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Much Ado About Ball

The reaction to Senator Ball's support of President Roosevelt brings into sharp relief the essential unreality of American politics.

To hear the cries of pain and rage from the Republicans, and the shrieks of joy and enthusiasm from the Democrats; one might think this long delayed announcement from the junior Senator of Minnesota would decide the election two weeks hence.

As a matter of fact, the decision will decide nothing, except that the impressionable and impulsive Mr. Ball, after a visit with President Roosevelt and Harry Hopkins at the White House has at long last decided to desert his own party this year and support the opposition.

THAT'S all. We venture to say it won't change a dozen votes—perhaps not a single vote except the junior Senator's and those of his immediate family.

For Senator Ball has no great personal following in Minnesota nor in the country at large, and those citizens who two weeks before election have still not decided how they will vote on November 7th, will hardly be influenced by the fact that a member of the Senate "pro-league" committee prefers the wording of President Roosevelt's answer to one of his "international" questions, to the wording of the Republican candidate's.

THE political psychology of this country, however, particularly near the close of an important presidential campaign, is such that from now until election day, the junior Senator from Minnesota will no doubt be cursed and castigated by the members of his own party; and praised and lauded by the supporters of the administration, as if his decision were a matter of world-shattering importance.

Quite obviously Senator Ball believes this to be true. But his enthusiasm exceeds his good judgment in this direction as in many others.

WE don't mean this 11th hour "switch" by the Republican senator from Minnesota won't prove to be a good "talking point" for 4th-term campaigners, for the remainder of the campaign; or that it won't be a blow to the morale of the Republican "High Command." Both are true.

But we DO mean that aside from the angle of ballyhoo and morale, this one-man switch will no more effect the RESULT two weeks hence, than a similar switch by one of President Roosevelt's former ardent supporters, John L. Lewis, affected the result four years ago.

If we the people were normally sane and clear headed this truth would be plainly seen. But we are not—two weeks before a presidential election we never are.

So this pronouncement has not only caused a considerable sensation but in all likelihood induced Governor Dewey to change the subject of his address in Minneapolis tonight, while the verbal reverberations of the "incident" will probably continue until the night before election day.

Then—ho hum!—they will disappear as suddenly as they were aroused, and along with the campaign buttons and the long-winded table thumping speeches and various and sundry other manifestations of mass hysteria, they will not reappear until four years hence when (presumably) another presidential election will come around!

Why The "Switch?"

Two of the best comments upon Senator Ball's defection were made by Democrats—Senators Truman of Missouri, and Johnson of Colorado.

Said Senator Truman: "I guess Senator Ball always was a Democrat and didn't know it."

And Senator Johnson: "Senator Ball is taking himself too seriously. His stand will put Minnesota on the Dewey bandwagon."

We do believe Senator Ball is and always has been at heart a Roosevelt Democrat or he would not have deserted his party at this critical time, for the reason he gives.

WE grant the nature of the precise post-war peace pact is important, in fact this paper has from the first, favored a league with independent powers—a league pact with its OWN set of teeth so to speak.

But we can't imagine being strongly opposed to four more years of Roosevelt and the New Deal, and sincerely convinced the future welfare of this country demands a change at this time and then switching allegiance at the 11th hour, on such a relatively unimportant matter, as the dotting of "i's" and crossing of "t's" in a league covenant still to be written.

Moreover as Senator Johnson implies, the people of Minnesota may very well be opposed to the adoption of this particular "police provision" at THIS TIME; and for that matter so may the people of the country at large. In which case, elimination of the provision would better serve the cause of the world peace league and this country's participation than its inclusion; for to follow the "Ball-line" would be to risk the failure of the entire world peace movement, for the fanaticism of a minority group of super-idealists and perfectionists.

FINALLY, instead of this switch of Senator Ball being in reality due to the reasons cited, the reasons cited were, we believe, put forth as a justification, for the Senator doing what his inclinations and sympathies—particularly after the palsy-walsy session with "Franklin and Harry" at the White House—impelled him to do from the outset.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Our Town, Oct. 24—This is our town, U. S. A., just like many another I suspect, and a rather astonishing place right now for everyone in it.



I should not say "astonishing" because no one is astonished at anything these days. Its peculiar condition is a chief subject of conversational concern among its residents, although not yet recognized in public statements. It just seems to be growing into something no one understands.

THERE is our plumber, for instance, as good a plumber as there ever will be. His integrity shows in his work. In the past year, there were only three days out of the customary 365 in which his entire force of help appeared for work. They are making such high rates of pay they can live comfortably by working only half time, and a nothing can get them to work the other half. He keeps 12 men on the payroll in order to get the six necessary for his business.

