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The Lobby Probe

Those who expect to get much satisfaction out of the bi-partisan committee probe of lobbying are due, we fear, to disappointment.

As has been often remarked, this is a presidential election year. Not only will the members of the committee be more interested in votes than in information, but as they are divided 50-50 between Republicans and Democrats it will be difficult if not impossible to reach any decision—at least on important issues.

The Republicans will undoubtedly try to make a "Big Bad Wolf" out of the Labor lobby, and the Democrats will undoubtedly press the American Manufacturers and the US Chamber of Commerce lobbies, into the same role.

In other words, there are two things almost certain to happen as a result of this probe, namely: it will go on for the duration of the campaign, and it will have no material effect upon the lobby system now or in the future.

EVEN IF the unexpected should happen and a definite non-partisan verdict should be reached, it is highly doubtful any such decision would materially change the system of lobbying.

And for a very good reason. Lobbying as a practice is necessary to the proper functioning of our modern democratic system. When it is honestly conducted it serves a necessary and useful purpose, for without it, the facts concerning legislation, could hardly be secured by our representatives in congress.

There is another kind of lobbying which is bad, which deals in bribery and various and sundry forms of corruption, but the type No. 1 is legalized—so it is difficult to see how type No. 2 can be outlawed—effectively at least.

The task would be somewhat similar to the unscrambling of J. P. Morgan's eggs, the lobbying system being such a mixture of the good and bad, and the job of separating them so difficult.

THE undersigned in this realm can speak from some experience—one, at least. For not so many years ago he acted as a respectable front and chaperone and bodyguard for one General Glenn Jackson, on a mission to Washington to secure an army camp. We don't know how the General came out but it cost us over \$200, although the Medford Chamber of Commerce paid half our expenses. (We were overpaid at that!)

But at any rate that experience taught us something about the lobbying business from the inside. The net result was to get Camp White.

And the sole objective on our part was to give certain key figures in the army camp picture, the reasons why the Medford area would be excellently fitted for such a project, etc. etc.

WE DON'T know how much that particular venture had to do with the final result (our guess is General Jackson later did the job pretty much single-handed) but we do know that this "junket" in a small way was typical of what is going on in Washington in a larger way all the time, not so much as a dinner tab or a bottle of Scotch involved, all on the up-and-up, nothing but an earnest effort to sell a proposal to the powers that be, on the basis of the facts.

AS REMARKED there is lobbying on a large scale in Washington just as free from objectionable features, and there is lobbying by professionals on an even larger scale that is full of them.

How to separate the good from the bad—get the wheat from the chaff is the problem.

We wish the bi-partisan committee of investigation all the luck in the world but we seriously doubt if in this direction they accomplish enough to justify the time or the expense.—R.W.R.

The Greater Consistency

Inconsistency is to be one of the major charges against Senator Morse in the approaching campaign.

And if reports reaching this office are correct, not only is the same charge to be made against Senator Neuberger, but the latter is to speak against his senior colleague, to drive the charge home.

It seems there was a time when Mr. Neuberger was very critical of Mr. Morse, and characteristically he was not backward about coming forward to express himself.

WHETHER a tape recording was made at the time, or only quotations of his remarks are now available, our informant is certain, some of the sharpest verbal barbs directed in the direction of Oregon's senior Senator, will be from his party colleague and now loyal supporter.

Well if this is true it should add to the general excitement and gayety of the senatorial campaign.

HOWEVER, it is doubtful if the voters of the state will be greatly concerned about the issue of consistency, applying either to Senators Neuberger or Morse.

It was Emerson who called consistency "the hobgoblin of little minds," and the verdict of history has supported him.

It was Abraham Lincoln who was politically inconsistent when he left the Whig party and joined the GOP; it was Teddy Roosevelt who in the same sense of 100% party regularity was inconsistent when he not only left the Republican party and formed the Progressive party, but repudiated the Republican candidate he had selected to be his successor.

BUT HISTORY never condemned them for these actions, for in both cases while such deviations were admitted politically, in both cases they were held justified, by a greater consistency—namely being consistently true at all times to what they believed to be best for their people and their country.

