

EDITORIAL



Who Wants Acheson?

Political expediency is as changeable as the weather. First the Republicans demanded the resignation of Secretary of State Dean Acheson because of their apparent sincere belief that he was fumbling the ball, so to speak, on U. S. foreign policy. This attitude of the GOP nettled the so-called Democrats—the Administration supporters—who rallied to the secretary's defense and caused the little man in the White House to swear one of his oaths and state that Acheson would stay.

That state of affairs has been somewhat altered by the MacArthur "incident". It appears that Administration supporters are worried over the outcome of Mr. Acheson's appearance before the Senate committee investigating the MacArthur dismissal. Their worry is so acute that some of the bigwigs of the so-called Democrat party would breathe much more freely if the Secretary would resign forthwith—which would mean before this article appears in print. Testimony of Mr. Acheson as a private citizen would be far less damaging to the party cause than testimony of Mr. Acheson, Secretary of State.

And now comes the payoff. The Republicans are afraid that Acheson will resign and by so doing deprive them of one of their best targets in the forthcoming national election.

To a somewhat befuddled casual observer it looks like Mr. Acheson will still provide a fair amount of ammunition for the GOP. If he remains in office he will be a direct target. If he resigns, the action will definitely indicate the weakness of the Administration's foreign policy. The Republicans should be able to cash in on the situation either way.

Has Some Value After All

Prices being what they are these days it is almost inconceivable that a penny will buy anything except a one-cent stamp or a post card. Yet there are exceptions—and one of them is electricity.

Talking over the CBS network recently, Cedric Adams observed, "The electricity that flows into your house is a pretty good bargain when you look at it this way: A penny's worth of electricity will buy your radio entertainment for three hours and 46 minutes. It will toast 24 slices of bread two at a time in a pop-up toaster. A penny's worth of electricity will run your vacuum cleaner for 28 minutes, give you an hour and 53 minutes of light from a 110-watt bulb. Makes a good buy, doesn't it?" (And Mr. Adams might have added that a penny will buy 12 minutes on a parking meter).

A significant fact is that electricity now costs less than it did during the depths of the depression, back in 1935. You'd search long and hard to find anything else in general use which has followed that kind of a price pattern in this age of inflation. In every home and in most of our industries, the power bill is one of the smallest and least painful items in the operating budget.

These are matters of fact, points out the Industrial News Review. What gives them a special significance is the old political clamor for government-produced "cheap power." Well, the government could give us power service for less than we pay now. It could do that by using our tax money to pay all or part of the cost of producing and distributing power, as it already does in tax-exempt government-owned power plants.

And, by the same token, it could give us cheaper food, clothing, reading matter and everything else.

The only honest argument for government power is the socialist argument that the government should own practically everything. All the other arguments are phoney.

Another Bureaucratic Headache

Whether or not the Office of Price Stabilization succeeds in abating inflation there is one thing it is accomplishing with deadly certainty—the biggest round of headaches the business people of the country have experienced since the memory of man runneth not. It will be next to a miracle if the population of the mental institutions of the land is not materially expanded. If you doubt this—you who have not been worried with complying with OPS regulations—you should try to read and decipher the directions mailed out from Washington to the hapless retailer. It is doubtful if even the authors of the masses of rules and regulations could fill out the directives to the letter.

The overlords back in "Confusion on the Potomac" are complaining or are at least disappointed that many businessmen haven't done what the law requires within the time allotted them to make their reports and post their price lists. This, it can be confidently said, isn't because retailers and others are callous law breakers. It simply reflects the fact that many of them, particularly small operators, haven't the time, the staffs, or the knowledge to comply with regulations which have puzzled some of the top experts on business management and procedure. It reflects the further fact that, on numerous occasions, OPS field men haven't fully understood the orders either, and that, on other occasions, orders have conflicted with each other and have been impossible to follow.

About all that will come of all this confusion will be the addition of another bureau which, because of some emergency or other, will become fastened onto the Washington merry-go-round permanently, adding to the tax bill and edging the nation one step closer to a total socialized economy. That will happen unless enough of the business people and all others affected by the OPS go to the polls next year and help change the trend of thought in the highest places.

The Process of Death

Thirty years ago Woodrow Wilson, a President who was also a distinguished historian and a profound student of government, said: "The history of liberty is the history of the limitation of governmental power, not the increase of it. When we resist the concentration of power, we are resisting the process of death, because concentration of power is what always precedes the destruction of human liberties."

