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Strikes, Courts and Automation

Most thinking people with an acquaintance with the history of the past century or so would agree that the labor movement, as such, has done far more good than it has harm.

But, most thinking people aware of conditions of today would agree that something has gone wrong, when huge unions can, at a whim, disrupt entire segments of the economy, placing the national security in jeopardy, and acting in direct conflict with the public interest, convenience and necessity.

Collective bargaining, as developed over the years, and backed by the right to strike if necessary, has done much to raise living standards, working conditions, and the level of the nation's economy and welfare.

BUT the time has long since passed when unions were battling against odds to obtain humane working conditions, a living wage, and a chance for a worker to have some say in his own destiny. More often than not, unions today are giants, in many cases far stronger in resources than the industries they work with.

Secretary of Labor Willard Wirtz recently stated:

"The decision has been made that if collective bargaining can't produce peaceable settlements of these controversies, the public will."

BY "THE PUBLIC" is obviously meant the only way in which the public can work its collective will—the government.

Both labor and management view with distaste the idea of federal intervention, particularly compulsory arbitration or similar systems of enforced settlement.

Political scientists, too, view askance the ideas of government adding to its already massive powers by assuming the "third seat" at the bargaining table.

But nature abhors a vacuum, and in this power vacuum which so closely affects the public interests, if government does not step in, no one else can or will—at least so far as can be foreseen.

TWO things are involved here, one of immediate pressing importance, the other of long-range pressing importance.

The first is the need for a mechanism to hold major strikes to a minimum, and to settle them as rapidly as possible, preferably before they start.

The second is the question of automation, unemployment, job security, all of which hang like uneasy spectres over the future of the economy.

If the first could be solved equitably, we could get on with the important business of working out accommodations for the second.

THIS newspaper has long contended that one approach to achieving labor peace would be through a system of labor courts, such as have been long and successfully employed in Scandinavia.

There are many questions which would have to be answered first—about procedures, safeguards, jurisdiction, and others. Still, the judicial atmosphere of a courtroom, the deliberate and impartial inquiry into all the facts, and a final binding judgment, would do much to restore public confidence in our ability to solve our problems peaceably and with order and dignity, and still ensure a maximum of fairness and justice to both sides.

This, surely, offers a more promising route than having harried government negotiators, mediators and arbitrators sitting in on long, exhausting and often acrimonious sessions.

TOO, this would offer one means of approach to the potentially even larger problem which the technological revolution is bringing about, and which is, in most cases, at the very heart of the new rash of strikes which is sweeping the nation.

Some day, and soon, this nation is going to have to revise drastically its traditional attitudes toward work, and leisure, and employment, and unemployment.

Many worried, high-level studies on these growing problems have been held, and are continuing. But nowhere could a body of knowledge of the very real problems of a burgeoning technological society be amassed and analyzed as rapidly as in labor courts set up specifically to deal with the practical consequences.

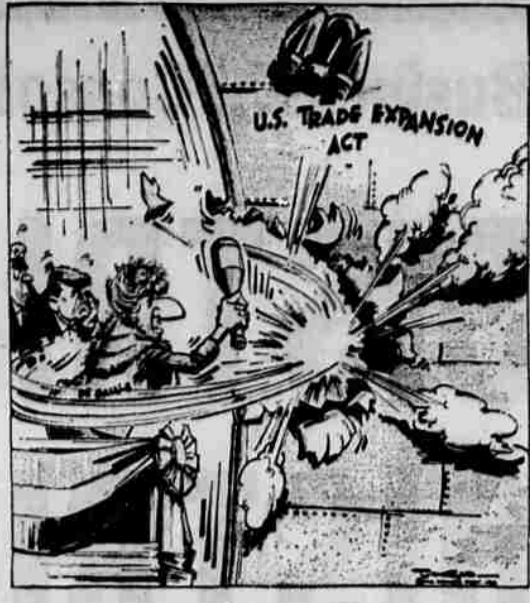
THE genius of western civilization, the particular genius of America, has been an ability to change and adapt to changing situations. It has not always been done without dislocations and suffering, but it has always been done in sufficient measure to survive and then prosper again.