I called the best bricklayer in our town to do a little job. He said he had gone out of business. His health could not stand the strain of trying to keep his troupe of bricklayers together, as none wished to work regularly. It was not worth the trouble to try to handle them because you could never get a job done. He opened, instead, an old blacksmith shop which had been closed for 30 years. Yes sir, our leading bricklayer has become a blacksmith, a symbol of our progress.

THE hotel manager in our town is a superior fellow, has had top experience in New York City, a progressive kind of manager who wants to make his food better, his place efficient and superior. He broke down trying to do it, and after a few weeks in the hospital is now taking a month's rest.

His waiters made enough money to allow them to retire each payday and return, either rested or bleary-eyed the following Tuesday or Wednesday. His maids went off to the local war factory where they could make \$30 a week and more. Some days only one employe showed up.

THE elderly couple down the street finally got a man to wash their windows this fall, but he wanted \$8 a day for that simple task and they could not afford it. The kitchen maids ask \$30 a week—more than twice as much as a soldier fighting at the front—and sometimes get it. But like others they do not want to work, as a group and they increase their salaries, while cutting their hours of labor and their days off, laying off when they accumulate enough money to rest up for a few weeks. They seem to be working toward a three-day week also.

Is this a war situation or a local phenomena? I think not. It is not a war question because it started long before the war. Indeed, it is the same condition to which most authorities ascribe the fall of France and it ruined communism in Russia.

When conditions encourage people not to work, they naturally will not work, and when a nation does not work it deteriorates and gives its eminence to nations which are producers. A nation has no wealth except the product of its labor, and when the production falls off, for any reason, it declines.

But what bothers me is the future. The government is pledged to an inflationary post-war policy of high wages and high prices, thus continuing the conditions which are causing the unofficial institution of the three-day week, or work avoidance and employer retirement.

How then will this country maintain production? When the pressure of war is off, will it not be worse?

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer (through the use of a pen name) in full for publication is permitted. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarity and conciseness.

Letter From Marine

To the editor: Here is a communication from a marine corps corporal sent to me by my son, Ed Hinkle, hospital apprentice third class, which my son and I think should be of interest to your readers.

ARTHUR HINKLE, Box 102, Jacksonville.

The war in Europe is nearly over. Germany is ready to collapse under the pressure of iron and blood. The marines are aware of this, and are proud of their brothers in arms over

there on the other side of the world.

The nation is eagerly awaiting the day when the fanatical Hitler and his brutal forces surrender. They are awaiting it with liquor stored away, confetti ready to throw, and bells tense, ready to clang out victory. The newspapers report that it will be a gala day, this V-day of ours. It will make the last time look like a side show. The people must be very proud of themselves.

Remember, when you are out there, drinking your whiskey, slapping neighbors on the back, bidding farewell to the "duration" and blowing whistles, and take it easy when you go by my house. I'm still out there in the Pacific.

You see, Japan hasn't given up yet. She'll still be in there pitting out her ugly little death. She'll still be making us fight for every ditch and die for every beachhead. We're still fighting a war.

Sorry to have bothered you like this, but I would like to get home alive, too.

A MARINE CORPORAL.

The New Deal "Baby"

To the editor: Speaking of "whispering campaigns," what do you expect folks to think of a man "who doesn't know enough to come in out of the rain?" That's as bad as asking you to think "Falla is still Scotch" after living three terms with the "New Deal" and just as ridiculous as the idea "that the republicans committed a felony in throwing the New Deal's brain child, the "Embar-go Act" back into its "New Deal crib." To be sure it was an abnormal child and should have been strangled at birth, but after all it was a "New Deal baby."

MRS. LOIS NELSON, Rt. 4, Box 337, Medford, Oct. 23.

Hunter Complains

To the editor: I am just a visitor in your fair valley but I would like to take this means of making a confession.

I am an ardent sportsman and respect all game laws and especially game refuges. Now I've discovered that I hunted ducks all day, first day of the season, on a game reservation along the banks of Rogue River, and by the way I shot three ducks.

Now, what I would like to know is why this game refuge is not properly handled. It surely can't be a state owned refuge as it is not designated in the game laws. About 4 p. m. of that day signs properly designating this area were posted, but not before a hunter from Gold Hill and one from Eagle Point were apprehended by a farmer for hunting on a game refuge. All the rest of the hunters were ignored, and there must have been 25 of them judging from the shell bursts all around me.

