.

"Gentlemen," he said, "ahem . . . this procedure . . . it's a little unusual. I'm not sure that we can permit you to continue."

"It's the same procedure we've always followed," replied Senator Brewster.

"Yes," continued Kilgore, "it's the same procedure followed by this committee under former Chairman Truman."

"You probably recall him," added Brewster, "he's now President of the United States."

Next day General Patch himself invited the two senators to dine with him at the villa which he had taken over from a German princess.

JUDICIAL EXIT

There was a day when everyone in and around the Roosevelt administration wanted to be a judge. This ambition was largely precipitated by the Supreme court fight and the fact that the courts in those days had put several obstructive decisions squarely across the path of the New Deal.

But now it is just the opposite. There is a growing exit from the courts. Judge Schwellenbach has just resigned from the bench to be secretary of labor. Judge Sherman Minton is itching to get off the circuit court of appeals in Chicago. And there will soon be four vacancies on the court of appeals of the District of Columbia, considered one of the most important courts in the country.

Judges Vinson and Thurman Arnold have already made two vacancies on this court. Two other vacancies will occur when Chief Justice Duncan Groner and Judge Justin Miller resign.

It may keep the White House busy looking for good men to take their places.

ITALIAN UNDERGROUND

It is not often that anyone can get a first hand report on the results of psychological warfare direct from his own family in an enemy country. However, Ugo Carusi, director of immigration and naturalization, has had that experience.

Carusi came to this country as a small boy from the marble quarries of northern Italy, went to work in the marble quarries of Vermont, and got to know Harlan F. Stone, who brought him to the justice department when Stone became attorney general under Coolidge.

And during the war, Carusi has been broadcasting to the Italian people urging them to surrender. With the end of the war, Carusi has received letters from his relatives in Italy telling how his broadcasts helped inspire the battle against the Nazis.

"Ugo," wrote a cousin, "you can really be proud of your relatives here in Italy. From the oldest down to that little, charming young lady (Carusi's 10-year-old niece) you were always so happy to hold in your lap while in Carrara, they have proven themselves to be great patriots."

"One of your cousins, the brother of Enrico, was the colonel who led a Partigiani band in the capture of Carrara from the Germans last November. From that time on, the Partigiani controlled all the public offices in the town. The caves with which you are familiar were used to good advantage by the Partigiani, and the Nazis refrained from re-entering the city."

WAR NOTES

Despite the heavy bombing of the Schweinfurt ball-bearing plant, inside sources reveal that it is in reasonably good condition and within one month could be producing 50 per cent of its wartime schedule. . . . The Nazis had removed a lot of Schweinfurt's intricate machinery before the air raids, and hidden it. The manager of the plant told U. S. officials that within three or four months he could be turning out 20 per cent more ball-bearings than during the war.

NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

Released by Western Newspaper Union.

UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING MYSTERY

WASHINGTON. — No secret meetings with the military were held by the Woodrum house committee which urged what it called "a broad policy of universal military training."

No special information concerning difficulties ahead of this nation was privately passed to the committee by the war department which has been promoting the youth draft. Specifically, no inside scare over Russia inspired the committee.

Consequently, considerable perplexity has developed as to how and why it went contrary to the weight of evidence in its own hearings.

It seemed to vote 16 to 0 in favor of a program which none of its hearing witnesses endorsed, except the army, navy, state departments and the U. S. chamber of commerce, against the popular opposition of national educational groups, both major national labor organizations, two of the three national farm organizations, as well as the usual peace societies, and women's groups.

To make the mystery more possible, one member of the committee says he has received only two letters from his district in favor of the youth draft, while he has a bushel of mail against it.

When congressmen go 16 to 0 (the remaining six members abstained or wanted to delay action but did not vote against the report directly) in favor of something opposed by their constituents and the most powerful lobbies in Washington—labor, farmer, education, women—a miracle is wrought.

Woodrum's Plan

This one seems to come within the realm of magic—political magic. It should have been entitled "How to Be a Politician in One Easy Lesson." Caught between the army and the lobbies, the committee favored both opposite courses—in moderation, of course.

Committee Chairman Woodrum tossed all the hot potato evidence he had amassed into the air, then caught and came forward with some conglomeration which steamed in the headlines.

Actually it is cold potato salad. His pride in it did not leap even to ordinary bounds as he did not even have it printed in the congressional record which prints all congressional thoughts for the asking.

Upon close inspection you will find the report did not endorse the war department program but was worded to sound as if it did, by approving "the principle" and "the broad policy" yet undefined.

Among members of the Woodrum committee is Rep. James W. Wadsworth of New York, who is supposed to have seen to the wording. He wants to draft all youths of 18 or thereabouts for a year in the army.