Matter of Fact

By Joe and Stewart Alsop

COUE AND DULLES

Washington — In his appearance before the Senate Foreign Relations committee, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles has now elevated the practice of Coueism to a major technique of American foreign policy.

For those whose memories do not go back so far, Dr. Coue was an amiable, bearded pseudo-physician who brought a new panacea out of France in the 1920's. By taking thought, said Coue you could cure yourself of anything from a hernia to the blind staggers.

All you had to do was to repeat often enough with enough loud conviction, that "every day, in every way, everything is getting better and better."

The fad caught on for a while; but after a bit it was observed that the blind staggers went on staggering and the hernia sufferers could not do without their trusses. Now, however, the Coue cure-all has been resurrected from obscurity, with the august endorsement of the Secretary of State of the United States.

WHAT Secretary Dulles told the Senate Foreign Relations committee in brief, was that the Soviet Union was now losing the cold war. "One thing is certain," he declared with exalted conviction. "The unity of the free world has caused the Soviet policy to fail, and right today they are trying to figure out a better one . . . At this moment in Moscow, they are having to revise their whole program. If we in this country had to admit that, we would be advertised all over the world as having failed. They have failed."

These statements are truly remarkable, for several rather simple reasons, they are wholly unsupported by a shred of intelligence data. They are not believed by any of Secretary Dulles' own ambassadors. They are not believed, either, by any member of the higher staff of the State Department, with the possible exception of one or two courtiers who have a knack of believing what is currently expected. And they are not believed, finally, by any leader among our major allies.

EXCEPT FOR John Foster Dulles, expert opinion unanimously attributes the important changes in the Kremlin's policy lines to a new self-confidence, derived from the great improvements in Soviet military posture and gains in heavy industry which Dulles himself mentioned to the Senators.

Before he became a minority of one, even Secretary Dulles used to hold this same view. In earlier briefings of the press, Dulles himself has frankly stated that the Kremlin's abandonment of the rigid and brutal Stalinist line in favor of a more flexible and less doctrinaire policy had greatly increased the dangers and risks of the free world. It would be interesting, then, to know what has changed the Secretary's mind.

Certainly the hard facts of the world situation do not offer any support to the new Dulles view that "every day, in every way, everything is getting better and better." Throughout almost all of Asia, the Communists are making such rapid and disturbing progress that two warm Eisenhower-supporters and extremely acute observers, John Cowles and Paul Hoffman, have just returned from Asian journeys to raise the alarm in this country.

IN THE Middle East, the outlook is so dark that leading members of Secretary Dulles' own staff have been quoting the odds on an Arab-Israeli war as about 50-50 either way. Even if the war danger is surmounted this year, moreover, it is universally admitted that the new Communist political offensive in the Middle East has already scored brilliant successes. It is also becoming clear that Communist infiltration in certain of the Arab states is now very far advanced.

Even in the citadel of the Western alliance, in Western Europe, the situation shows signs of grave deterioration. France is in chaos, and will hardly emerge from chaos without the loss of the position in North Africa that makes France a major power. Britain, too, is in the midst of an acute economic crisis. Moreover, Far Eastern and Middle Eastern revenues are all that balance Britain's books, and thus the Communist pressure in those areas now threatens Britain with irretrievable bankruptcy of a sort that would destroy Britain's great power standing.

EVEN IN West Germany, American policy rests solely on the frail foundation of a wonderfully brave but very old and very ill man, Chancellor Adenauer. The future German army is not shaping well. And almost every American observer on the spot agrees that if anything happens to Adenauer, Germany will move rather rapidly towards a neutralist position, probably leaving NATO to buy German re-unification.

Altogether, it is not a pretty picture. But perhaps the Coue method really will work in foreign policy, although it was a dud in medicine.

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

About 30 miles north of Guadalajara is an interesting village. Its name is Tequila. Wheth the liquor takes its name from the village or the village takes its name from the liquor I don't know, not having investigated the historical background.

At any rate, a large tequila distillery is located there and it provides a livelihood not only for the village but for the surrounding country.

