



"THE PAPER THAT HAS NO ENEMIES HAS NO FRIENDS."
—George Putnam.

Our Way of Thinking

In our letter-box we found a letter which gave us cause for thought. Our way of thinking has been challenged. We shall in the following sentences and paragraphs attempt a clear picture of our way of thinking. We accept Ruth Stovall's statement about lynchings, bail, and jailing of certain persons. Basically Ruth Stovall is correct concerning fascism in the United States.

We cannot go along with the idea that President Harry S. Truman is a 'demagogue'. President Truman means what he says about freedom and civil liberties. Congress passed the Smith Act; the President must as the Chief Executive see that it is enforced. We are confident that he will see that it is enforced in harmony with his open statements.

President Truman made the following statement at the dedication of the American Legion Washington headquarters, August 14, 1951. "We want to protect the country against disloyalty--of course we do. We have been punishing people for disloyal acts, and we are going to keep on punishing the guilty whenever we have a case against them. But we don't want to destroy our whole system of justice in the process. We don't want to injure innocent people. And yet the scurrilous work of the scandal mongers gravely threatens the whole idea of protection for the innocent in our country today."

"Perhaps the Americans who live outside of Washington are less aware of this than you and I. If that is so, I want to warn them all. Slander, lies, character assassination--these things are a threat to every single citizen everywhere in this country. When even one American--who has done nothing wrong--is forced by fear to shut his mind and close his mouth, then all Americans are in peril."

"It is the job of all of us--of every American who loves his country and his freedom--to rise up and put a stop to this terrible business. This is one of the greatest challenges we face today. We have got to make a fight for real 100 percent Americanism."

General Omar N. Bradley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff recently set out the United States' military position. Bradley said, "From a global viewpoint--and with the security of our nation of prime importance--our military mission is to support a policy of preventing communism from gaining the manpower, the resources, the raw materials and the industrial capacity essential to world domination. If Soviet Russia ever controls the entire Eurasian land mass, then the Soviet-satellite imperialism may have the broad base upon which to build the military power to rule the world."

"Korea, in spite of the importance of the engagement, must be looked upon with proper perspective. It is just one engagement, just one phase of this battle that we are having with the other power center in the world which opposes us and all we stand for. For five years this 'guerilla diplomacy' has been going on. In each of the actions in which we have participated to oppose this gangster conduct we have risked World War III. But each time we have used methods short of total war. As costly as Berlin and Greece and Korea may be, they are less expensive than the vast destruction which would be inflicted upon all sides if a total war were to be precipitated."

We are sorry that we have failed to give the idea that the United States' domestic policy is vitally tied to foreign policy. We have earnestly sought to point this fact out. Loud and long we have cried out about Congress' disregard of this fact.

We do not believe Communist spokesman when they promise peace and freedom for the peoples of the world. We believe instead that Communists deny a simple truism--as we must die in the future, so also must we live in the present...Communist leaders would, if allowed, entrap the peoples of this earth in a state of living death.

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Editorial Comments:

OVERPRIVILEGED YOUTH
Many have read by now of the escapade (for lack of a more serious word) of three teen-age girls who in a 36-hour whirl in New York managed to spend and to lose over \$18,000 which they found in the home of a Nahant, Massachusetts, doctor for whom the youngest was baby-sitting. These girls, it may be noted, did not come from drab backgrounds where they had been starved of fun and beauty. They came from fairly comfortable homes, where the complaint of one was that she had to come in by 10 o'clock at night, of another that she was not allowed to smoke, and the third that life at high school was dull. One had enjoyed numerous trips and night club visits with an indulgent aunt. Even after arrest their first interest appears to have been in showing off expensive clothes they had bought. Only gradually came a consciousness of the injury done by taking someone else's savings. This, of course, is only a small cor-

ner of the picture of the difficulties of present-day youth in America. But it is enough to illustrate that problems arise not only from squalor and poverty but also amid conditions in which life is made easy for youngsters, enjoyment appears the main objective, and concern for others is secondary if not forgotten. If children receive only a material scale of values, nothing satisfies.

Meanwhile, parents who try to set constructive standards for their children, to impose wise safeguards, and require a contribution to family duties are made to appear hardhearted, overly strict, and "old-fashioned" by parents who neglect their responsibilities.