Why didn't he take up a truck load of violators while he was at it? And why wasn't the area posted before the season opened? Was it because they needed a few dollars to pay for the nice brand new signs that now properly adorn this area? How do they expect a hunter to know the boundaries of a game refuge, by instinct?

Certainly such unsportsmanlike methods cannot be admired by the public in general. JAMES STEIBENS, Gen. Del., Salem, Ore.

To the editor:—I have just finished reading Mrs. S. Jones' letter of October 18.

In her letter Mrs. Jones seemed to get a great deal of joy out of raking Mr. John Nealon over the coals. Now I don't know Mr. Nealon but I certainly have to agree with him, in regard to keeping the hunters off farms.

Of course if we farmers didn't have anything but an old cornfield to damage, we wouldn't care if the city of Medford moved in. But Mrs. Jones, has it ever dawned on you that our cattle are grazing in these fields, and that there are still some crops to finish harvesting? And, after all, we all want to live as well as you. There have been cases where someone shot a fine Hereford beef, and claimed he mistook it for a pheasant. And he too claimed he was a hunter.

Two years ago a man was roofing his chicken house, and was plugged full of bullets. Fortunately he was far enough away, or he might have been killed.

And in regard to Mr. Nealon's

PIN-WORMS Now can be Beaten!

The misery of Pin-Worms has been known for centuries, and many doctors have sought a way to deal with this dreadful pest that lives and grows inside the human body. Today thanks to an important scientific discovery, a new and highly effective treatment is being hailed by medical authorities. It is based on a remarkable drug known as gentian violet. This drug is the vital element in P-W, the new Pin-Worm tablet developed by the laboratories of Dr. D. Jayne & Son, America's leading specialists in worm medicine. P-W makes it unnecessary for you or your child to suffer in silence with the embarrassing rectal itch caused by Pin-Worms, or to take chances on the real distress they often create. The small, easy-to-take P-W tablets act in a special way to destroy Pin-Worms. So watch for possible warning signs such as itching seat and nose, uneasy stomach, bedwetting, nervous fidgeting. If you suspect Pin-Worms, ask your druggist for a package of P-W and follow the simple directions carefully. It is easy to remember: P-W for Pin-Worms!

The Crossley Poll Attitude of Roosevelt and Dewey Voters Compared

By Archibald M. Crossley

Personal popularity of Roosevelt appears to be the greatest reason for his following. More than one-quarter of Roosevelt voters gave as their reason for voting for him "the kind of man he is." The winning of the war came next, and international problems as a group third in importance. The comparative standing of the "biggest reasons for voting Roosevelt" follows:

Table with 2 columns: Reason for voting, % of total Roosevelt voters. 1. For the kind of man he is... 25.7%

Clues as to why people shift are provided by a comparison of today's attitudes among Willkie voters and Roosevelt voters in 1940. Willkie voters who have shifted to Roosevelt give as their principal reasons the winning of the war (31%) and international cooperation later (20%). The corresponding figures for Roosevelt 1940 voters are 23% and 12% respectively.

While jobs and prosperity account for 19% Roosevelt voters, the similar figure was only 7% of the Dewey voters. Whether this country is isolationist or internationally minded could hardly be determined by these figures alone, but it may be significant that only 6% of Dewey voters give as their reason "to keep away from foreign problems" while 12% of Roosevelt voters give as their reason "for international cooperation later."

Relative ages of the candidates did not appear to be a major issue in September. 3% of the Roosevelt voters said "Dewey too young" and 3% of the Dewey voters said "Roosevelt too old." Contrasting with 24% of the Roosevelt voters giving as their reasons "to win the war" and 10% "for the peace treaties" were 29% of the Dewey voters giving as their reasons "against fourth term" and 15% "Roosevelt wants too much power."

Dewey voters' mandate to their nominee is shown by "reduce spending and taxation" given by 19%, "better appointments and better management" given by 16%, "break up political rackets" 13%.

The following table shows how Roosevelt voters vary by types.

Table with 4 columns: Personality, Win Internat'l, Jobs & Prosperity, % of Roosevelt Voters. Men... 24, 22, 23, 20

remark on the gas and manpower shortage. Perhaps Mr. Nealon has had to apply for gas for his tractor at sometime, and after spending 3 or 4 hours at the rationing board, had to walk out not knowing whether he would get it or not.

panning the farmers if you know which side your bread is buttered on. Mrs. O. J. G., A Farmers Wife (Name on file)

WELLES IMPROVES New York, Oct. 24.—(U.P.)—Actor Orson Welles was reported "considerably improved" today by Jack Lighter, his manager.

