



The Indianapolis Times

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"Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way."

Russia Retreats, But—

Stalin's "new economic policy" is proof again that the Russian Communist leaders are realists. That is how they survive. They have developed an art the necessary give and take of government. Theoretically the most rigid of all political systems, Communism in practice in Russia has been completely adaptable to the necessities of the moment.

Therefore Stalin's reported proposal to sanction further wage inequalities, to fix individual responsibility on industrial managers, and to take back into industry the old engineers and technicians of the czarist regime, is not so surprising as it seems on the surface. Theoretically, it may be interpreted as the renunciation of Communism and return to capitalism.

But it is not theory, it is fact that is important in Russia. Viewed factually, the purpose of the new move is to strengthen Communism. If past experience is a criterion, that probably will be its actual result.

This seeming paradox is clarified by recalling the causes and results of Lenin's "new economic policy." That, too, was a return to modified capitalism, by re-establishment of private trade. The outside world said that was the end of the Communist experiment, and most of the Communist rank and file in Russia were regrettably of the same opinion.

But Lenin said: No, it is only a strategic retreat for a further later advance. History proved Lenin's prophecy accurate.

It is all a matter of degree. There never has been complete Communism in Russia. Communism is the goal toward which the leaders zigzag over mountains of adversity. Hence the periodic swings from "right" to "left" and—also now—back to "right."

But in all this retreat-advance-retreat there is one citadel which is never sacrificed. So long as that one citadel is held the revolution is safe and uncompromised, according to the Communist view. That citadel is the dictatorship of the Communist party, or—as they express it—the "dictatorship of the class-conscious proletariat."

So long as the Communist party strengthens its power, it and it alone can determine whether retreat or advance is expedient in the interests of the future complete Communist state. So long as it strengthens the Communist dictatorship, Communism wins.

If the Lenin-Stalin strategy is as effective in 1931 as it was in 1921, this latest "new economic policy" will not lead Russia back to capitalism."

Railroad Rate Speed

The interstate commerce commission has acted with commendable speed in scheduling the hearing on the railroads' petition for a 15 per cent freight rate increase just a month after receiving the carriers' plea.

The railroads will get first chance on July 15 to present their case, and their testimony of opponents to the proposal will be heard. On this basis it appears that a decision can not be expected until the last quarter of the year.

Railroads might have had their petition considered more speedily if they had specified, as the commission suggested, which rates they do not intend to increase.

The petitioners are within their rights in asking a blanket increase with the right to readjust rates where necessary later. But instead of coming before the commission with mental reservations they might have clarified their case, and been fairer to the consumers who must eventually bear the burden of any increase by stating at the outset which commodities would be exempt.

The commission made it evident, in asking the railroads what rates, if any, they intended to exempt from the proposed increase, that speed was of prime importance. The railroads asked a speedy decision, too, but their own action seems to have hindered their purpose.

It is much more than a railroad problem that the interstate commerce commission will start considering on July 15.

This is a case that affects every consumer, and some say that it concerns the length of the depression.

The commission undoubtedly understands this, and it evidently is prepared to give all interested parties a full hearing.

Agricultural Revolution

Are we on the eve of the greatest agricultural revolution in American history—one which will make the social and economic effects of the reaper and binder seem trivial and transitory by comparison? Such is the contention of Morrow Mayo, in an article on "Goodbye, Wheat Farmer," in American Mercury.

According to Mr. Mayo, the present program of the farm board is merely a frantic effort to subsidize hopelessly archaic and inefficient methods for immediate humanitarian and political reasons. It is a futile attempt to stop the inevitable tide of thorough industrialization of western wheat farming: "It is like King Canute trying to stop the tide, not with words, but by throwing dollars into the sea."

Mayo offers relevant statistics to support his startling thesis. Even if we figure the farmer's working year on a city worker's basis, he has 277 working days. At the most it takes only 100 days to sow, reap, thresh, and deliver the wheat.

That leaves 177 working days during which nothing of any real economic import can be carried on by the farmer. What would happen to a city worker who lays idle 177 days out of 277?

Further, the up-to-date wheat farmer, on a farm of say 500 acres, uses tractors and other machinery which can be employed with real efficiency only on tracts of from 5,000 to 10,000 acres. Neither the tenant-farmer nor the man who owns his own land can break even if wheat sells for less than \$1 a bushel.

What is the other side of the picture—the alternative supplied by corporation farming? Here machinery can be applied with maximum efficiency on tracts of 5,000 to 75,000 acres.