In the ensuing 30 years, we have seen concentrations of power in government beyond anything that Wilson could have conceived. Millions upon millions of people have been reduced to slavery. Great nations are ruled by terror. The clock of freedom has been turned back centuries.

We Americans are among the relatively few peoples who are free. But we will not remain free unless we strongly and effectively resist the concentration of power in government—and so, in Wilson's fine phrase, resist the process of death. —Industrial News Review.

The American Way

THE STUDENT DRAFT

By GEORGE PECK

Listening to the controversy over college student draft deferment policies had led me to wonder. Is the ambitious American, willing to earn his education, an extinct species? Had a paternalistic government arbitrarily concluded that if a boy's parents cannot finance his education, opportunity no longer exists for him to buy his own?

All this talk about class discrimination is arrogant nonsense. It is an insult to American youth. Quite firmly I am convinced that there are hundreds of thousands of American boys who WANT a college education badly enough to EARN it by the sweat of brow. All they ask is an opportunity to work for it.

It comes as a great relief to learn that at least one college president agrees with me and is doing something about it. Dr. Samuel D. Marble, practical, far-sighted young president of Wilmington (Ohio) College, has provided an answer to those critics who have declared that college student draft deferment policies are unfair to young men from families of limited means, because a qualified boy may be deferred only if he can "afford" the expense of a college education.

While the nation has been debating the issue, Wilmington College has been setting up a new kind of work-study program which will enable students to earn virtually all of their college expenses. Under this "earn-while-you-learn" plan a college education is available to every qualified young man regardless of his financial resources.

Established to help insure the nation a supply of trained leaders for tomorrow, the program opens up an untapped source of potential leadership by putting higher education within reach of all who are willing to help themselves.

In announcing this program Dr. Marble explained that the

plan was inaugurated on an experimental basis in the fall of 1950, and that the results have been more than gratifying. Approximately 100 students are now participating in this project and are getting invaluable employment experience as well as an income sufficient to cover their basic costs of tuition, room and board.

Now that the idea has proven itself to both the college and the co-operating industries and business firms, it will be expanded this summer and fall with openings for 200 more young men and women.

In operation the plan provides that two students hold down one full-time job. One does the work on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and attends classes on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, while the other student pined on the job has the alternating schedule. The students are paid by the cooperating firms at the same rate as full time workers, and have the advantage of living in dormitories on the campus and enjoying all the privileges of full-time resident students. While the majority are employed in industry, the student is free to select any course of his choice.

Students in this program can complete degree requirements in four calendar years and graduate with their classes, holding not only a college degree, but in addition the equivalent of two full years of work experience.

There are other colleges that have programs to help students work their way through school, but not enough of them. It is to be hoped that all schools that do not now have such enlightened programs will soon follow their lead. Let's be done with this foolish drive that our American youth is no longer endowed with a spirit of initiative and enterprise. If he isn't, then God help us.

FOOL'S GOLD

By MAURICE R. FRANKS

There is an old and true saying: The higher the leap the harder the fall. It would be well for all of us to bear the truth of this statement in mind, particularly when we realize that the present inflationary trend is artificially sustained.

If the "Police Action" in Korea ended tomorrow—and Stalin suddenly decided to turn off the heat as his final, most effective weapon directed at our economy—industry would be immediately compelled to get back to normalcy. That would mean the immediate laying off of millions of workers. Again the law of supply and demand would come into play, but in reverse. That would mean that wages would be rolled back to normalcy. Meanwhile, there is no case on record of mortgages on homes, automobiles, refrigerators, radios and the likes being rolled back along with wages. Fixed obligations being what they are, it requires no it would take a worker whose wages were rolled back from \$300 a month to \$200 a month to lose his home, his car, his appliances.

Such are the unvarnished facts of economics—facts we must reckon with right now if we would avert a general catastrophe that would play directly into Joe Stalin's hands.

The workers are not alone caught in this dilemma. Management, too, is in it clear up to its executive neck and right now should prepare to meet the emergency. Most corporations have enjoyed a full decade of steady profits. Surpluses have been built up which can serve a purpose which in the long run might well turn out to be more economically wholesome than just plant expansion. In a word, industry is in an ideal position to make the may be vital to the salvation of sacrifice which in large measure our economy. I, therefore, unhesitatingly suggest that business in general undertake to roll back commodity prices—perhaps as much as 10 per cent—thereby adding value to the dollar and immediately eliminating the necessity of labor's unceasing demand for higher and higher wages. It would be far better to do this now, voluntarily, when sales are at their peak.