As for the manpower shortage, how would you like to be faced with enough work for 4 or 5 people and only you to do it? Also Mrs. Jones any trip the farmer makes to town is a necessity and not a pleasure.

There's more than one way to be patriotic, and that's to quit

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson Co. History from the files of the Mail Tribune 10, 20, and 34 years ago.

TEN YEARS AGO TODAY October 24, 1934 (It Was Wednesday)

National convention of American Legion favors immediate cash bonus payment.

State WCTU convention gets underway after banquet last night, with business session today.

Railroad retirement law is declared invalid, on grounds congress never reached its power.

Unsettled. High 50, low 49 degrees.

Democrats show gain of 28,000 voters in state registration.

Rain the past three days beneficial to crops and orchards.

Dogs raid sheep bands of valley and cause heavy losses.

Deer hunting season ends tomorrow.

PRINCE OF WALES ENDS AMERICAN VISIT AND SAILS FOR HOME TOMORROW.

Final campaign address of President Coolidge is broadcast by radio. Calls upon nation to "maintain established order and integrity of courts."

Publication of federal income tax list causes furor in Washington, D. C.

Rain. High 67, low 28 degrees.

Civil war in China nearly ended.

Landlord of Central Point hotel is robbed. Rock Point home is entered and Warren Kelseo's violin stolen.

Fall plowing in Eagle Point district in full blast.

THIRTY-FOUR YEARS AGO October 24, 1910 (It Was Monday)

Large crowd hears Eugene V. Debs, socialist candidate for president at the Nat.

Oswald West, democratic candidate for governor visits city and valley.

Ground broken for road to Crater Lake.

FAMILY ROW Los Angeles, Oct. 24.—(U.P.)—Golden Donald Arnett, 38, pondered in a jail cell today the exact meaning of the term "assault" while awaiting a hearing on charges of threatening his mother-in-law, Mrs. Henry Yates, with a revolver, only to be knocked out by a baseball bat in the hands of Mrs. Yates.

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Ye Smudge Pot

By Arthur Perry

This is National Hearing Week, we hear. The Safety Council boy bicyclists are exercising more care and caution. It seems they look at interesting things before they pass them, instead of afterwards, as in the post war period.

The Salem Statesman charges Gen. MacArthur returned to the Philippines, writes his own communications, and uses "purple rhetoric" and is flamboyant. This is not the exclusive or copyrighted privilege of a presidential candidate.

Stockmen report their steers have started to look too much like deers, and are no longer a part of the alleged beef shortage.

YE CIVIC GLOAT

(Red Bluff (Cal) News) "Twenty years ago the Honkers took the Spartans into camp on the Willows field by a score 128 to 0. This item by the Willows Journal. Why bring that up? The good neighbor policy demands some generous forgetting of episode like this."

Indian summer continues gorgeous. If it was April scores would make affidavit they have spring fever.

Sen. Ball of Minnesota, practically unknown outside of Minnesota, and small spuds in the senate, comes out against Gov. Dewey over the International security program. The senator is a republican when he needs votes, and the rest of the time bounces where the publicity is hottest. The current hullabaloo is timely. It takes the public mind off home front issues, such as New Deal nonsense, war plant strikes, H. Hopkins, the deputy president, and "clear everything with Sidney".

A dispatch from Guam reports a barber in the Marines killed 11 Nipponese in an afternoon, without the formality of lathering them, or an argument.

The Glen Fabrick boy Steve will encounter a birthday tomorrow. The younger set of his acquaintance will meet and mingle, and make merry on ice cream and cake.

MAN WANTED

(Siskiyou News) "Naturally, we hope this situation will be remedied within a few days. We've been supporting the Western Union office in luxury the past two weeks toward that end."

Indigent cats are now on the prowl in the residential areas, and the licensed dogs are too lazy to chase them, or fight their own fleas.

The Older Girls, as a relaxation, have taken up poker to ease the mental strain of bridge. In a recent session, the hostess lost three hours sleep and a nickel.

The Sales Tax will be before the voters in the November election. As yet, there has been no widespread outbreaks of the St. Vitus dance among farmers over such commonsense.

Fit-Throwing Season

"Anyway, every four years a lot of people, apparently by a process of gabbing with other people of like mind and proclivities, reach the conclusion that the country is going to pot if somebody is elected President or somebody isn't elected President. Then they make speeches to this effect, to vast audiences over the air if they are among the chosen, or just to three or four guys or even to the bartender only, if they are not among the chosen but just holding forth in the neighborhood pub."—(S.F. Chronicle.)

Use Mail Tribune Want Ads.