Labor can be employed for the exact period necessary to raise the wheat, namely, from sixty to ninety days. In 1930 it took three hours of man and horse time to produce a bushel of wheat. Corporation farming with machinery can today produce a bushel in three minutes of machine time. Even under unfavorable conditions, corporation wheat farming can produce a good profit when wheat sells for 50 cents a bushel. Under the best conditions it can make a profit with wheat selling for 30 cents a bushel.

Present wheat prices, even with efforts at federal boosting, are ruinous to the independent farmer. But corporation farmers can make a handsome profit right now.

If we may believe Mayo, the small wheat farmer has no more chance against the corporation farming of the future than the hand-weaver of Silas Marner's time had against the new power-looms of Britain's factories.

"As long as wheat continues to be produced by the

M. E. Tracy SAYS:

There Is No Plot Back of the Hoover Plan, but You Couldn't Make Russia's Professional Patriots Believe It.

NEW YORK, July 7.—Rome had nothing on the good old United States of America when it comes to holidays. Four hundred and eighty-three dead, according to the latest compilation, which is obviously incomplete. Let's be conservative and call it 500—a casualty list equalled in few battles of the revolution.

The prevailing thought seems to be that we can afford it in spite of the depression, but if we can, why all the staving about cancer and tuberculosis?

Like so many other phases of our civilization, the safety first movement runs to ads. We're all for it if a corporation has to spend money, or politicians get a job, but very few of us are sold on it sufficiently to slow down.

230 Daily Toll

OF course, the "Glorious Fourth" is, and always has been, an exceptional day in its fatalities, though hardly to such an extent as some of the headline writers would like to have us believe.

It is one of the few days for which we insist on keeping something like an accurate record. Ordinary days, we let pass, though none is without a bloody aftermath.

Ninety-five thousand persons die as the result of violence, or accident in this country each year. That means an average of more than 230 each day.

In France's Place

BUT cheer up. France is coming into line, if somewhat reluctantly. Neither are the alterations in President Hoover's plan for which she has been contending entirely without logic.

As the New York Times suggests, we would probably have taken the same position had we been in France's place.

We are not in France's place. We have not suffered as she did, nor are we surrounded by a continent that froths with age-old hates.

It is impossible for France, or any other European country to see the existing situation through American eyes. We not only have a distant perspective, but we can afford to look at it more impersonally.

Suspicious Russia

RUSSIAN observers accept the negotiations at Paris as just a bit of maneuvering to determine whether France or the United States will take the lead in an anti-soviet war.

That's only another illustration of how queerly people can think when they are scared, or trying to make propaganda.

There is no plot back of the Hoover plan, but you couldn't make Russia's professional patriots believe it, not in a thousand years. Plots constitute their chief stock in trade.

Stalin Turns

JUST the same, and in spite of her professional patriots, Russia is swinging into line.

Nothing proves this like Stalin's latest pronouncement, which represents a definite turn to the right, no matter how vigorously he may deny it.

What he proposes will have to be passed on by the Communist party council, of course, but that's a mere formality.

Stalin wields as much power as any Romanoff ever did. The big difference is that he thinks in terms of industry, while the czars thought in terms of pomp.

Reward for Ability

BRIEFLY stated, Stalin proposes that the idea of a level wage scale be abandoned, that ability be given some consideration, that the old bourgeois be taken back if they can, and are willing to do good work, and that the proletariat pay more attention to producing an intelligent class of its own.

Regardless of how such ideas square with Marxism, they represent good sense.

Unlike some of his predecessors and associates, Stalin is sufficiently practical to recognize the folly of trying to level humanity. That is something even those at the bottom don't want.

Home-Grown Experts

WHY the majority of us can't look like Dempsey, figure like Einstein, but balls like Babe Ruth, or make wisecracks like Mayor Walker may be hard to explain, but we can't, which is all the important.

There were loud calls for Ingersoll, but he was not present and finally when he made his appearance upon the stage the great audience gave him an ovation, which was in good form since Ingersoll had been the Republican party's greatest campaigner since the Civil war.

INGERSOLL came forward, smiling and launched into one of his hypnotic orations and instantly the vast assemblage was in the hollow of his hand. One minute he had the thousands rocking with laughter and the next minute he led them to the top of the world with his marvelous eloquence.

Then he made the only great oratorical mistake of his career. He proceeded to define the qualities which the nominee of the convention should possess. He built up an irresistible person and then proceeded to tell the audience that Judge Walter Q. Gresham was the candidate who fitted his description of the ideal candidate.