This is not to say that the whole problem of juvenile delinquency is one of "delinquent parents." There are social conditions, slum surroundings, and family misfortunes that impose heavy handicaps on the most well-meaning. There are some youngsters who remain a mystery to the most conscientious parents. But along with the duties of society and of parents, youth must awaken to a share of responsibility in this matter. —From Christian Science Monitor

Editor's Letter Box

Editor, Mill City Enterprise:
Your editorials on the former position of the United States as a haven for oppressed people, is commendable. How sad and how true it is that the people of the world are asking what has happened to the much-vaunted civil liberties of the American people. And they are asking how we can preach democracy when lynchings are on the increase; when the right of reasonable bail is being denied; when men and women are being jailed because of their ideas.

It is time that we began to realize that we are in a state of near-fascism in this country. Fascism, you know, doesn't necessarily require a swastika as its emblem, our American flag can also be degraded by those who are exerting every effort to take over where Hitler was forced to leave off. One thing I can't understand is how you can have the respect you seem to have for Harry S. Truman. Here is the man who is the demagogue of them all. He consistently speaks out of both sides of his mouth, promising the people one thing and then doing exactly the opposite. In a letter to the American Chemical Association, Mr. Tuman warned against restrictions on freedom of thought. He said, "Many of the ideas, social and scientific alike, which now seem axiomatic, were once regarded as radical. Progress will come to an end if Americans are ever afraid to experiment boldly with new ideas." Well, we all know, or should know, that in these days of name-calling and witch-hunting, to follow Mr. Truman's counsel means possible jailing under the Smith act. He talks about peace in words so eloquent and in the same speech tells of the fantastic new weapons being constructed in this country. I could give further examples. Suffice it to say that Mr. Truman is a small-time, Pendergast-machine politician, a perfect tool of the big money interests in this country. And if the 1952 presidential elections present us with a Truman versus a Taft or an Eisenhower, what then? As far as I can see, there is no difference. Are we going to break our historic tradition and place a military man in the presidency? Are we going to install Taft, a man who agrees with General McArthur that if we started a war in Korea we should be willing to finish it on the battlefield? No, we need a man who will speak for peace, mean what he says and do something concrete about it.

Yes, I dare to say that it is the United States that speaks of peace when we are actually bringing closer the danger of a 3rd world war with no apparent willingness to understand that it means devastation for the whole world and that includes us. We're not the only ones who have the secret of the atom bomb. If we use it, we can expect it to be used on us. So far, we are the only country in the world which has threatened to use atomic bombs and weapons.

There is one other thing you don't make clear and that is that our domestic and foreign policies are tied together. If we oppress people in our country, deprive them of their constitutional liberties, then it follows that our aims are the same wherever we have influence in the world. Take away my freedom and you take away our own. Sincerely, RUTH STOVALL

Mill City Enterprise
Mill City, Oregon
Gentlemen:
I am taking the liberty of forwarding you a copy of a letter received from our sheriff. I feel that it would be only just to pass the information contained therein on to your subscribers.

It is evident that there are no slot machines in Linn County and gambling is practically nonexistent. However, a different impression was certainly inferred by the general remarks

of the Attorney General which were recently given front page publicity in the Oregonian and Oregon Journal.
Very truly yours,
Courtney R. Johns
District Attorney

Mr. Courtney R. Johns
District Attorney
Linn County Courthouse
Albany, Oregon
Dear Mr. Johns:

I received the letter of the Attorney General which you referred to me, and which contained a list of persons having paid the Special Federal Tax on "gaming devices".

For a long time there has been no gambling in Linn County, with the exception of a few nickel punch boards licensed by the cities. If the other counties were as free from gambling as we are in this county, the Attorney General would have no occasion to concern himself with the subject.

He should not have made it look like there are slot machines in the county, because there are not. His list of "gaming devices" was only a list of pin ball machines, on all of which have been paid the privilege tax collected by the State Tax Commission under the 1947 state law. Also, all of these machines were found to be for amusement only, and constructed so that they can not pay off.

However, we all want to co-operate, and so in compliance with the mandate of the Attorney General, all punch boards, even those taxed by the cities, are definitely "out". Also, no over-the-counter pay off on pin ball machines ever has, or will be tolerated.

Although I feel the Attorney General's letter and the statements by him to the press were unjustified and unwarranted in so far as any gambling in Linn County is concerned, I will continue to give the matter my constant attention.

Perhaps the help of the State Police may be needed to stamp out gambling in some counties, but certainly not in Linn County where gambling has never flourished.

Very truly yours,
H. A. Southard, Sheriff.



DR. MARK

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