Talking around with the committee, you will find many favor a Democratic substitute such as advocated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars for training boys in schools without interrupting their education, expanding the national guard and reserves systems, and summer camps. The report did not oppose this, excepting it seemed to want the youths drafted for it.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars program, following the lines outlined in this column since last September, now rates the best chance of adoption by congress in the end—without a draft—but only after more magic and semantics. Next will come a report from the house military affairs committee and this may recommend drafting, as the military totalitarians are in the majority there also.

Home Compulsion!

But on the floor of the senate and house today, a majority for a youth draft would be hard to find. Compulsion for home and school training without a national draft is the obvious compromise.

The army has never come forward with a specific outline of what it intended to do with the young men if it gets control of them for a year (no one mentions the young women any more and I assume they have been dropped from the army training program.)

But retired officers who are going around the country whipping up sentiment in American Legion posts advocate something like this:

Nine weeks' basic training (bunk-making, setting-up exercises, etc.); 9 weeks of specialists training in 4,000 categories in the army.

Eisenhower really proved there must be a citizens' training system, and urged that the training promote co-ordination between the land, sea and air forces. But like Marshall he did not even consider enlarging the national guard, youth camps for summer only, creation of a larger and better officer reserve system, quadrupling West Point and Annapolis, injection of military courses in high schools and colleges as compulsory subjects—or any of the other many excellent alternatives to the youth draft system, founded by Prussians and adopted by Nazis.

Farm Topics

New Development in Poultry Buildings

Asbestos and Mineral Wool Used Effectively

Something new and modern in poultry house construction can be found on the Tenderex farms at Middletown, Ky.

The farm was planned with the co-operation of the Stoker Poultry company. The decision to build durable buildings having long life



View on Tenderex farm.

with low maintenance, led to exhaustive and careful study and experimentation. The results found are of interest to farmers generally. Using Gothic-type house, prefabricated arch construction, with the framing for the roof and wall combined in one unit, not only was a saving made in original costs, but considerable saving was effected in future heating costs.

The 33 houses on the Tenderex farms are all 24 by 30 feet, with the continuous arches anchored to a concrete foundation. Sheathing is of tongue and groove covered with thick butt asphalt shingles. These type shingles are easily moulded to the contour of any roof. Their gray tone offers harmonious contrast with the red hollow tile used in the end walls.

Mineral wool was selected to insulate the interior wall, which is lined with asbestos board.

To eliminate dampness, the floor consists of cinder fill and four inches of hollow tile, topped with 2½ inches of concrete.

An important factor in selecting asphalt shingles, concrete, hollow tile, mineral wool and asbestos board was the fire-resistant construction these materials provide.

Postwar Machinery Pickup Baler



This is an automatic self-feeding, self-tying baler with bale separation making it a one man operation job. Neatly formed and firm bales of sliced hay weighing 40 to 65 pounds can be turned out at the rate of three to five bales per minute. It is designed primarily for wind-row pickup baling. The construction saves leaves and assures that all the hay is carried into the bale chamber. It is a McCormick-Deering postwar improvement.

Danger! Sheep Scab May Be on Way Back

Will sheep scab stage another comeback—once more causing millions of dollars in losses, as it did a few years ago?

Dr. Floyd Cross of the American Veterinary Medical association and government authorities report such a possibility. "The condition is present to an alarming extent in the Midwest," Dr. Cross reports.

If sheep show loss of wool, formation of scabs on the skin, or a tendency to rub against fences and pens, the condition should be called to the attention of a veterinarian. Through greatly diminished wool production, loss in body weight, general unthriftiness and death, scabies play their toll.

The scab is caused by a small mite, barely visible to the unaided eye, but can be brought under effective control.

The only effective treatment is the external application of some medicinal agent that will kill the scab mites. This can be best accomplished by dipping, followed by isolation. The dips recommended by the USDA are made from lime-sulfur or nicotine.

Fumigation Practices

Carbon disulphide is the most common fumigant used on the farm. It is a liquid that quickly evaporates into a heavier-than-air gas. Operators should avoid inhaling the vapors or spilling the liquid on clothing. Extreme caution must be taken against fire.

