

Medford Mail Tribune
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March on Washington

We have had rather sharply mixed feelings about the civil rights march on Washington. First, we sympathize completely with the motivations of the march, and with its objectives. Second, we fully believe in the Constitutional right to assemble and petition for a redress of grievances—which is exactly what this was.

At THIS writing, it appears evident that our fears were unfounded, our doubts baseless, and our hopes well grounded. The crowd, almost twice as large as had been predicted, was orderly. And while it is too early to tell what sort of an impact the march has had on Congressional leaders, it is entirely possible that this huge, but restrained, outpouring of human emotion could help have the desired effect.

Sen. Maurine Neuberger, writing from Washington, recalls that in her youth she participated in a march in Portland, during the depths of the depression, to emphasize the need for a recovery program. And she added: "Whether our march did any good or not, it stimulated our own interest in the plans for recovery... and had a definite psychological effect."

That comment, that the question is "irrelevant," is an interesting and revealing one, coming as it does from a member of the Senate who has long been involved in the struggle for civil rights and civil liberties. Perhaps it is irrelevant; perhaps the more relevant question might be what the demonstration has done to and for the participants themselves, in terms of self-confidence, determination, human dignity and self-respect.

Where Is the 'Far Right'?

A reader called us the other day to complain about the use of the phrase "far right" or "ultra right" to describe the particular segment of the political spectrum where she resides. "Really," she said, "we're in the middle, with anarchy to our right and totalitarianism to our left. We stand half way between them, and on constitutional principles."

SURELY, any rational reading of history is convincing that there is totalitarianism of the right as there is of the left. World War II amply demonstrated that the dangers of Fascism and Nazism were (and, incipiently, still are) as deadly as those of communism.

IN THE Coos Bay area the other day a group of citizens (including the Rev. William Walker, formerly of Medford) planned to meet to show their sympathy for the freedom march in Washington. When the meeting convened, a group led by a John Birch coordinator attended in sufficient numbers to constitute a majority. They "took over" the meeting, elected their own officers, and made a mockery of the rights of citizens to assemble, and to organize for any purpose.

THE radical rightists lay claim to the honored title of "conservative." They are not conservative, for they do not wish to conserve what is good in America, but to destroy many of its institutions and traditions. They are truly subversive, both in objectives and in tactics, and they are "radical" in that they would make fundamental changes in American government and politics.

They are not at the center of the political spectrum. They are, in the imprecise but useful analogy, at the far, ultra, radical right. As such they are not part of the main stream of American thought and tradition.—E. A.



... Conceived In Liberty And Dedicated To The Proposition That All Men Are Created Equal ...

Strictly Personal

By Sydney J. Harris (c) Field Enterprises, Inc.

PERSONAL PREJUDICES The basic difference between the artist and the entertainer—which is a vague distinction in most people's minds—is that the former works to satisfy himself, while the latter works to please his audience; great artists rarely command the popular appeal of talented entertainers, because they do not give the public what it wants, but what it ought to want.

Water lapping against the shore at night outside one's window is the greatest serenity in the world; to me a land-locked vacation, nowhere near a coastline, is a waste of time and money. Almost all history is parochial: my little boy's book on ships tells him that Robert Fulton, an American, "invented" the steamboat—but it fails to add that his "invention" was anticipated by about 30 steamers built in England and on the Continent.

In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

In Shepton, Pennsylvania, Wednesday morning, two coal miners were rescued from a cold, dark chamber more than 300 feet underground where they have been trapped for two weeks by a cave-in that cut them off from the bright, beautiful world above them and apparently sentenced them to a horrible death.

SO MUCH of the news these days is SO BAD. For example: The U. S. News & World Report, in its latest issue, says that by every measure America is on the brink of a major crisis in crime. It says the rise in crime far outstrips the population increase.

INTERESTING question: How much did it cost? The answer is that nobody has the faintest idea. As of now, NOBODY CARES. Cost was never an object. SCIENTISTS sent costly radioactive material to the rescue site. Texans shipped up huge drilling bits to cut through the rock and the coal to rush the shaft down to the trapped men.

