

The MILL CITY ENTERPRISE

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

A Friend of Our Land?

Main speaker for the fourth annual meeting of the Santiam Soil Conservation district at the new modern Cascade Union high school near Turner, Wednesday night gave a new twist to the Malthusian theory. Malthus held that population tends to multiply faster than its means of subsistence can be made to do, and that when this occurs the lower or weaker classes must suffer from lack of food; that, unless an increase of population be checked by prudential restraint, poverty is inevitable; and that the multiplying of the population will be checked by poverty, vice, or some other cause of suffering. Ollis Fink, executive secretary of the organization "Friends of Our Land", put the theory this way—if there isn't two acres of land per person . . . no democracy or milk and honey.

Fink stated bluntly that the United States has just about gone beyond the land-man idea and thus the highest point of development. He predicts that the direction of things to come from now on for us is down. He admitted that his was not a cheerful outlook. He sowed hopelessly seeds of gloom and depression, despite the fact he was talking to men and women interested in planting, harvesting and selling to a constantly expanding and eager consumer public. That same consumer public is made up of men and women who produce goods and services of untold value and quantity. He insults the human race by insisting it will eat itself out of house and home. It is said "necessity is the mother of invention"—does Mr. Fink think man can't or won't produce enough food for himself if the need forcefully presents itself? He has great faith in what bankers can do for the farmers, and all of us. He obviously needs to raise his eyes to the faith Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln had in the masses of mankind. We note with pride that Fink's song and dance of death and destruction plainly was not well received by his audience. The people of the North Santiam are not yet ready to go to hell in an apple-cart! The depression years are yet remembered.

1952?

Now that we are nearly in the habit of writing '52 instead of '51, the opinions and predictions for '52 mount hourly. The net result of this "stargazing" is that '52 means great hardship in weather, war and life generally. In view of this we will need the handy tool of letting troubles roll away like water off a duck's back. One thing is clear about '52 for us—a sense of humor is a "must".

The '52 election will be a big circus with a big load of "ham" under canvas. The political side-shows are going full blast in the U. S. A. carnival . . . the big tent acts will start soon. What takes a sense of humor about this affair is the feeling that "Uncle Joe" Stalin is betting that the show will "fold" because of financial failure. Evil gossip is going the rounds that the "carnival people" have the nasty habit of "taking" the customers for everything possible—even picking the pockets of youngsters!

The year '51 showed that weather can call for a strong sense of humor, too. Remember the floods and high winds? Our farmers need the most favorable weather they can get so that bumper crops can be raised and harvested. A great harvest in the United States can be used towards blunting the sharp instrument of hunger that the communists are using to such great effect.

To those so-called prophets who moan that we have reached our peak in the good life we should say, "Who are you kiddin' Buster?" The atomic age has proved that man is just on the doorstep of wonderful progress. We have but to prove ourselves by welcoming this progress.

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MILL CITY

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January 17, 1952

Editorial Comments

A CHOICE FOR AMERICANS

The United States has set its hand to the plow of European defense, and we cannot believe that it will turn back now. Yet a good deal of comment from press and politicians leaves a strong impression of doubt and of divided purposes. Apparently there remains a definite need for better understanding of the situation.

On-the-ground surveys recently made by a number of congressmen should help. Congressmen have seen the evidence that a real defense force is shaping up under SHAPE—General Eisenhower's headquarters. They have learned how much closer to bare subsistence the burden of rearmament brings most Europeans than Americans. They have sensed in some measure the fear of Europeans that the United States will precipitate a war in which they will be on the front line.

However, they have also come upon many things in Europe which trouble them. They have seen in some countries the most blatant display of luxury and a tax system which makes the rich richer and the poor poorer. They have found many people apathetic, neutral, or even sharply critical of the United States. They have noted the obstacles thrown in General Eisenhower's way, and the fact that balkiness on unification reduces the effectiveness of American aid.

Impressions of both kinds can help in forming a wise American attitude toward the defense of Europe. They become active handicaps to a useful policy, however, where turned merely into expressions of annoyance and frustration. Or into ammunition for ultimatums—"Europe must do so-and-so or we'll cut off all aid." Too many returning congressmen are talking in this vein.

It is entirely reasonable to ask the

Europeans to help themselves. The Harriman proposals for a 14 per cent increase in Europe's productivity—which would permit rearmament without further cuts in living standards—are definitely in order. So is encouragement for tax reform and unification. And, of course, the strains on the American economy must always be considered. So, too, must the United States commitments in the Far East.

But mere impatience with Europe or lingering desires to rank Europe as secondary to Asia in defense planning should not be allowed to mess up a course of action which was chosen not as a benevolent philanthropy for Europe but as an effective defense for the United States. Moreover, in considering the strains on America's economy it would be well to weigh the alternatives.

Of course, there must be care not to exhaust natural resources and to avoid runaway inflation. But withdrawal from Europe—or ineffective defense of Europe—would also impose strains. If Europe were allowed to fall before Red pressures and penetrations, the pace of American rearmament would almost certainly have to be doubled. The United States would be outmatched in productive capacity by Communist-controlled areas. And to carry the weapons now going to Europe it would have to raise new armies drawn from the production line of farm or factory. Added to economic strains would be the political and social stresses involved in conversion to a garrison state.