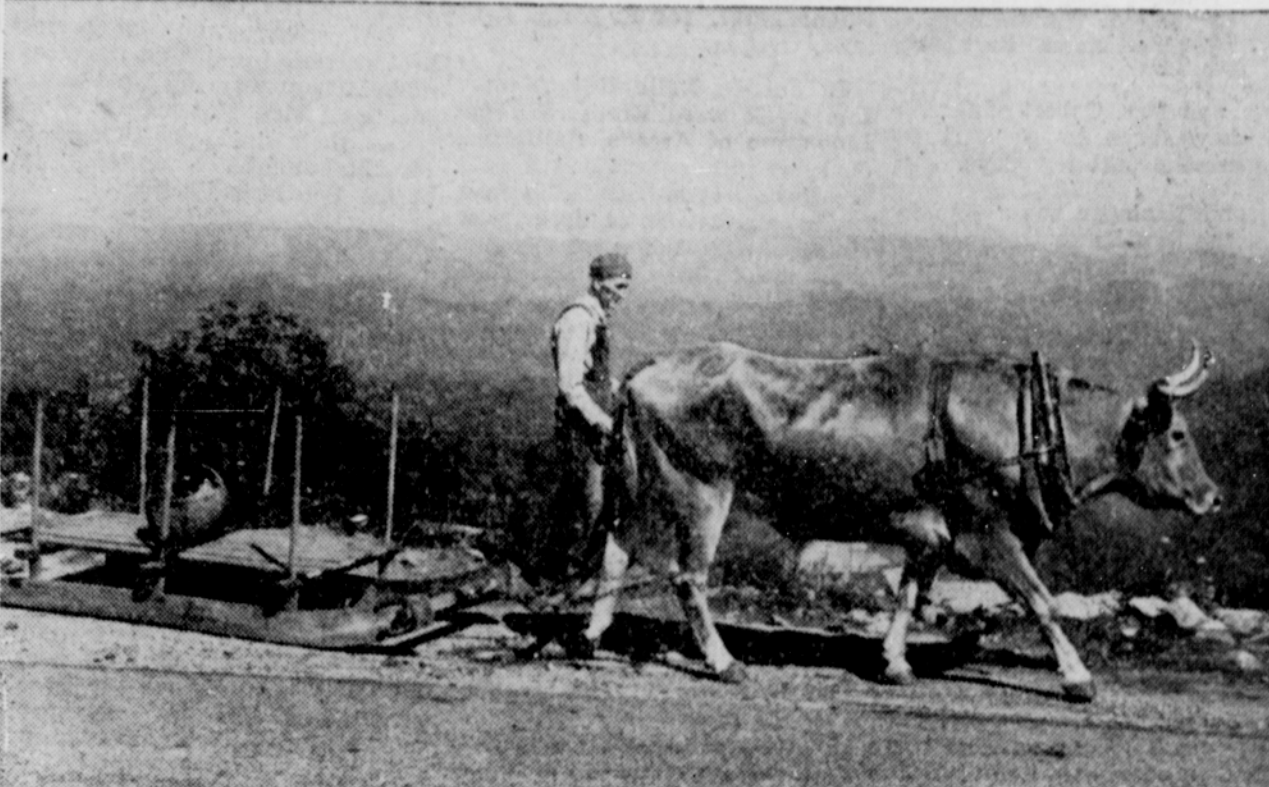
Do not fumigate when the temperature is below 60 degrees. It is best to start late in the afternoon when the air is calm. It will take 24 hours.

Stalin, Truman, Churchill Open Big Three Meet



The much awaited Big Three conference formally opened at Berlin. The scene took place in an attractive room of a modern country estate in the Potsdam area. Photographed together for the first time are Stalin, President Truman and Churchill, just before the opening of the conference. While the conference got off to a fast start, it is still unknown just how long it will take to complete all issues to be considered.

Rationing No Drawback to North Carolina Farmer



He ain't worried—no gas, no oil, no tires impede this Appalachian in the pursuit of his weekly grocery buying chore. He hooks his steer to his sled with wooden runners, picks up a smidgen of something to eat, and pulls it back to his craggy home. It may be a mite slow, but he doesn't have to argue with the OPA about it. The North Carolina steer can go wherever a shod animal could climb, and the narrow sled, self-braking, will shame the most prudent wagon on steep slopes.

Until His Big Brother Returns



In another split second, the batter is going to lay this one down on the line and hope he doesn't trip over those trouser legs on his way towards first. At the rate the war is going, his big brother may be back to reclaim that baseball suit before Babe here grows into it. At any rate, he will make good use of it for a few more weeks.

Sightless Prodigy



Blind Jimmy Osborn, nine, British piano prodigy, is greeted on his arrival at the Parkins Institution for the Blind. Jimmy will receive his education at the institution, which was arranged for by his foster fathers of the U. S. 9th air force.

Sets New Swim Event Record



Betty Lachok of Akron, Ohio, is pictured after she had come in first in the three mile swim event at the Women's National A. A. U. long distance championships held at Clementon Lake, N. J. Miss Lachok set a new record for the distance in 1 hour, 17 minutes, 36.7 seconds. The meet set a record in turnout as well as outstanding records.

Achoo! Gesundheit!



Series of allergy injections is being made. Punctures are marked off in indelible pencil. This method is used to determine the individual causes of hay fever and its cure.