We must, if we are to meet the dislocations arising from automatic machinery and computers—where one man can do the work formerly done by thousands—find new approaches. We cannot be so afraid of change that the change will do us all in.

It is our firm conviction that a carefully drawn system of labor courts would, first, provide the setting of economic order we must have if we are to remain a viable economy, and second, go a long way toward analyzing the problems, thus going far toward solving them.

With the size of the stakes, it's certainly worth a try.—E.A.

"I Christen Thee—!"



Newsom

Problems Faced by Government of Korea Also Pose Problems for United States

By PHIL NEWSOM
UPI Foreign News Analyst
The American-trained and equipped 650,000-man army of the Republic of Korea is the strongest anti-Communist military force remaining on the continent of Asia.

At the moment, the Republic of Korea, more popularly known as South Korea, is ruled by a military regime which seized power in a pre-dawn coup on May 16, 1961. It is headed by Gen. Park Chung Hee who has promised presidential elections and a return to civilian rule by Aug. 15 of this year.

A dangerous rift among Korean military men with opposing ideas about Korea's political future came into the open in late January and was patched over only by the personal intervention of General Park.

Center of the most recent controversy was a retired brigadier general named Kim Chong Pil, who left the army early in January to become chairman of the organizing committee of the new Democratic Republican party.

School Board Criticizes M-T Editorial; Writer Defends It

To the Editor: It was amazing to read in the Mail Tribune of Feb. 3 an editorial deeply critical of the Board of Education of School District No. 4, known as the Phoenix-Talent District, relating to their handling of a survey made by the Bureau of Educational Research of the University of Oregon at the request of the Phoenix School Board.

The editorial states in one part that, "We do not in any way question the motives of the school officials who have kept the report from general knowledge." However, the editorial is headlined "The Public Should Know," and the general theme is to the effect that the School Board has been secretly deceiving the people of Phoenix-Talent by not having the report published in its entirety and distributed to all the residents of District No. 4.

The editorial also suggests, "But we do question the propriety of such action and believe that an official body which keeps information from the knowledge of its constituents is sowing the seeds of suspicion and distrust." It would appear that this, if not actually doing so, comes very close to accusing Phoenix-Talent School Board of misfeasance of office. It also strongly suggests that the school board did have a motive of some dark design, notwithstanding that the editorial in a previous paragraph stated that their motives were not subject to question.

The survey in question was budgeted for and was obtained solely as a tool to assist the School Board in long term planning. The large sum of money necessary to reprint sufficient copies for general distribution of the 62 page report was not budgeted for, any more than in the past

record in such matters somewhat more dependable than the source of information on which you have apparently been relying.

Howell Appling Jr., Secretary of State, Salem, Ore.

PHOENIX-TALENT SCHOOL BOARD
J. Allen Harris, Chairman
Bruce Cyphers, Joyce Goodrich, Melvin Little, Dr. M. D. McGeary, John Spangler, T. Chris Barker

Editor's note: The writer of the editorials in question was Earl H. Adams, the Mail Tribune's city editor. He replies:

The editorial to which the Phoenix-Talent school board refers criticized the lack of publicity given the report of the survey, and the dissemination of information concerning the district's plant facility needs.

I agree that such lengthy reports are not usually published in their entirety and distributed to all the residents of a school district; this would be financially impracticable. But there usually are enough copies available for board members individually, with enough others to distribute to the press and to have available for district patrons to see.

I asked for a copy of the report in a telephone conversation with the superintendent prior to the board meeting.

Don't be so gentle with the new ones. If they last longer, fewer are sold. You're lousing up the law of supply and demand and upsetting the economy!"

... Communications ...