Opposition to Czech Red Leader Mounts With Demands for 'Rehabilitation' of Foe

By PHIL NEWSOM UPI Foreign News Analyst When the gallows ended the life of former Czech Communist party secretary general Rudolph Slansky on Dec. 3, 1952, one of the most enthusiastic of those in the cheering section was Antonin Novotny.

Matter of Fact

By Joseph Alsop (c) New York Herald Tribune Syndicate

Joseph Alsop is on vacation this month—and gathering material both in this country and abroad for future columns. During his absence, top members of the staff of the New York Herald Tribune will substitute for him.

THE REPORT ON SMOKING Washington—In a suite of borrowed offices at the National Library of Medicine, built in a park-like setting in suburban Bethesda, Md., the duplicating machines whirl endlessly, turning out copies of all the reports concerning the association between cigarette smoking and disease—particularly lung cancer and heart disease.

BUT there are widespread indications that many are not willing to wait for the government report before taking official action to brand smoking a health menace. Just an incomplete sampling of the actions taken this summer in the United States alone.

WHILE back there was a spate of form letters written by members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and later there were a few inquiries as a result of a magazine article. But if the interest is light now, all that is bound to change when the report comes out by the end of the year.



"With all this talk about school dropouts hurting America, a guy could grow up with guilt complexes for not having an education!"

Slansky's downfall. And it may also be coincidental that a review of Slansky's case, finding him innocent of the conspiracy charges for which he was hanged, also could be a sign of trouble for Novotny.

In any case, "de-Stalinization" has spread through the Soviet Union and the satellites and it has become fashionable to "rehabilitate" party members executed in the bad old days. Novotny has shown a marked reluctance to initiate any such program for Czechoslovakia, and particularly so in the case of Slansky.

As demands for their rehabilitation mounted within the party, an outstanding voice in these demands was that of Rudolf Barak, a deputy premier and minister of interior who also was beginning to challenge Novotny for leadership.

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.

Trust me, I have agreed with and always admired Harry Truman for speaking out in plain spoken manner regarding agreements with the Soviet, or any subject. He said they would never keep their word or live up to any agreement, if it were to their advantage to violate it.

Each one of the 10 men has organized a subcommittee to help him evaluate the medical literature pertaining to his subject. In the past two decades, there have been thousands of scientific studies done relating to the smoking question.

Russia and Red China being on the outs, as they are, is what makes Khrushchev want to sign with U.S., not only a partial test ban agreement, but a follow up non-aggression pact perhaps. He wants Red China to see two of the largest and strongest white nations in agreement. Khrushchev wants the effect such agreement would have, by suggestion, on Red China's thinking in regard to their hostile attitude toward the West, in opposition to Russia's peaceful co-existence policy.

It is the opinion of some of our nation's smartest people, who are ANYTHING BUT soft on Communism, that so long as we are still free to crack down any time they do violate the agreement, we should sign with Red Russia, for the reason that it might put a check-rein of fear, or at least of concern, on Red China, whose leaders wish to get control of the Western World via the hard way; by fighting.

I mentioned Harry Truman in the first paragraph of this letter. Well, he has, in spite of his distrust of the Reds come out 100 per cent in favor of signing. He did not say he had changed his mind as to trusting the Reds, but he is in favor of signing for the sake of lessening of the fall-out danger, and possible prolonging of the time before the next holocaust by slowing up production of deadly war instruments on the part of the Reds and the U. S. I myself am very much in favor of us signing.

In closing this letter, I wish to give a tip of my hat to Howard Spaine of Applegate, Ore., for his very fine letter on this subject in Sunday 8/25/63 Tribune. I believe with him from start to finish of his letter. Pat Graham 175 Jeanette st. Medford

Unfair Treatment To the Editor: Where were you when the family picnic was in progress on Sunday, Aug. 25? This letter is written in protest of the unfair publicity treatment accorded the Democratic Central committee sponsored non-political family picnic by the newspaper you are managing. Your news staff was fully informed on all phases of the picnic prior to the event and knew the time, schedule of