Tequila is as clear as gin or vodka—or really good white mule. Its flavor varies, all the way from awful to pleasant and satisfying, depending on how it is made and who makes it. The tequila sold in the border honky-tonks scratches like a cat as it goes down and taste something like the residue from an oil refinery, but that distilled at the clean and modern looking plant at Tequila is above reproach.

It is made from the sap of the maguey, a cactus-like plant that looks very much like iris. Its leaves are thick and fleshy, and when pressed yield the juice from which the liquor is made. It is fermented and then distilled.

THE resulting product has considerable authority, but isn't explosive in its effects. It is a very popular drink in Mexico. One reason for its popularity is that it is good.

Another reason, I suspect, is that it is cheap. It sells in nearly by Guadalajara for six and a half pesos a quart, which is the approximate equivalent of four bits American.

THE tequila plantations extend for a dozen miles or so along the highway on either side of the village. The plants are set out in rows and are carefully tended.

At the proper time, the leaves are cut and assembled into bundles. The bundles are then loaded onto burros and transported by burro power to the plant.

There are trucks in Mexico. Plenty of them. The roads are full of them, ranging all the way from pickups to huger trailer affairs. It is inconceivable to an American that trucks wouldn't be used to haul in the maguey—and the sugar cane and the corn.

But so far in this part of Mexico I haven't seen a single truck being used to haul in crops from the fields to the processing plants of the villages.

I WOULDN'T go so far as to say that they are never used. Maybe they use 'em at night. But as yet, in hundreds of miles of travel along the roads, I haven't seen any trucks being put to such a use. The job of hauling the crops in from the fields seems to be reserved for the team composed of the peon and the burro.

THERE is of course a reason why this might be true. The economy of western Mexico is still practically a feudal economy. There are many, MANY Mexicans in the bottom layers of the Mexican population.

If they are to EAT, they must have jobs. The lesson of history is that over the LONG PULL machines create jobs instead of destroying them. Machines create jobs by the process of cheapening the product so that it can be more widely consumed.

At the same time, the machine increases the productive capacity of the worker so that he can EARN a higher wage, which in turn enables him to buy MORE OF THE PRODUCTS OF INDUSTRY, thus creating still more jobs.

BUT in between the advent of the machine and the end result of the machine there is a gap. During this gap there are more workers than jobs. The western part of Mexico is still in this gap—and I suspect that there is presently considerable dread of the machine (such as trucks for hauling crops in from the fields) because for a while the use of the trucks would throw the peon and his burro out of a job.

Without a job, the peon couldn't eat, and that would be bad.

FOR REMEMBRANCE Boston — (UP) — Massachusetts motor vehicle licenses will expire on the operator's date of birth after July 1, 1957. The new law was adopted to make it easier for motorists to remember when to renew their licenses.

Communications

A Strange Breed

To the Editor: In reading all the controversy about flood control, fluoridation of our water supply, etc., etc., I am amused at the zest with which southern Oregonians tackle our problems.

Often with more "heat than light," we "think on" situations confronting us. But give us time. They say you can "lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink." We here in this valley can't even be led—No sir-ee!

We want to stumble our own way. Perhaps it takes a little longer to reach the water—but we reach it!

We mutter about taxes and loosing our "elbow room," but managed to give our kids and the kids of the new people coming in the best educational opportunities we can obtain.

We are strictly individualistic, often to the dismay and frustration of our brothers up state. But is this bad? I think not. No one can tell us what to do. The Union organizers found that out long ago.

A strange breed, with strong loyalties, descendants of pioneers that had to work hard and fight for what they got.

Perhaps the new people moving in will temper us, I can see signs of it already, and it will work if they don't let us know they are doing it.

I often smile when I put money in a parking meter to think how hotly I once resented them.

All we ask is a little time. Name on file. Medford, Ore.

No Bouillabaisse?

To the Editor: I first read of fluoridation some six years ago and was duly impressed. Being of an inquiring mind, even though a conservative nature, I read all I could on the subject. My first impression and opinion changed from one of approval to extreme doubt and has so remained.

The per cent of improvement isn't enough, not nearly enough. Even 65 per cent, which is the highest figure I have seen, isn't impressive enough when you consider it to mean only improvement, not that 65 per cent of the children were free from caries. I keep thinking that any change should be greater than that.

