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Give Light and the People Will Find Their Own Way

Red War Move in Finland

STALIN is speeding up his schedule for a world showdown. He acts like an aggressor getting ready for a war in a hurry.

Finland and Czechoslovakia are not the only evidences of this. In Germany he has stopped stalling and is consolidating his military and political position. In the Mediterranean he has brought his Yugoslav puppets and the Italian Communists together, and reversed his former opposition to return of Italian colonies as a bid for Italian favor in the April elections. In the Far East his Chinese Reds are racing to mop up strategic Manchuria.

The case of Finland is enlightening because Stalin needs nothing more from the Finns than he already has taken, unless he is preparing for war. They are now working for him under a so-called reparation agreement which amounts to economic slavery. They are disarmed. He has annexed slices of their territory, and established Soviet bases at the door of Helsinki and elsewhere to leave the Finns helpless whenever the Russians want to move in.

Any need Stalin may have for a mutual defense treaty with little disarmed Finland against a now divided and occupied Germany is certainly not urgent. So the excuse Stalin gives for his latest move is a phony. But if he is counting on a war against the Western democracies, then even the semi-independence allowed the Finns under a Red-dominated government becomes risky. For on the record it is the most self-reliant small nation in Europe when it comes to defying mighty Russia—as two Finnish-Russian wars in a decade show.

HAVING detached Finland from the Western World and from the Marshall Plan, he can starve and bleed the Finns into quick defeat in event of trouble. But he cannot now assure complete Finnish co-operation or victory of the unpopular Communists in the coming elections. Not, that is, unless he tightens the screws.

Not the least of his motives in this Finnish move would appear to be its effect on Sweden, Norway and Denmark. Despite all of Stalin's past pressures and the frantic desire of the Scandinavian nations to remain neutral, they are being pulled economically toward the West. Stalin in Finland is closer to them and can wield a bigger stick.

Whether Finland is to be the front door for a Soviet offensive across Northern Europe in event of war, or a back door to be bolted while the Reds advance across Central and Southern Europe, is anybody's guess. The latter would seem more likely. But in either case Stalin's urgent itch to complete the subjugation of Finland—as of Czechoslovakia—is obviously connected with his preparations for war.

The Great Debate Begins

SEN. VANDENBERG in opening the historic congressional debate on the European Recovery Plan stated the issue which the United States faces. Either we help to head off aggressive communism now or our own freedom will be imperiled. "Stop World War III before it starts."

Though Eastern Europe is gone, Western Europe still stands—unsteadily. There is yet time, if we act quickly, to save those 16 non-Communist countries. The Marshall-Vandenberg Plan has the best chance of helping them to help themselves get on their feet economically. That, added to the Western European Union proposed by Britain, and a defensive military alliance with the United States under the United Nations Charter, can provide security.

Passage of the Marshall-Vandenberg Plan now seems assured in some form. With unanimous committee endorsement it is expected to pass the Senate by Mar. 15. But the House is slow in getting the bill out of committee and is tempted to chisel it below the safety point.

One hitch may be the House committee's desire to combine it with other foreign aid. The Times considers the Greek and Turkish programs imperative. We look to Congress to supply to China the military materials urged by Gen. Wedemeyer and Chennault, but so far withheld by our floundering administration. The McGovern report just received by the House committee from its special investigator recommends such aid, because: "If China falls into Communist hands in all probability the rest of the Far East also will be engulfed and the effect of our victory in the Pacific war will be nullified."

It would be disastrous if the needs of Western Europe on one side and of Greece, Turkey and China on the other were allowed to block each other. There should be no such rivalry for priority. With Stalin moving on a global front, we must help provide the materials for self-defense in the Far East and Mediterranean no less than in Western Europe.

Whether or not the separate measures for this purpose should be combined by Congress is a question of speed. In this case the fastest method is the best.

The rape of Czechoslovakia, Soviet pressure on Finland, and the Communist sweep in Manchuria did not wait on Congress. Nor will Stalin's next moves.

A Superior Airfield

BRIG. GEN. HOWARD MAXWELL, state adjutant general, reveals plans to extend the runways at Stout Field from 4495 feet to 5000 feet, and to 7000 feet later.