We do not believe that the American people will now turn back to that course. But they should be sure that they do not turn halfway back, do not allow annoyance with allies or confusion as to basic aims to hamstring present policy. If they are no longer choosing between defending Europe and not defending it they may well give more heed to the choice that remains: effective or ineffective defense of Europe.—Christian Science Monitor

MACARTHUR BITES HAND OF TUB-THUMPERS

Well, we certainly do wonder just what some of the newspapers which gave Gen. MacArthur the big front-page treatment think of him now that he has turned around and offered the back of his hand to the American press.

The cry-baby general, you may have noticed, recently unloaded a lot of personal venom against the nation's leading newspapers and wire services for their coverage of the Korean war—a coverage which MacArthur called "one of the most scandalous propa-

unusually long thundering applause which to me showed the audience's faith in his integrity and sincerity. During the question period a young man (whom I afterwards talked to and learned that he was of the Catholic faith) rose and said "I wouldn't expect an honest answer from you Mr. Blanchard, but why don't you tell the audience about the Protestant schools of Spain?" Mr. Blanchard answered "The reason I have told the audience about the Protestant schools of Spain is because they do not exist."

Considering "What is Christianity?" Could it stand for propaganda, the modern word for lying? Could it be power of numbers or money? Could it be the policy of the end justifying the means? Could it be included in a religion which would force conformity? Could any man or group or country profess Christianity and deny that the pen is mightier than the sword?

Martin Luther gave the inhabitants of this earth a new concept of truth, differing with the old Medieval and cruel power of the Roman Catholic Church. The fascist and Communist's fight, for world control must depend on secrecy, propaganda, and deceit.

Victims must be fooled into accepting their philosophy or allow it to enroach upon their governments and lives, through their own weakness and fears. The light of democracy (freedom) has been dimmed by its enemies. Truth; individual truth, political truth, religious truth, stands trembling behind the dollar sign, fearful that man is again going to forsake it and accept the darkness.

I do not recognize the ambassador to the Vatican issue as anything but a side issue. We Protestants must look deeper and clearer until application of love and understanding upon our lives and activities bring us the startling world shaking news that the American Catholics have broken with the money hungry, power hungry foreign government of the Vatican State, and to this new church, this new sacrifice to truth and freedom I would gladly prepare myself for membership.—FRED SKILLINGS, Route 1, Lyons, Ore.

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ganda efforts to pervert the truth in recent times."

MacArthur's storming of the press citadels, made by his mouthpiece, General Willoughby, sounded more like an editorial eruption out of Pravda than the considered reasoning of a five-star general.

Willoughby said the war correspondents were "rag-pickers of modern literature . . . distorters of historical values." He said the newspapers were "daily confetti of banalities . . . yellow journalism . . . giving aid and comfort to the enemy, etc."

What's behind all of this is that the American press merely reported the Korean debacle as they saw it, including MacArthur's famous "Home by Christmas" pipe-dream and Willoughby's faulty intelligence that failed to detect 300,000 Chinese troops ready to move against the United Nations last year.

It was, in all seriousness, just about the most malicious assault ever directed against the American press by anyone. And it came from a man who has been the beneficiary of one of the noisiest publicity hoop-las on the continent since Peron took over La Prensa.

The hand of the MacArthur tub-thumpers has been bitten but good. What we're waiting to see is what they say about it.—From The Oregon Teamster.

PERSON TO PERSON

In the task of building a co-operative, free-world front dollars may be less important than persons.

The truth about the United States can best be presented to the world through person-to-person contacts, a regional conference of the Institute of International Education was recently told. And this year more than 10,000 persons have been given United States Government grants to make possible the largest two-way exchange in history, with 31,000 students from 121 countries studying in America.

One piece of advice given at the IIE conference was that individuals who explain American democracy to others should be well versed in Communist doctrine. This may seem a puzzling recommendation unless one recognizes the degree to which Marxism has in-

Canyon Avenue Parade



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should have a full-time or at least a part-time manager paid a salary to work for this canyon, and I still say that is the only way it can ever be accomplished. Many of us are too busy with our own business to devote the time necessary that this undertaking is proving to be.

What has happened to our chamber of commerce?

fluenced even non-Communist thinking in the world at large. Many a convinced democrat has had the experience of finding himself badly out-argued by critics abroad because he has not understood the assumptions from which they argued.

If one would speak with a German who knows no English, one must learn German. And if one would refute the curious misconceptions of American capitalism held by millions of Asians and Europeans, one must use language which will not be dismissed by those people as a tissue of meaningless cliches. Marx's analysis of capitalism fantastically fails to apply to present-day free enterprise in the United States, but it may be hard to prove the point unless one knows what his analysis is.

Obviously, the first task of Americans is to understand and practice democracy. Nor is the study of Communist doctrine, except under the most careful guidance, a task for half-baked, immature minds. But with American movies, magazines, tourists, and troops abroad often creating almost as many misconceptions of the United States as they correct, there is need for more person-to-person contacts on a mature, well-informed level between Americans and those who speak a different "language" of ideas.—Christian Science Monitor.

DR. MARK

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