

SCANNING THE WEEK'S NEWS
of Main Street and the WorldLabor Adopts Grass Roots Program;
Revision of Farm Parity Suggested

GRASS ROOTS MANIFESTO—Seven hundred small town unionists met in Washington recently, adopted a seven point manifesto, and departed for the Main Streets of America determined to marshal the support of consumer groups, including ladies' clubs, service clubs and farm organizations behind their program.

The home town unionists based their manifesto on the thesis of "equality of sacrifice for all groups." In a statement issued at the close of their meeting the group stated: "We are shocked by the cruel disregard being shown for the interests of everyday American families. We are shocked by the privilege and favoritism bestowed on a single group—big business."

One of the major points of the "grass roots" labor program: "Labor, the farmers, small business and independent consumer groups must be given full representation on all mobilization and stabilization agencies at the policy-making and administrative levels. By so doing, the government can inspire renewed public confidence and public support of controls which otherwise will be hard to take."

MAIN STREET ECONOMY—Although the situation is not too clear at the moment, there seems to be shaping up in congress a battle over the administration's budget that will strike at the Main Street level of the nation before it touches many other segments.

The Big Show



Sen. Estes Kefauver, (above), emcee of the senate crime investigating committee hearings in New York, provided the nation with its greatest show during recent weeks when his committee played to 15,000,000 television fans, and starring such underworld-gambling big-shots as . . .



Jake "Greasy Thumb" Ginzick, who refused to talk.



Frank Costello, who keeps \$40,000 in cash in his home.



and James J. Carroll, who told unsympathetic senators that television cameras scared him. The public liked the show so much it objected when a few stations switched to a brief Easter religious service.

the political objectives of the United Nations in Korea, to which no nation may justly take exceptions, might be accomplished without further bloodshed."

The state department immediately asked the defense department and the White House to curb the general's authority to issue diplomatic overtones. The controversy was taken up in the U.N. and MacArthur was criticized by British and French newspaper.

Strong-willed MacArthur, who does not believe in hiding his genius under a blanket, had nothing to say about the criticism of his latest statement. If the state department and the United Nations persist in their demands that MacArthur be silenced permanently, it might mean that pipe-smoking Doug will have his wings clipped for the first time in his long career.

DRAFT CALL CUT—Home town draft boards were notified that their April quotas had been cut in half. The army ordered a quota of 40,000 for the month instead of the previously announced 80,000. Enlistments, running higher than were anticipated, and fewer casualties in Korea than had been feared were given as reasons for the change in the induction rate.

The army at latest reports was only about 100,000 men short of its present goal of 1,500,000 men.

Meanwhile, a congressional spokesman said the army should be able to halt the draft within 18 months and set up its universal-military-training program.

THE AMERICAN FARMER

Farm Plant Value Pegged at 91 Million

American farmers now own 91 billion dollars worth of land, buildings, live stock and equipment. This gigantic food "factory" turned out approximately 30 billion dollars worth of produce in 1950, or a third of the value of the "plant" itself. In 1900 and even in 1910, American agriculture produced only a sixth of its own physical value in a year. Even in prosperous 1929 it produced

a little less than one-fourth of its "plant value," a recent survey revealed.

The farmer has accomplished these gains through a 900 per cent increase in his investment in tools and machinery since 1900, and by use of better methods, better seed, better livestock, and more fertilizer, the report stated.



Ike Snubs Dewey

ONLY A FEW insiders know it, but Governor Dewey has been coldly snubbed by General Eisenhower.

Ever since Dewey announced his support for Eisenhower for the 1952 presidential nomination, the governor has tried to arrange a political chat with his prize candidate. However, Ike artfully dodged each overture, and has sent back word that he was "too busy" or "just leaving town" or "ill."

This cold-shoulder treatment has finally gotten under Dewey's skin and caused him to describe Eisenhower in colorful—but unprintable—language. Dewey still regards himself as head of the Republican party and is furious at Ike's polite rebuff.

One of Ike's bosom army pals explained the Dewey snub this way:

"It's all very simple." In the first place Ike just doesn't like Dewey. Secondly, Ike's political backers have told him that the New York delegation to the Republican convention is in the bag—regardless of where Dewey stands."