As soon as this is done, a new portable lighting system will be installed, giving Indianapolis one of the most practical National Guard airfields in the country.

It is wise to keep the air arm of the National Guard strong. We have learned in the last two World Wars that the National Guard is the reservoir for the federal forces, and that all future wars will be fought in the air.

It gives us a feeling of satisfaction to know we shall have an adequate airfield. And we shall have a greater sense of security in the knowledge that our National Guards have had the benefit of superior training facilities should the hour come when they would be called into the service of their country.

In Tune With the Times

RED CROSS NURSE

(To L. D. E.)

You ask how I came to be a nurse;
A nurse with a cross of red?
Humanity called and I answered;
I knew how her poor heart bled.

You ask, if the long night watch
Through some soldier's crisis I'm tired?
I say my body is sore and weak,
But my soul is never tired.

You ask why I should give my life
To a cause another might fill?
If Christ hadn't died for man,
Then who'd have filled God's will?
—DR. H. LATELLE GREGORY.

Many states report wild life decreasing
because of lack of food. Or maybe it's the
cover charge.

O, WORLD

I'm scared to death in life's ghostly spinney,
Where mad bulls paw the dirty and blubber
red—
Where heaved young studs wildly pitch and
whiney
And all first limbs are far above my head.

I lie at night upon my bed of rocks,
A harsh coarse wind whips all my covers
up—
The dead invade my sleep in phosphor frocks,
Water sprays my spine from an icy cup.

Where, oh, where is my Father's well built
house,
The open fire and the soft feather bed?
Wayward I've been, a poor misguided soul—
Take me home, O World, ere you find me
dead!

—GEORGE S. BILLMAN.

Science has gone far, but a lot of husbands
will tell you that the front door still squeaks
at 2 a. m.

DESPAIR

I've always known that someday
I would have to let you go,
And if my heart is heavy
It's because I love you so.

I've had to sever all the ties
That held you close to me,
Because from here, you'll walk alone,
The way of man, you see.

I think of all the years ahead
Of knowledge and of strife,
Before you as you journey down
The winding road of life.

And now my tears flow freely
Though I know I am a fool,
Why goodness sakes, all little boys
Must someday start to school.

—BETTY ABBETT.

A radio entertainer says he begins his day
right by singing three songs before breakfast.
We wonder how his neighbors begin theirs.

MY UNWINGED JOY

A mist hung deep o'er the river's edge;
The moon was wan. I stood in awe,
For, there beamed at me above a hedge,
You, my unwinged joy, the fairest face I ever
saw.

Then faded fast from view,
Anon, like gray clouds soft on a mountain
height,
Where the moon points pierce them through,
My heartaches broach my soul for love of you;
Like a valley breeze o'er daisies fresh and white,
Shadow hands lead me on and on,
Down cool dew traces till the break of dawn
In search of you.

Broad day; now I shall linger by a well,
Till the whippoorwill, till the evening bell,
Like the kiss of a rose—or its afterglow—
The heart of a rose, the songs I know,
My darling, my unwinged joy, I love you so!

—GEORGE S. BILLMAN.

Two pants suits are reported more plentiful
and they're mighty handy for the family.

FOSTER'S FOLLIES

("MOSCOW—Look for U. S. Spies Soviet
Army Told")

Red Star warns all Russian forces,
To be smart, alert and wise,
And watch the sneaky courses
Of some mystic U. S. spies.

Should these wild quixotic "vultures,"
(Who are stalking them, they claim)
Plant the seed of "bourgeois culture"—
Joe might never be the same.

—

NATIONAL AFFAIRS . . . By Marquis Childs

How to Elect Truman Has Party Puzzled

WASHINGTON, Mar. 3.—The talk about substituting another candidate for Harry S. Truman is regarded by most realists in the Democratic Party as just talk. However desirable it might be in theory, they see two major objections.

No. 1 is the difficulty of getting agreement between the two wings of the party on a substitute. A liberal, backing the civil rights program and thereby appealing to the mass vote in the cities of the North, would be rejected by the South as vehemently as Mr. Truman.

