



"YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU," a three-act play, will be presented to the public Nov. 18 and 19 by The Starmakers, Mount Shasta's little theater group, in the Mount Shasta High School gym. Jesse M. Mitchell was caught unposed by J. O. McKinney's camera while he directed a rehearsal. Mitchell has been a professional entertainer for 50 years. He has acted in Hollywood and directed movies.

Russians' Youth Group Keeps Pushing Atheism

United Press International
The magazine *Younost* (Youth) is published monthly in Moscow by Russia's official Communist youth organization, Komsomol.

Like all Communist publications, *Younost* does what it can to further the cause of atheism.

In a recent issue, it published excerpts from a diary kept by a Komsomol member named S. Krainov, who infiltrated a group of Russian Christians.

To the editors of *Younost*, comrade Krainov's findings were evidence that Communist organizations should undertake more aggressive programs of "atheistic propaganda" among Soviet young people.

But to a non-Communist reader, the diary is a tribute—all the more moving because unintentional—to the devotion of a small band of believers who seem to have found, under persecution, the same quality of spirit which fired the primitive Christian church.

Let comrade Krainov tell their story in his own words:

"July 6—About the same time each Sunday, a group of young men and women carrying small books pass by my window. They come to visit my neighbor, Elizabeth Simonova, who is sick. I hear them singing songs that I have never heard before. They don't leave until well after midnight. During the week two young women visit my neighbor. They bring her supplies from the store, take care of her and tidy up her room."

"July 11—It seems that my neighbor belongs to the Baptist sect. Speaking of her visitors, she said, 'They are my brothers. In Jesus Christ!' I smiled and left."

"July 19—I had read in the newspapers that there were 'believers' in our country, but this is the first time that I saw them with my own eyes. The surprising thing is that they are so young. One of the young women came again today. I spoke to her and tried to joke. But without any apparent reason, she suddenly turned serious and said, 'We are the disciples of Christ.' There you have it. She is young; her place is in the Komsomol. Strange. Are there many of these people?"

"July 27—Yesterday evening I went to a Baptist meeting. It was crowded, perhaps because it was a Sunday. On the platform someone fell on his knees, closed his eyes and prayed 'Lord...' I waited for someone to start talking seriously."

"I spoke to the young man beside me. He told me, 'I have been a believer three years now.' 'Well, where is God then?' I asked him. 'Where isn't He?' he answered. 'We live in communion with Him. Among us everything is simple. We are all equal. With us everything is based on love and the desire to come to the aid of our neighbors.'"

"I was afraid that I was going to burst right out laughing, but I managed to restrain myself."

"I returned home with my head bowed. It is humiliating to admit the number of young people to be found among these Christian sects. How is this possible? These are people about my age, they grew up at the same time as I did, they went to the same school. What makes these people seem to be so weak?"

"August 1—After describing another Baptist meeting which featured hymn-singing... That is their game, you see. They make use of the opportunity to sing as a bait to draw people to religion. The Baptists attract young people with a thousand tactics. At meetings, their friends, at work, at meetings, they look for new victims... the atmosphere of brotherhood and love has a very special influence."

"August 12—The servants of

Negroes, Big Labor Stop Electoral Reform Tries

By LYLE C. WILSON
WASHINGTON (UPI)—They are saying that the electoral college flunked its 1960 test, and it surely did.

The popular vote and the states were split almost down the middle between the presidential nominees. The electoral college, however, scores the contest about like this:

John F. Kennedy, 338 votes.

Richard M. Nixon, 188 votes.

The U.S. Senate was poised four years ago to propose amendment of the Constitution to reform the electoral college. Fifty-one senators joined in sponsoring a reform resolution. Their number was close to the two-thirds majority required to initiate a constitutional amendment. Senate adoption seemed assured. The resolution did not even come to a vote. Panic hit the sponsors, and too many of them withdrew their names.

What panicked the senators? They were panicked, probably, by protests from some or all of the well organized pressure groups in U.S. politics. Two of the best organized of these are composed of Negroes and Big Labor. The electoral college reform then proposed would have shrunk the influence of racial and other large minority groups in presidential elections, perhaps put them out of business altogether.

It is a fact that under the present system a substantially united Negro vote, labor vote or religious vote—to name three—in any one of more than a dozen states can determine the presidential winner in those states in any moderately close election.

Such minorities, by bloc voting, can exercise constant or occasional balance of power influence in presidential elections. The reform proposed would cut them down to size. The present system allots each state's entire electoral vote to the candidate who wins a mere plurality of that state's popular vote, no matter how close the vote may be.

The proposed reform would have permitted each state to choose either of two methods of allotting electoral votes.

1. The state's electoral vote would be divided on a percentage basis among the three candidates receiving the most votes. Or—

2. Each congressional district would elect one elector of its own and two at-large for the states. That is, electors would be chosen just as representatives and senators now are chosen.

To the extent to which either method would encourage third or splinter group parties, the reform would be bad. To the extent to which either method would better reflect the popular vote, the reform would be good.

The 1948 popular vote was very close, as this year. The electoral vote was lop-sided: Harry S. Truman 303; Thomas E. Dewey 189; J. Strom Thurmond 39. Under the reform proposal, Truman would have had 258 (less than a majority), Dewey 221.4, the rest scattered.

The 1956 reform proposal sought to distribute the electoral vote more equitably among the major parties. The overall advantage definitely would be to the smaller of the two.

Russians Hike Ruble's Value

MOSCOW (AP)—The Soviet Union declared today that its new heavy ruble will be worth more than the dollar. Western economic experts in Moscow said the chief motive probably was prestige.

Under a decree the official rate of exchange will be changed Jan. 1 from 10 rubles for \$1 to one ruble for \$1.11. The Soviet government said the new rate would reflect a fourfold increase of the ruble to be put into effect on that date.

However, the ruble that will be put into circulation at that time is being exchanged for 10 of the present rubles.

The official Soviet news agency Tass said in its announcement of the currency revaluation that the state bank was instructed "to increase the rate of exchange of the ruble with the currency of other capitalist countries in conformity with the higher gold content of the ruble."

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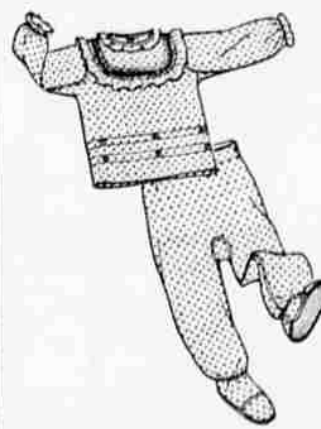
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