The ironical twist is that Dewey not only is committed to Eisenhower publicly, but is a leading supporter of Eisenhower's foreign-policy point of view inside the Republican party.

Note—Ike's dislike of Dewey goes back to the spring of 1948 and the bitter struggle over the GOP presidential nomination. While Ike was flirting with the idea of accepting a draft, he received word that the Dewey forces were collecting a "file" for use against Eisenhower in case he became an active competitor, for the nomination.

Aiding Guerrillas

A secret decision to aid China's 1,500,000 anti-Communist guerrillas has been made by America's top policy group, the national security council. Under this decision, U.S. agents will contact guerrilla leaders on the mainland and offer limited armed aid for raids on Communist strongholds and supply lines. This plan would follow the pattern of assistance to Greek and Yugoslav guerrillas in World War II.

Authentic reports from the mainland say the Chinese guerrillas, some of them former nationalist troops, are in actual control of vast areas in the south and northwest of China. With Communist defeats in Korea, the guerrillas have launched bold attacks throughout China. Peking's red dictator, Mao Tse-Tung, has imported Soviet experts to run the "anti-bandit extermination campaign." Some reports claim that up to half a million Chinese have been killed or arrested in this campaign in the last year.

Meanwhile an argument still rages inside the security council on arming, for use in Korea, the 600,000 trained and partly equipped troops of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek on the island of Formosa.

The chief advocate of aid to Generalissimo Chiang is General MacArthur. He cabled Washington that with Chiang's troops he would have a sufficient force to drive to the Manchurian border.

However, the opponents in the state department and the pentagon claim that Chiang's troops would desert, that Chiang is discredited in Asia, and has no control over the guerrillas.

Sopping the Grave

While small firms have been left out in the cold, the giant corporations have been sopping up all the gravy in defense subsidies.

Already the big companies, such as U.S. steel, have been granted over two billion dollars in tax subsidies for defense expansion. Yet at the same time, applications from small firms and newcomers are gathering dust in government offices.

These government subsidies are in the form of accelerated amortization — or rapid tax write-offs—on new plants which the government approves for the defense effort. The certifying agency is the national production administration, which has been giving big business all the breaks.

For example, U.S. steel, through its subsidiary, Carnegie-Illinois, has obtained over \$300,000,000 in tax write-offs for one plant at Morrisville, Pa.

The truth is that small business is getting a worse deal than labor from mobilization boss Charles Wilson.

War Notes

The Chinese Communists are pouring reinforcements into a new line north of the 38th parallel. They are using the German system of replacing battalion for battalion instead of man for man . . . Meanwhile, General MacArthur has been begging the joint chiefs of staff to double American replacements to Korea, which have been averaging about 14,200 per month. A 50 per cent increase has been agreed upon.



Congress Forgets Bills

THE MARKED tendency of this congress to resolve itself into an investigating body instead of a legislative body is causing some concern to congressional leaders because important legislation essential to the national security is going by the boards, concern over excessive expenditure of money, and concern that over publicizing through movies, television, radio and other mediums is focusing attention on conditions much less important, insofar as the nation is concerned, than whether our democracy is to survive Communist aggression.

Nothing this congress will do will stamp out gambling so long as the states retain their sovereignty and maintain control over their own laws. Reform elements in the congress fought through one session and could not pass a bill which would prevent shipping slot machines in interstate commerce. The law finally was passed in this congress. However, the manufacturers of slot machines will still make them and they will get around this law by establishing branch plants in states where conditions warrant their operation to evade the interstate shipment.

There is an old axiom that you cannot legislate faith or morale and the proposal of Senator Fulbright of Arkansas, chairman of the committee probing the reconstruction finance corporation, to set up a code of morals for government employees and members of the congress was simply ridiculed.

