

It Seems to Me

by
HEYWOOD BROUN

SAMUEL JOHNSON in his dictionary, as everybody remembers, defined patriotism as "the last refuge of a scoundrel." Some modern lexicographer ought to explain "Communist pilot" as "the first out of any reactionary Governor." These are the days in which the "Red menace" has become the straw for every dying dynasty. It is utterly preposterous for Governor Green of Rhode Island to declare that his state is facing a "Communist uprising." I can not believe that the Governor himself thinks this is true. In my opinion he merely is clutching at a convenient phrase. He is making much wider and more sweeping claims concerning the power and prestige of the revolutionary groups than they ever have advanced for themselves. I think the Governor means to say that there is violence and the threat of violence in several of the mill towns of his domain and that he has lost his nerve and would like to pass the buck. Obviously, it is ridiculous to identify all rough and riotous action upon the part of American workers as being directly inspired by Moscow. Long before Lenin ever had been heard of, union men in this country were the victims of numberless bloody encounters. I say the "victims" advisedly because I must insist upon reaffirming my contention that disorders lie chiefly at the doorsteps of employing groups rather than working ones. When I picked up a paper Thursday I found on the first page an account of the shooting of eight civilians in Woonsocket. The news story said that an officer of the national guard called upon a group of mass pickets to disperse. When they refused he ordered a volley fired and the eight men in question fell under the barrage. There was further newspaper testimony that windows were smashed and stores were looted.

Heywood Broun

What About the Employers?

I SEE no reason why anybody should deny that a mob had gotten out of hand. And yet even on the testimony offered it seemed to me that the defiance of law and order was of a much more minor nature than that induced in by the manufacturers on the very same day. Only a column away from the story about the Woonsocket rioting I found another headline which read "Employers Defy Bargaining Rule." May I quote the first paragraph from the account in the New York Times? The chair hears no objection.

The National Association of Manufacturers advised the nation's employers yesterday to ignore the recent majority rule decision of the national labor relations board. The board of directors of the association would have employers disregard it until "competent judicial authority" has passed upon the ruling.

Now that seems to me a far more riotous action than anything which occurred in Woonsocket. Rioters in the Rhode Island town broke a few windows and tossed quite a number of bricks and assorted missiles at members of the militia standing on guard. A good many people who rampaged through the streets of Woonsocket that night probably were persons who had no direct connection with either the A. F. of L. strike or the Communist party. It always is fun to throw things at people who profess to have authority. But in Woonsocket the attack was not upon our governmental structure as such hoodlums acted after the nature of hoodlums and in the general excitement things were done which could not well be supported under any political philosophy. And the troops fired and eight men went down. And now the jittery executive is pleading for the ending of the regulars.

Taking the Cake for Impudence

I WONDER why somebody does not get excited about the frank and open revolt of the manufacturers. They said boldly that NRA boards might have authority in other industries, but that it was their purpose to ignore the entire setup. Why not call out the guard, or even the regulars, to keep the members of the National Association of Manufacturers from seceding from the Union?

But what made me even more indignant than the notice of open defiance upon the part of the mill owners, was a statement which emanated from the same group an hour or so later. Robert L. Lund, chairman of the board of the national manufacturers, had the effrontry to say: "Good government demands that any group exercising power under governmental sanction should submit to supervision by government."

And after establishing that principle, Mr. Lund went on to say, "Yet, these national unions consistently have held through the years that they are a law unto themselves."

That, I think, takes the sponge cake for pure impudence. The head of a group which just has told the government to go chase itself has the hypocrisy to mourn because workers are not more law abiding. I do not want to see anybody killed in any group, but isn't it just about time for some group of governmental supporters to drop a tear gas bomb in order to drive the rebellious manufacturers back where they came from?

It would be an interesting experiment. I'm not sure whether it would work. Most of the mill owners haven't been able to cry for years. After all, these are the gentlemen who are still defending the "liberty" of child labor.

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Your Health

BY DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

THERE was a time when the actual education of children began with their first day at school, when they were about 6 years old. Nowadays, we know that the child will do much better in school if he gets the right kind of training before school.

There are parents who are happy only when they see their children happy. To get the reaction that they want from the child, they pamper it, keep it constantly in good humor with presents and rewards and eventually make the youngster a tyrant in the home.

You can easily recognize a child that has been spoiled in this manner. It refuses to eat and the whole family spends its time coaxing, scolding and bribing it to take enough food to satisfy the parents of what the child ought to have.

The more they coax the more the child postpones his feeding, because he enjoys the attention.

SOONER or later, because of constant babying, the child develops an irritable nature and whines to get what he wants. Eventually the parents decide that rigid measures must be adopted and the final conflicts may have a permanent effect on the child's emotional reactions for the rest of its life.

The right kind of attention during the preschool period tends to overcome these difficulties.

We now have habit clinics for children of preschool age, where the bad habits that have been mentioned are given careful study and the child trained to overcome them.

IT has been found, in such clinics, that the real treatment began with the mother instead of with the child.