After careful consideration, and a little research, I have come up with a program, which, if adopted, will possibly result in a much higher improvement; for example—We are deficient in our diets in the following, according to eminent nutritionists: calcium, phosphorus, and iodine, all essential for strong

bones and sound teeth. About 90 per cent deficient. Copper, iron, manganese, magnesium, and cobalt also needed. Research could determine just which were needed in each locality. All we would then need to do is work out the formulae to be added to our water supply and there you have it. The cost would be very little.

There would probably be a little opposition from the few fanatical conservatives on this, but just bear in mind that all social advancement has had some opposition.

I forgot to mention the vitamins. There is every reason to believe that they would be of benefit if added to our water supply in the proper quantities. Just to be on the safe side we would want to add the proper amount of chlorine, if for the smell and flavor alone.

On Tuesday we could have pea soup and on Friday clam chowder.

Well— Paul Elgin 1221 Withington st. Medford, Ore.

'Don't Be a Birdbrain'

To the Editor: I have stopped studying Spanish, German, French and such worn-out languages and am now learning parakeet. Willy, the better half of Nilly, is teaching me.

"Human," said Willy the other day, "the story of my family, the bird family, is a long, sad tale. You humans are just Johnny-Come-Latelys on the world scene. My family was here when the dinosaurs were. Great, great, great, great (and more greats) grandfater was Archaeopteryx. His name comes from Greek archaios, meaning 'ancient, plus pteron, meaning 'wing. Now Archy was about the size of a full-grown crow, with a small head (not much brains, even for a bird) and very large eyes. There was no toothless beak, such as modern birds possess but instead both jaws were set with small, sharp teeth, which means the guy was a meat-eater. Archy, unlike Hitler, was a real German.

"Archy, like you humans today, had a wonderful chance—but he muffed it and so all us birds today suffer for his mistakes.

"Now, you humans are losing your teeth very rapidly. You've nearly lost your sense of smell and your eyesight is getting blunt. And my gosh, you've already lost nearly all your hair and even that on some heads is going, going, gone—What would a bird be like if he lost all his feathers? There was a judge's wife who found out once, when she had chickens that were too

finely bred—they lost their feathers and the judge's wife had to knit them sweaters to keep the poor chickens alive. You humans lost your hair and now you have to go to all the trouble of wearing clothes.

"Well, to cut this long, sad tail short—Archaeopteryx and his buddy Archaeosaurus claimed their drinking water was perfectly pure—and they flatly refused to fluoridate their drinking water—

"And now all us birds have to swallow gravel and rocks to grind up our food.

"And so the birds all lost their teeth—and not one bird in the world has a tooth in his beak today.

"Oh, human," wept Willy as he flew up on my nose and reached around to try to bite my left ear, "oh, human—DON'T BE A BIRDBRAIN!" Mrs. Edith Ingle 338 Bessie St. Medford, Ore.

France Increasingly Unhappy Over U. S. Viet Nam Policies

By CHARLES M. McCANN United Press Correspondent

France is getting increasingly angry over the United States policy in the Indochinese state of Viet Nam.

The situation could develop into a serious quarrel.

President Ngo Dinh Diem of Viet Nam is building himself up to the status of a dictator.

He is not only strengthening his personal authority but is steadily squeezing France out of his country, which was a French protectorate for 70 years.

The United States strongly supports Diem. France, which named him Premier in June, 1954, did so only at American insistence.

Since then Diem has succeeded in ousting playboy Emporer Bao Dai and making himself president.

France now is accusing the United States of helping Diem to eliminate all French influence in Viet Nam.

French Foreign Minister Christian Pineau made the accusation openly in a speech to the French Senate in Paris last Thursday.

"I believe the United States has made a mistake in trying to eliminate France from Viet Nam for its own benefit," he said.

Pineau intends to take up the issue with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles during the conference of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization members which starts in Karachi, Pakistan, next Tuesday.

He has been instructed by his government to protest strongly against American policy. He will hold that "anti-French" sentiment by the United States is weakening the whole allied position in Southeast Asia.

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