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer, although under certain circumstances the use of a pen name or initial for publication is permissible. The Mail Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarification and condensation. Letters submitted for publication must not exceed 400 words. The letters printed in this column do not necessarily represent the views of the paper; in fact the contrary is often the case.

Isn't It?

To the Editor: In the paper, for some time now, we have been hearing talk pro and con on killing deer and cow elk. I am no expert on game management, Mr. Kupilla's in his communication says the game commission bases its management on scientific principles and surveys. If I believed this, I would not be writing this letter.

I think the lobbying powers of the timber interests and large farm corporations have a lot to do with our game management. Mr. Kupilla says when the day comes that we present some scientifically valid facts, then reasonable people will listen. I ask him to talk to the logger, small rancher, the cougar and bear hunters, and the people who have cabins in the woods, where there used to be plenty of deer.

You hear some people say that hunters don't get out in the woods and hunt. There is a considerable group that do road hunt, and the police department should see that this is discontinued. The majority of people hunt hard and go farther back in the wilds than they did a few years back. I don't believe there are 10,000 sq. ft. in Oregon that hunters don't hunt. In the big canyons where none used to go, you will see many hunters now. You can stand still at almost any spot and spit on cow manure, where five years ago there were no cows within five miles. I am now talking about federal lands. As long as there is plenty of feed for deer and cow elk, this is fine with me.

If I understand correctly, there are five men who make the laws for the game commission, and they are appointed by the Governor. These six men are responsible for our game laws and management. If you don't believe the lobbies have anything to do with game management, go to Portland and attend a game commission meeting. There are plenty of lobbyists who lobbied for the buck, and not for the four legged kind. For the man who talked at the Chamber of Commerce meeting from Prineville, Ore., who has it all figured out, all we have to do is give him \$25 for our own deer, which he doesn't pay for. He is lobbying for the buck too.

The five men appointed to the game commission should be working for the interests of the hunter and the hunter alone. After all this is what they were appointed to do, isn't it?

Mark Norton
Box 85
Phoenix, Ore.

Divided We Fall
To the Editor: Your article, "Stupid and Discriminatory," Wednesday, Jan. 30.

We approve your stand and analysis of the State of Washington's contemplated law; let us hope that wisdom directs their vote.

We, as Americans, have no right, constitutionally, to infringe the rights of our citizens respecting a day in which to conduct business or not to conduct such practice.

Herbert Spencer, a well known English philosopher, once said: "There is a principle which is a bar to all information, which is proof against all arguments and which will never fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance. That principle is condemnation prior to investigation."

We are living in the Aquarian Age which is an age of knowledge and enlightenment. Innumerable books and much literature have been written by truly inspired writers, relative to knowledge of

what is transpiring in this New Age. So there is no need for people to remain ignorant or uninformed regarding it unless they choose to do so.

Here are some quotes from prominent persons regarding the truth of the existence of space ships and space beings. Senator Barry Goldwater, a jet-flying Air Force Reserve Brigadier General said, "Flying Saucers—unidentified flying objects or whatever you call them—are REAL. The Air Force is clamoring up." William Lear, winner of Collier Aviation Trophy, president of Lear Inc. Aircraft and Electronics said, "I believe the 'saucers' come from outer space, piloted by beings of superior intelligence." Hermann Oberth, rocket pioneer and space travel authority said, "I believe the 'flying saucers' come from worlds outside our Solar System." The Air Force censured these statements from a Nationwide CBS telecast.

The terrific speeds and maneuverability of the Venetas, which is the correct name of the space craft, enables them to elude the Air Force's fastest jets, the pilots of which have been ordered to "shoot to kill." Nice neighbors the Earthlings!

Aleta O. Johnston, 2314 Allen Creek rd., Grants Pass, Ore.

Automation
To the Editor: While automation spreads, the jobless problem remains unsolved. For the past 18 years we have witnessed a record-breaking production of wealth which created an illusion of general security. But the fact is that these boom years have brought no real security to the workers who produced this wealth. And it takes only a few weeks or months to wipe out any gains from years of employment.