No. 2 is the unanswerable objection. By the very act of selecting another candidate, the Democrats would be confessing failure so publicly as to make the chances of the substitute practically nil.

Therefore, even though new handicaps seem to pile up each day, realists in the party are thinking in terms of a revised Win-Whit-Truman strategy. They advocate at the outset a frank recognition that New York State is hopelessly lost.

Build Hope on Vice Presidency

THEY would build confidence around two factors—the West and a vice presidential candidate who is a recognized liberal of high integrity. On both points the answer they come up with is Sen. Joseph C. O'Mahoney of Wyoming.

Sen. O'Mahoney has a long and impressive record of battle for the small-business man and against monopoly concentration of power. His vigorous demand for action when the steel companies raised their price the other day was in line with what he has been preaching for a decade or more. There would be no question of the Communist or fellow-traveler taint. Sen. O'Mahoney is a Roman Catholic who believes passionately in free enterprise, seeing in monopoly the real threat to freedom.

Might Claim Votes in East

THE REALISTS believe the fact he is a Catholic would add to his appeal. The Senator was born in Chelsea, Mass., and has a claim on loyalties in that state with its high proportion of Catholic voters.

Sen. O'Mahoney is popular in the West. But when you come down to figuring electoral votes, the totals west of the Mississippi are depressingly small. Sen. O'Mahoney's own state of Wyoming cast three electoral votes in 1944.

Adding the votes of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming, you get a total of 32. Compared to New York's 47, this looks like small potatoes.

Assuming that the South does not go all the way with its revolt—a dangerous assumption at this moment—you add 32 to the South's 127 and come out with 159. The remaining 107 necessary to elect would have to be found elsewhere.

While this sounds like the logic of despair, there is nevertheless a certain logic in it. It is the logic of concentrating on those areas where the rewards promise to be greatest rather than dissipating money and energy in a shotgun attack.

In making official appointments, President Truman has given more recognition to the West than any President in a long time. So, the argument of the realists goes, concentrate in the area where there is something to build on.

Hold Your Hats, He's Off Again



DEALS WITHIN DEALS . . . By E. T. Leech

If Business and Unions Team Up—

IF OUR American system of free enterprise ever is upset, the motive force need not necessarily come from the left. It just as easily could come from the right.

The sudden increase in steel prices offers a prize example of how those who are considered conservative and respectable might pull down the very system which gives them their life and freedom of enterprise.

The Communists and their helpers are trying hard to do this. But those who pose as the best friends of our system may turn out to be more dangerous than the leftwingers.

Until this disturbing condition began to arise, capped by the amazing action of Big Steel, there hadn't seemed to be much of a rightwing menace in America. The Communists seemed to be the only destructive force that was really dangerous.

But elements which are hostile, or intentional, or foreign-inspired, as is the Communist attack, may not be the only menace to our institutions. Forces which are greedy and blind and self-seeking can be equally menacing.

For example, big business and labor interests which place selfish ends above the national welfare.

Suppose, for example, that big corporations and big unions should team up to take the public for a ride. They would not need to do so by open and active collusion; they could do it by tacit understanding that both sides would grab all the traffic would bear—and let the public foot the bill.

Suppose certain corporations were so big that they could dominate a basic industry on which the whole country is dependent. That they could so control prices and practices and labor relations that their private decisions would come to be bigger than public policy.

Suppose certain unions were so big that they monopolized the labor in some basic industry without which the rest of the nation could not function.

More Important Than Government

UNDER such conditions the acts and decisions of these giant business firms and labor unions would become more important than those of the government. Particularly would this be true if openly or passively they began to act together.

Obviously such power, under any conditions, would be dangerous. Unless used with great wisdom and restraint, it would soon become intolerable.

In the end, the government would have to step in and assert itself, in self-defense. For government cannot play second fiddle. It cannot exist under the shadow of a greater power.

Getting down to cases, the current situation

may not have reached the stage described in these suppositions. But it has already come to the point where it is disquieting, even alarming.

For example, on the business side take the case of a few gigantic steel corporations, particularly U. S. Steel.