He had done the same thing before in the Republican convention of 1876 when he nominated James G. Blaine and on that occasion he had overwhelmed his hearers and it was only by putting out the lights that the enemies of Blaine were able to prevent his nomination.

BUT on that occasion Ingersoll appeared as the avowed advocate of Blaine, while in Chicago he was called merely to make a speech for the good of the order and the delight of the waiting multitude. And the result was the exact opposite of what he had been at Cincinnati in 1876.

The vast audience turned against Ingersoll, that is, all of it, except the part that favored Gresham. They howled and hissed and shook their fists and the pandemonium was such that he could not proceed. For the first time in his career he was forced to take his seat.

The next day a young man approached Ingersoll and told him that when the crowd forced him to stop speaking it was as if a great locomotive had been stopped instantaneously while traveling through the country at seventy-five miles an hour.

Ingersoll's eyes lighted and he replied: "Well, you know, grasshoppers have been known to stop locomotives."

"As long as wheat continues to be produced by the

Embattled Farmer Faces Failure



DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

Colds More Likely in Warm Weather

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.

THE association of weather with the common cold is recorded in medical literature from the time of Hippocrates.

from the department of biostatistics of Johns Hopkins University, Dr. William M. Gafaroff has recorded the results of observations extending over a period of eighty-two weeks and involving a study of the occurrence of common colds among 350 people and the relationship to thirteen different weather elements.

As a result of his studies, the investigator believes that the response in the form of catching cold to changes in the weather is more active in the warm period than in the cold period.

There did not seem to be any relationship to the maximum temperature, the humidity, rainfall, or barometric pressure.

In the warm period, from April to October, whenever the maximum temperature, average temperature, or dry bulb temperature, fell below its ordinary temperature, there was a slight tendency of the incidence of colds to rise.

There was our first indication that it was

perature, vapor pressure, percentage of sun, or atmospheric pressure fell below its ordinary level for the period there was likely to be a rise in the number of colds in the people studied.

Modern investigators are establishing the reasons for changes in the human body in connection with changes of climate.

Some time ago investigators in a large circle proved that the ability of a person with rheumatism to predict a change in the weather was based on definite changes that took place in his body before the change in the weather occurred.

The opinion of at least twenty centuries that there is a definite relationship between sudden changes in the weather and the catching of cold would seem to be borne out by the carefully assembled statistics now made available.

This means that the radiations are not only spreading out slowly through an endless realm of space, but rather than they are circulating around within a closed universe.

This had led recently to the interesting hypothesis of Dr. E. Regener of the Stuttgart Institute.

Regener regards the cosmic rays as the ghost of a universe which existed prior to the present one.

According to his view the cosmic rays are fossils, as it were, the remains of some sort of organization which existed before the present nebulae and stars and planets came into existence.

But Dr. Millikan stands by his guns and insists that the cosmic rays are proof of the fact that new matter is being created within the universe out of spent radiation.

Millikan's Conclusions

DR. MILLIKAN sums up his views of space as a great factory in which radiation is being turned back into atoms of matter and in which the simple atoms of hydrogen are being transformed into heavier atoms in the following conclusions in his article in the publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific.

"That the cosmic rays have their origin, not in the stars, but rather in interstellar space.

"That they are due to the building in the depths of space of the commoner heavy elements out of hydrogen which the spectroscopy of the heavens shows to be widely distributed through space. That helium and the common elements, oxygen, nitrogen, carbon, and even sulphur, are also found between the stars is proved by Bowen's beautiful recent discovery that the nebular lines arise from these very elements.

"That these atom-building processes can take place under the conditions of temperature and pressure existing in the sun and stars, the heats of these bodies having to be maintained presumably by the atom-annihilating processes postulated by Jeans and Eddington as taking place there.

We all are interested in making Indianapolis the very best city in the country, but when visitors see our people under pressure and hear their just complaints, it certainly does not do our city any good.

The gas, water, light and telephone companies still are charging the same rates as during the war when wages were much higher than at present.

Foods, rents, materials all have done their share to meet the present conditions, but it seems that the utilities are blind to the fact that the people need their co-operation.

Or else they have unusual ideas about economy and its benefits.

I feel sure your worthy paper will help in behalf of the public regarding this matter. Let's hear from other patrons of this newspaper.

MABEL LOWE.

1633 Union Street.

Editor Times—As a taxpayer of Indianapolis I feel that something should be done about the high charges for public utilities, and as the firms themselves seem unable to lower the rates, I appeal to you to help us all you can.

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