We have heard the claim that "automation makes jobs." In boom times the illusion prevails that it does. But when the cutbacks come and production is concentrated in highly automated plants, the cruel and devastating effects of automation on workers' jobs becomes apparent.

When machinery that replaces men is used to raise profits, regardless of the consequences to the workers, automation becomes a curse instead of a blessing. The danger of automation to society is not inherent in the machine. It is the improper use of a tool potentially beneficial to man.

Lydia Burnham, 814 Wurne St., Prescott, Ariz.

Applying Replies
Editor's note: A recent Mail Tribune communication was critical of Secretary of State Howell Appling Jr.'s action in turning over to the district attorney the matter of campaign expenses of the "Freedom Center" in Portland. Mr. Appling replied as follows:

Mrs. Ella Powell
Box 621
Central Point, Ore.

Dear Mrs. Powell: A recent letter appearing over your name in the Medford Mail Tribune contains statements concerning me which are not based on fact.

I am enclosing for your information a photostatic copy of the Court Order signed by Circuit Judge George Duncan in the case. I call your attention to the fact that the suit was dismissed only after the defendant had filed the campaign report which Oregon law required him to file. Since the purpose of the suit was to obtain compliance with this provision of Oregon law, and compliance was obtained, there was then no purpose in further suit.

I would suggest to you that you will find the official court

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

1963 NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSOCIATION

Flight o' Time

Medford and Jackson County History from the files of The Mail Tribune 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago.

10 YEARS AGO

Feb. 6, 1953 (Wednesday)
The outlook for southern Oregon's 1953 water supply is generally "good" to "excellent," according to joint statements by the U. S. weather bureau and the U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

A Republican congressman from New Hampshire, Chester Marrow, will be the principal speaker at the annual Lincoln day dinner here Feb. 12.

20 YEARS AGO

Feb. 6, 1943 (Monday)
Snow survey shows southern Oregon water prospects are "spotty but good."

From Arthur Perry's "Ye Smudge Pot column": "Rome reports Il Duce Mussolini is 'nervous and repentant.' If there was a redhot revival meeting in Italy he would be the first sinner at the mourner's bench, willing to sing bass in the choir."

30 YEARS AGO

Feb. 6, 1933 (Wednesday)
County council of Wonderland association formed in Medford.

A. H. Banwell named secretary of Jackson County Chamber of Commerce.

40 YEARS AGO

Feb. 6, 1923 (Thursday)
Oregon Gov. Walter Pierce calls upon state legislature "to do something," urges passage of school consolidation and state income tax bills.

Survey of Pacific coast shows employment increasing and breadlines almost disappeared.

50 YEARS AGO

Feb. 6, 1913 (Saturday)
Capt. Robert F. Scott, British south polar explorer, and party of five frozen to death after making successful dash to south pole.

Road work in Crater lake area to be rushed in effort to make accessible the principal points of interest by summer of 1915, when Panama exposition slated to start in San Francisco.

What's Your I.Q.?

Nine or ten correct is superior; seven or eight is excellent; five or six is good.

- 1. In which country are the Halls of Montezuma?
2. How old was Methuselah when he died?
3. Is it necessary for a Presidential candidate to win a majority of the States of the union in order to be elected?
4. Name the famous pass from Afghanistan into India.
5. Is the capital of Chile Concepcion, Valparaiso or Santiago?
6. Was Walter Camp an authority on golf, hockey, football, or tennis?
7. Earl Warren was the governor of which state before becoming chief justice?
8. Is the airline Tokyo from Honolulu to Tokyo greater or less than that from New York to Paris?
9. Is a bat a bird or a mammal?
10. Pizarro was the Spanish conqueror of which South American country?
Answers: 1. Mexico. 2. 969 years. 3. No. 4. Khyber Pass. 5. Santiago. 6. Football. 7. California, and Chief Justice of U. S. 8. Greater. 9. Mammal. 10. Peru.



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