And on the union side, such immense monopolistic labor bodies as the United Mine Workers and United Steel Workers.

There are others who might qualify for mention. But these are sufficient to make the point, because they dominate the business and labor of the two most basic industries in modern life—coal and steel.

How Immunity Can Be Shared

IT IS becoming evident that corporations, also, can share some of this immunity by "joining up"—so to speak—with the unions. The government has encouraged what is inaccurately known as "industry-wide bargaining"—as when Philip Murray and U. S. Steel reached their famous wage agreement under White House auspices. Or when U. S. Steel and Pittsburgh Consolidation Coal Co. give John L. Lewis practically every demand he had been able to think of.

That was "industry-wide bargaining" only in the sense that the deals applied to the entire steel and coal industries. Thousands of small iron and steel plants and marginal coal companies had to go along in every detail, without even a chance for discussion.

One company and two unions were thus able to establish wages and conditions for thousands of companies—and to set competitive standards for other business. They could do so because it was all in the politically sacred name of collective bargaining.

As a result of these deals, prices were increased.

Record-breaking wages and record-breaking profits went hand in hand.

And now Big Steel's price increases, which practically assure wage boosts for steel workers presage another round of inflation—jeopardizing our whole economy.

These latter statements are not suppositions, but facts based on recent occurrences. They lead quite logically to the supposition that selfish corporations and selfish unions might find this an easy way to attain their ends—at public expense.

If it happens, America then would have a form of fascism—which is a system of economic control based on corporate-labor domination of the state.

This could lead the government to equip itself with drastic powers over enterprise to protect its own domination.

The alternative to these possibilities, it would seem, would be the revival of real competition in the basic industries.

Hoosier Forum

"I do not agree with a word that you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

Write what you think on any subject or public issue plainly and clearly. Effective letters are brief. We do not return letters and all contributions are subject to editing. Write what you will—for here the people speak.

More Civics in Schools

By A. J. Schneider, 504 W. Dr. Woodruff Place, City

It has not always been easy to agree with the writings of Mr. Floyd McGuire, but his recent suggestion for "more civics and government" is one with which all thinking people should agree. This especially when we survey the sorry plight in which we find ourselves—due to laxity and complacency with regard to knowing what makes our government tick.

I would not be the one to follow entirely Mr. McGuire's suggestion that we have less mathematics, for I have also seen the disappointments resulting from insufficient or inadequately learned mathematics, English grammar, mathematics and Constitutional government are the three factors with which each individual in this country will have to deal until his dying day—and there is little question as to which is more important.

This much is certain: Unless our younger generation is taught a more thorough appreciation of the intricacies of government and political machinations, and why our form of government is more ideal than any yet dreamed of, the professional corruptionists who are in the saddle will perpetuate themselves in their vantage point until our civilization hits the iceberg just as did the Roman, the Babylonian, the Carthaginian and other powers. Our children and our grandchildren must be taught their own salvation.

I have been conducting a small-scale crusade toward this end myself—but thus far interest has been negligible. I have suggested that all of our local high schools be organized along the lines of city, county and state governments, with the combined groups organized as a federal government. Also I have suggested that Constitutional government be placed on the required list for the full four years of high school. A combination of these suggestions would undoubtedly dramatize our way of life during a student's impressionable years so forcefully that we would have no fear of communism, fascism, nazism or any other subversive ism.

Where Does the Trouble Lie?

By Grandpa Red Leg.

I joined the Indiana National Guard in 1902 when Battery A drilled at the old Curtis Armory at 16th and Senate. I recall the days when we turned over our drill pay of 20 cents per drill to buy the coal and pay the water bills. We had excellent outfits and a waiting list. Never before has Indiana been at the bottom of the list of all the states in connection with the Guard. The boys of Indiana are just as loyal as those of Illinois, Kentucky, etc.

Where does the trouble lie? Ask the men and they will tell you.

For a small employer with one or two men to grant two weeks and then two weeks more for Camp is out of the question. The Guard thrived and made a fine record with men who gave up all vacations except the Guard Camp.