Obviously, if it is up to management to roll back prices, it is equally the duty of labor to roll up its sleeves and get back to the sound economics of delivering an honest day's work for



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Just "Can't Get Over" Easy's Fence

Few years ago, Easy Roberts took a lot of kidding when he planted that hedge of Multiflora roses—along his property line. Folks said he was getting pretty high-falutin'.

But today plenty of people who laughed at the idea slow down when they drive by Easy's place—just to look at those roses. Most beautiful sight you ever saw.

Practical, too! The hedge is a good four foot high now, and at least five foot thick—even a shout couldn't get through that prickly mass of shrubbery. Best of all, it

cost less than ordinary fencing. (Might be well worth your while looking into.)

From where I sit, there's no sense in looking down on something just because it's different from what we like. For instance, some people think ice-cold lemonade's the best "cooler-offer" on a hot day. Some of us would rather have a glass of beer. The important thing is not to "hedge ourselves in" against other people's ideas and preferences.

Joe Marsh

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summed the first of the year.

Mrs. Julia Metzler of La Grande visited friends in Heppner over the week-end. She returned to her home Monday.

Buyers are offering to buy wool at 14 to 18 cents. So far no sheepmen have hold.

Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Coats of Washington are guests at the home of her son, Walter Corley.

Algott Lundell left Tuesday for Portland where he will visit son Wally and family. He will attend the Elks convention in Astoria while away.

an honest day's pay. Together, by producing the most of the best for the least, labor and management can run down the wild bulls of inflation and save our American economy from a general stampede.

Such action may mean smaller profits for industry and harder work for labor as of today. But in each case the effect would be far more acceptable than slave labor and no profits at all tomorrow—under Socialism, Communism or what-have-you. The end of the present inflationary trend is not pleasant to contemplate, but it is nevertheless already clearly in sight—as the inevitable consequence of our being penny wise and dollar foolish.

The boys in the Kremlin are hopefully waiting for our economic bubble to burst and scatter panic to the far corners of our country. Joe and his henchmen know only too well that when American workers in vast numbers begin losing their homes, their cars and what they thought was their security, the United States will be a pushover for Communism.

The moment has arrived for intelligent sacrifices to be made by the partners of industry. Temporarily at least, management must be content with lower unit profits and labor must do more for the wages it is paid. Our immediate salvation and subsequent economic progress depend upon greater productivity—not upon the present moment's wanton rush for FOOL'S GOLD.

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The Heppner Gazette, established March 30, 1883. The Heppner Times, established November 18, 1897. Consolidated Feb. 15, 1912.
Published every Thursday and entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as second class matter.
Subscription price, \$3.00 a year; single copies, 10c.
O. G. CRAWFORD
Publisher and Editor

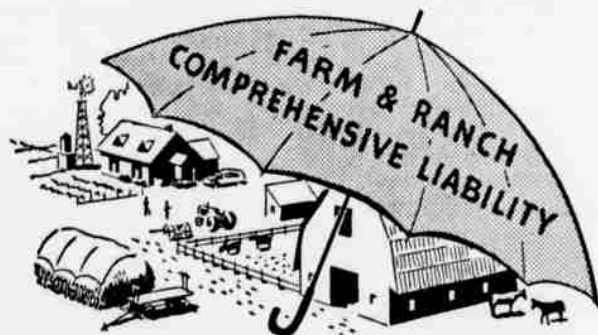


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30 Years Ago

Thursday, June 2, 1921

Born to Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Van Scholack of Balm Fork, on June 10, a 10-pound son.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Orian Wright on May 30, an 8-pound daughter.

Mrs. M. Belle Thompson of Portland is visiting at the home of her son Ralph this week and attending to business affairs.

Fred A. Case died at his home in this city Saturday, May 28, following a lingering illness.

Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Conover and two granddaughters, Lucille and Happy Roberts, visited a few days at the Vawter Crawford home. They were on their way to Bend to visit their daughter, Mrs. Harvey Humphreys. The Conovers are residents of Waitsburg, Wn.

E. J. Merrill who runs one of the best farms in the vicinity of Hardman, was in Heppner for a few days on business.

Members of this year's graduating class of Heppner high school are Annie Hynd, Elmer Peterson, Reita Neel, Roland Humphreys, Audra Grogan, Edward Chidsey, Kathryn Pattison, Edward Young and Pearl Hall.

On June 1, James Hart resigned from the management of Hotel Patrick, which position he as-