The question of jailing gangsters, gamblers and heads of crime syndicates is a matter for local police authorities. All are caught sooner or later. The bureau of internal revenue says it has under scrutiny the income tax returns of 2,500 or more gamblers characters involving some \$50,000,000. The "T" men will get them sooner or later. There are sufficient laws on the state books now to put every law violator behind bars. This congress will never pass a law to outlaw horse racing, nor to prohibit newspapers, or wire services from carrying race results. Good law abiding folks will still play poker and bingo and they'll bet on the outcome of football games and basketball games and other sports events.

Neither Maryland, nor Florida, nor any other state where racing is legal and where pari mutuel betting provides a juicy state income will soon abolish their race tracks. The televising of the proceedings of the Kefauver senate committee in New York investigating gambling provided rich entertainment for millions of folks with eyes and ears glued to their sets. However, the scandalous world prove much more interesting.

McFarland Protests

In this connection, Sen. Ernest W. McFarland, of Arizona, Democratic leader of the senate, after listening to three hours of bickering and name calling over the political significance, if any, of these senate probes, said:

"The time has come when we should spend more time on legislation if we are to do what is expected of us. I say that in all kindness. One investigating committee alone has spent a quarter of a million dollars upon an investigation within the last year (the Kefauver committee), which is a considerable sum of money for one committee to spend. I hope this body will not resolve itself into a group of policemen to such an extent that some will suggest we should wear uniforms. I hope we can get down to the serious consideration of proposed legislation . . ."

82 Investigations

This congress has reached the half-way point and has not passed a single piece of vital legislation. It has probed and probed and probed. Some one figured there were 82 separate investigations and hearings going on by congressional committees.

RFC Probe to Continue

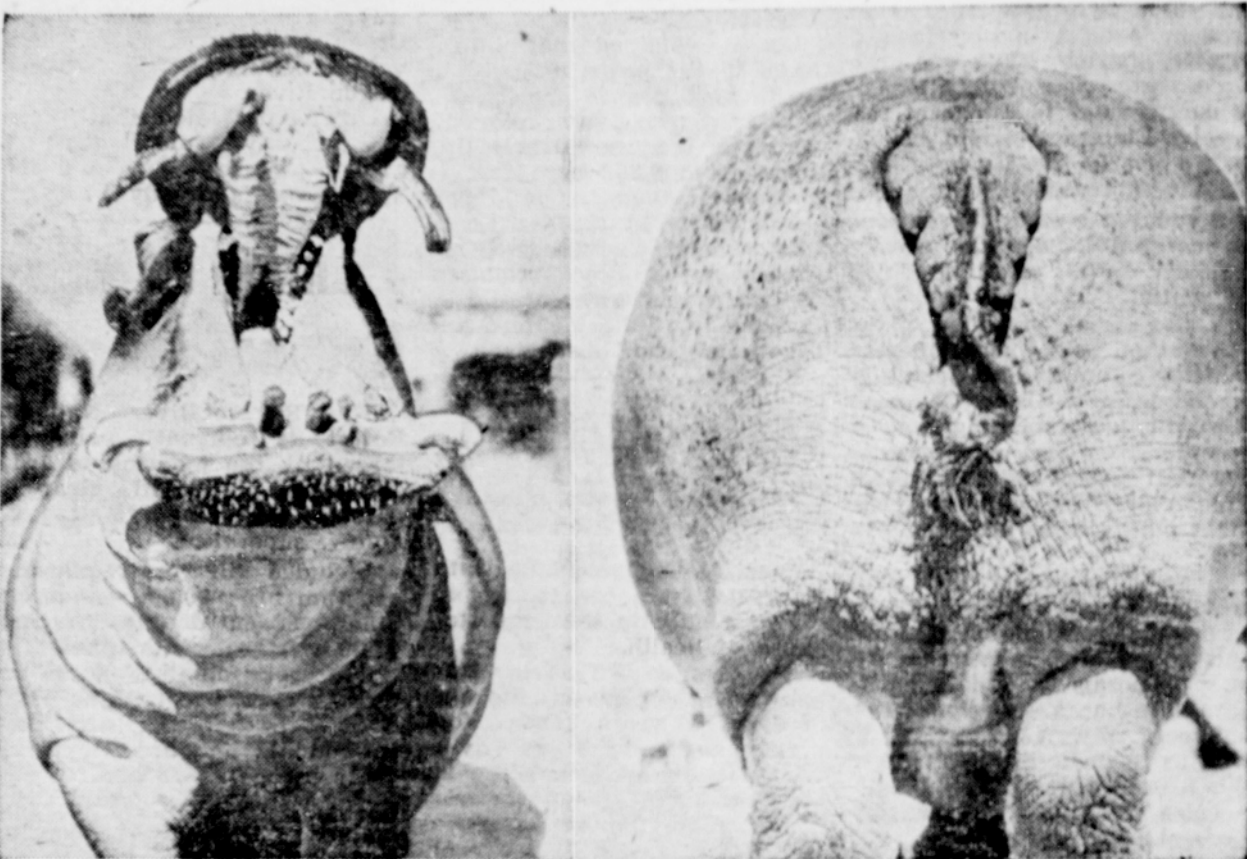
Senator Fulbright has finally decided to continue his investigation of the RFC, big government lending agency, after telling the senate his probe was complete. The probe unearthed no law violations. It did unearth some conflicting testimony and the fact that some government employees accepted favors after loans were made and that so-called "undue influence was used to obtain these loans."