Have our people gone soft—I think not. It is about time that our leaders get busy and produced results instead of making a lot of very poor excuses.

My grandson is in the Guard now. It took over three trips on his part to enlist and get sworn in. If I had not insisted—the boy would have given it up. In my day—when enlisted, were examined and sworn in—the same night—also received a uniform (somewhat worn—but wearable) and were mighty proud to be in a Battery.

I served 12 years in the Battery and missed only 5 drills and no calls to duty or camps. I was in during the days of H. C. Clark.

Let's get Indiana out of the cellar on this deal.

Congratulate Judge

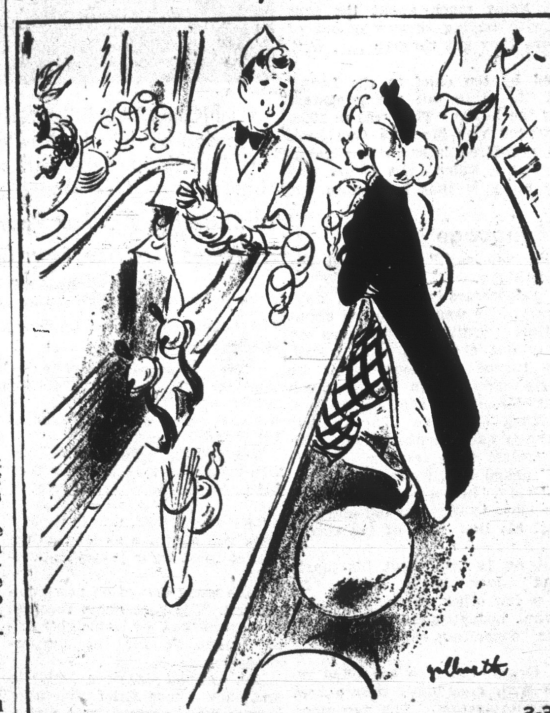
By the Howard Family, Park Ave., City.

Through the column of the Hoosier Forum we wish to congratulate the jury and judge of Shelby County on their decision in the notorious Watts case.

In spite of the fact that the lawyers defending a most vicious criminal, violated their oath as the defenders of law and order and employed every possible lie and dirty scheme to free a dangerous criminal who has no right to be at large, a political reason or to gain money or the business of other criminals.

This jury had the fortitude and sense of duty as American citizens to see that justice is done. We hope we might have more juries of its kind to help break up the growing crime wave in our city.

Side Glances—By Galbraith



"Oh, I don't think good-looking people are conceited—I know I try not to put on any airs!"

LITTLE QUOTES FROM BIG PEOPLE

Profiteering in peace can be as dangerous to the economy as profiteering in war. The nation needs protection now from profiteering.—Rep. J. D. Dingell (D.) of Michigan, calling for reimposition of excess profits tax on corporations.

You don't stop inflation by "lip service." If you can halt the rising wage cycle, you will see the start of a lower price cycle. Competition and efficiency will work to decrease prices.—E. G. Grace, chairman, Bethlehem Steel Corp.

We have pussyfooted too much in our public attitude on the Russian question. It is time for a showdown.—James A. Farley, former Postmaster General.

IN WASHINGTON . . . By Peter Edson

Anything the Reds Do Is Jake With Henry

WASHINGTON, Mar. 3.—Henry Wallace left out a whole lot of paragraphs when he appeared before the House Foreign Affairs Committee to read his 12,000 word statement against the European Recovery Program. Perhaps the most important lines omitted were:

"While the Russians felt that they had reasons to doubt the sincerity of the invitation to them, I think they made a mistake by withdrawing from the Paris meeting."

This sentence is notable because it is almost the only comment Mr. Wallace made that was at all critical of Soviet Russia. Aside from that one thing—withdrawing from the Paris Conference at which the 16 European nations drew up their requirements for a four-year recovery plan—everything the Russians do is apparently Jake with Henry. The fault is all with the U. S.—the American imperialists who want to intervene in Europe.