In many instances, if the mother has a reasonable amount of intelligence, an explanation as to the nature of the situation works an almost immediate cure in her case and makes it possible for her to cooperate satisfactorily in the training of the child.

This training is a relatively simple matter. It is important first of all to determine that the child does not actually suffer from physical defects and that it is not seriously ill.

When it is found that the entire situation is mental, the feeding problem can be controlled by permitting the child to go hungry until it is ready to eat. Sometimes removal from the family is an important measure.

Children who will not eat at home learn to eat rapidly when they are seated at a table with other children at a preschool nursery or kindergarten. Under such circumstances they eat because they do not desire to appear backward in relationship to the other children and also because the play element enters into the feeding process.

'THE COMING AMERICAN BOOM'

By Major Lawrence L. B. Angas *Installment No. 6*

In the preceding installment Major Angas described how the administration's course of raising wages helped to sustain effective consumer demand and why, without resort to much credit inflation, business and employment improved.

INSTALLMENT VI

ADMITTEDLY, since March, 1934, there has been some reaction from the highest points touched, and some now believe that the NRA policy has failed; they whisper that it has now exhausted every possible ruse, and that now a new relapse must begin, especially as numerous strikes are occurring (a) on the part of workers who want higher wages and a larger share in prosperity, and (b) in the hope of getting industrial trade unions established so as to secure a stronger bargaining power for labor in the forthcoming era of reflation.

These factors need not, however, cause great alarm. Most of the strikes which have occurred, or been threatened, are in industries where profits already have revived, and the workers, not unnaturally, are in search of higher wages.

Whereas the attempt to secure pan-industrial trade union recognition, although new to America, is merely a development which occurred in England eighty years ago. The disturbances caused by all strikes are regrettable, but collective bargaining may economically further the administration's plans by keeping consumer purchasing power rising somewhat parallel with prices and production.

As regards the talk of another new slump now following the recent minor revival, this, I think, can be regarded as merely the talk of uninstructed economic opinion.

The truth is that in every trade cycle economic progress takes place not in one steady line, but by leaps, reactions, stagnation and new leaps. Sharp upswings are followed by temporary falls; then after a period of quiescence the upswing is renewed. The United States at the moment appears to me to be nearing the end of a period of reaction, and after a short dormant period a new upswing should commence.

IT is true that in actual practice the recent period of industrial reaction and hesitation has been longer than normal, but then the previous advance in the middle of 1933 was also considerably more rapid than normal. It was, moreover, only to be expected that the rapid upswing, coupled with the jobs caused by new legislation, should have caused considerable price dislocation and industrial disharmony, and led to some friction with labor.

The monetary driving forces behind the forward movement, however, are as strong as ever, although to explain the driving forces at work some reference must be made to pure monetary theory. The reader, I hope, will forgive me for this, but money and its flow are really the root of the problem.

As explained heretofore, although nonmonetary factors may touch off a slump, depressions in the end always tend to assume an almost purely monetary form. Nonmonetary remedies such as tariffs, rationalization, etc., may do much to bring the country from depression to prosperity; nevertheless in past trade cycles slumps have, as it happens, always been cured by the gradual growth of a condition of "redundancy of money"; that is to say, by a growing unnecessary "surplus of money" in the passbooks of the public and in the reserves of the banks.

Owners to spend his surplus, so as to get some benefit from it instead of leaving it idle, and this sets in motion a trade revival.

ALL trade slumps require redundancy of money for their cure. In the normal trade cycle it matures automatically and "naturally" through trade and prices falling with a cumulative momentum even faster than the quantity of bank credit is called in and deflated. Redundancy can, however, be created "artificially" by inflation by the government or by the Central bank.

I admit that in all cases where redundancy exists it usually takes some piece of good political or economic news to touch off trade revival, but it is, in the main, the previous maturity of the condition of redundancy which makes the good news effective. The return of confidence is of

course a vital factor, but confidence itself at the bottom of a depression is itself re-created by the maturity of monetary redundancy, for the simple reason that the fact that there is "more money about" makes people feel richer because they have more money to spend, and the eventual spending of the redundant balances resulting from this feeling tends to touch off better trade, and to improve confidence. If increasing the total money, i.e., the average man's bank balance, by 10 per cent does not have this effect, doubling or increasing it one hundredfold will.

Usually, however, even a small increase like 15 per cent will give to prove effective, especially if further increases are anticipated.

MONDAY—How government by devaluing gold increased potential cash reserves by over \$3,000,000,000, and by borrowing from banks widened basis of credit.

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Baptist Clergy to Meet

The Rev. B. R. Johnson, Downey Avenue Christian church pastor, will speak on "The Ministers' Attitude Toward Organized Labor" at a meeting of the Baptist minister of Indianapolis at 10:30 Monday morning at the First Baptist church.

SIDE GLANCES

MAJ



"I'll bet that waiter wouldn't be uppity, Mr. Wilks, if I told him you were County Clerk for three terms back home."

By George Clark

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