GOP Pushes Probe

Senator Fulbright was literally goaded into continuing the investigation by Republican senators who baited him with barbed shafts. These digs came principally from Senators Kern, of Missouri, Wherry of Nebraska, Bricker of Ohio, and Capehart of Indiana. Debate came over discussion of RFC loans of \$18,500,000 to a company of which Guy Gabrielson, GOP national chairman, was president and counsel.



NINE SETS OF TWINS AT ONE ARMY BASE . . . Nine sets of twins, eight identical, assigned to Battery D, 746 AAA gun Bn, are (left to right): Byerl and Earl Welsh, Charleston, W. Va.; Troy and Fred Byrd, Campton, Ky.; Jesse and Cecil Culver, Exeter, Ky.; Ralph and Raymond Ferrell, Lesage, W. Va.; Roland and Russell Huber, Brenon, Ohio; Albert and Angelo Notarianni, Ashtabula, Ohio; Lester and Chester Simmons, Independence, Ky.; John and Joseph Turco, Hamilton, Ohio; Kloral and Klomer Vowels, Valley Station, Ky. They will be double trouble for the sergeant.



BEGINNING AND END OF LOTUS . . . Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, so it is a matter of individual taste whether the front or back end of Lotus, circus hippo in New York, is the most attractive. Frankly, the front has a facade that only a doting mother could love—especially when Lotus is yawning an impersonation of the Grand Canyon. Between the front and back are three-and-a-half tons of hippo. Incidentally, if you've never seen a hippo before, we ought to tell you that the front end of Lotus is at the left. Oh, you're welcome!



NO HARD FEELINGS, CHUM . . . Sir Gladwyn Jebb (left) of Great Britain shakes hands with Russia's Jacob Malik at a meeting of the U.N. peace observation commission. The commission defeated a Russian proposal to expel the Chinese Nationalist delegate and seat a representative of Red China. The group approved an American motion to postpone discussion of the Soviet resolution until the question is decided by the General Assembly.



INFLATION HITS NAVY . . . Inflation is blamed for prices on clothing for the navy's enlisted men. Cap has gone up from \$1.70 to \$3.25, jacket from \$17.50 to \$39.65, trousers from \$6.30 to \$15, blouse from \$6.70 to \$16.50.



SHAH DIVIDES ROYAL ESTATE AMONG SUBJECTS . . . Shah Reza Pahlavi of Iran (left) turns over the deed to a piece of formerly royal land to one of the 100 Iranian subjects selected to be new land owners. The ruler of the oil-soaked country split up a large tract among the hundred who had no land. The move is significant, coming soon after the unanimous adoption by the Iranian parliament of proposal to nationalize the Anglo-Iranian oil industry.



STALIN'S BARBER . . . Joseph Pushkevitch, Bayswater, England, shaving a customer, says he was Stalin's barber, accompanying Stalin up the ladder to power, until Stalin and Trotsky fell out. He met Stalin during a Siberian exile.