Still Living in a Dream World

THIS most recent Washington appearance of Mr. Wallace's was one of the strangest performances within memory. All the 25 Congressmen on the committee gave the man credit for being sincere. Not one accused him of demagoguery, of playing to the grandstand or making a political speech. They wanted to understand him. Yet what he had to say was completely baffling. He seemed to be living in a dream world in which the only realities were what he wanted to believe. He was a good bit like Walter Mitty in the movies.

"What is the difference between your plan and the Communist plan?" Sol Bloom (D. N. Y.) asked Mr. Wallace.

He said he wasn't familiar with the Communist plan. All he knew was that the countries of eastern Europe were being shut off from western Europe.

World Saving at Bargain Rate

THE fact that Moscow had compelled Poland and Czechoslovakia to stay out of the Marshall Plan, Mr. Wallace seemed to ignore. ERP, Mr. Wallace told Congressman Karl Mundt (R. S. Dak.), was American intervention in the affairs of countries overseas.

Mr. Wallace's own plan is for a UN Recovery Program run like UNRRA. Every country should contribute. Mr. Wallace puts the cost at \$5 billion a year for 10 years. The U. S. gave 73 per cent of the UNRRA total. Mr. Wallace hopes it would have to pay only 50 per cent of the UN recovery bill. This is world-saving at a bargain.

How he arrives at these figures he doesn't explain. The fact that many of the 32 countries supporting UNRRA are now broke and asking for more credits, Mr. Wallace ignores.

The fact that four-power control of Germany and Austria isn't working, Mr. Wallace ignores. He wants the German Ruhr run by America, Britain, France and Russia, even though they have thus far failed at making a go of Germany and Austria.

Through page after page of his statement runs the same note of unreality. He's an optimist, he says. He thinks both capitalism and communism can survive in the same world. There doesn't have to be a showdown. There is a religious war, like in the 1500's.

WEDNESDAY
THE BRID
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Doris
Couple
Mr. Bya
Nancy
Phyllis
Miss Marilyn
linen shower this
Richards, 5015 Ce
on Apr. 2. The pi
Ent, 5328 Kenwo
A kitchen sho
Hikene, 4315 Par
p. m. Tuesday, Mr
Mrs. Ent will be
Other guests w
William E. Hillke
and H. L. Hillke
Kiger, Nancy Rod
Lewis, Patricia E
ter and Betsy Har
Miss Kiger and
will be hostesse
shower on Mar. 3
of Miss Kiger, 447
The Ent, Richar
William N. Hardy
Barr, Rockwood a
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Rodecker, Fessler
Mr. and Mrs.
Ellettsville, ann
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Jen, 2358 Broadw
L. Stafford, son of
Poore, 1052 Wood
The couple will
430 p. m. on
Broadway Baptist
Miss Helen Kins
maid of honor, and
is to be the best m
Miss Martha Jan
ter of Mr. and Mrs.
6151 Norwalk Ave
ried to Edward A.
Mr. and Mrs. Fra
3336 N. Wallace Av
in the North Metho
The matron of h
Mrs. Glenn Furrow
Raymond R. Brush
Maple will be brid
roll Forrest will be
and Harold L. and
sew will be ushers.
Miss Fear is a gra
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Delta Delta Delta
Mrs. Loh "Jedi
Smoot, St. Will be
miscellaneous show
Miss Winifred Jean
day night.
The prospective J
married to James
Clubs—
Welfare
Bell We
Plans for the a
and party will be d
the Welfare Club ha
meeting at 12:30 p.
in the 38th Street
chants National Bar
party will be April
Auditorium and pro
ing Elderly Indianan
Mrs. E. L. Baker Jr.
of arrangement.
Mrs. W. R. Hat
chairman for the lu
be assisted by Mes
Kinnaman, R. M. S
Hutton Sr., George
William Mitchener
Cason.
Mrs. E. E. Martin
at a 1:40 p. m. busi
when officers will b
Mayor Feeney w
"Our City" at a Be
Club luncheon tomo
Indianapolis Athle
Approximately 250
and guests will
event. Mrs. Marie E
introduce a speak
A covered dish su
held at 7 p. m. tomo
Clifton Kindergart
Club. The event wil
kindergarten, and w
Back to Kindergar
theme. The fathers w