

you say, but I
right to say it."

POLITICS . . . By Robert Bloom

Holder Pulls Old Trick For Capehart-Jacobs Debate

Fights Cadle Tabernacle Site, Prefers 'Phone Booth' Size

GOP CHAIRMAN Cale Holder's efforts to hold the Capehart-Jacobs debate in a phone booth may seem a little peculiar, but think nothing of it. Such odd behavior is quite common among politicians, particularly Republicans.

They like to make their rip-roaringest Republican speeches before predominant Republican audiences. They never convince anybody that way who isn't already convinced, but, boy, do they get lots of applause!

Generally speaking, Democrats in recent years have been more inclined to the less pleasant but more productive procedure of carrying their political ideas to the general public. One prominent Democrat will muster up every city

and state employee who isn't sick in bed that night to attend the debate. He also expects these Democrats to be reinforced by a sizable labor crowd.

What it really amounts to, Mr. Holder says, is that the meeting will be a Democratic rally. If his debater, Sen. Capehart, has to speak before an organized Democrat rally, the GOP chairman says, it's going to be as small a Democratic as possible.

Republicans, he apparently believes, will stay home and listen to the debate on the radio if at all. He's positive that very few persons will show up just because they're interested.

Democrats, who have both city and state administrations, can herd patronage employees into the Tabernacle like sheep. Republicans haven't got anybody they can herd in around Indianapolis.

IF SEN. CAPEHART goes along with Mr. Holder's ideas, he will win about as many votes in the coming debates as he would in a speech to the Republican state committee.

It would seem to make more sense if the Senator took exactly the opposite view.

For example, in a house packed with Democrats, Congressman Jacobs couldn't win a vote. He's got those Democrat voters already. Sen. Capehart, on the other hand, would have nothing to lose and everything to gain. If one single member of such an audience changed his mind, it would have to be in favor of the Republican Senator.

As for the size of the hall, it seems logical that the bigger it is the harder it would be to pack with partisans.

AS FOR UNION officials whipping up a big labor turn-

out, how can Sen. Capehart lose by that? Union leaders are pretty solidly committed to a drive to mass the union vote against him. Every rank-and-file union member gets a chance to talk to at least an outside chance to win a vote.

The Senator, himself, appears to see the point of all this. He seems willing enough to meet a neutral or even a hostile audience if it will help his re-election campaign.

Mr. Jacobs, on the other hand, probably is far less concerned with having a partisan audience than Mr. Holder thinks.

The situation looks like a chance for Sen. Capehart to jar a little of the dust off the GOP. If he rushes in where Mr. Holder apparently fears to tread, he might even start other Republicans making speeches to win votes instead of to win applause.

IT LOOKS AS though there won't be as much talk about "slave labor" in the 1950 campaign in Indiana as there was in 1948. Certain unions are beginning to feel that the Utility Anti-Strike law passed in 1947 is not as bad as it was painted during the last election campaign.

What's more, some utilities that favored the law when it was passed aren't so sure any more that it's a good one. In other words, the situation is reversed.

The unions that bitterly denounced the act as "Indiana's little Taft-Hartley law" are faring as well as unions that can strike.

Here and there a few of the public utility boys are beginning to realize that sometimes management gets less in a strike than in an arbitration. Compulsory arbitration pro-

ceedings under the law are much more frequently sought by unions than by utilities. The unions haven't always gotten all they wanted, but they usually get something.

Wages are a major part of the cost of many public utility operations. If wages go up too sharply, especially in small utilities, the result is sometimes an increase in utility rates.

Since strikes are unlawful in utility wage disputes in Indiana, deadlocked negotiations bring arbitration instead of walkouts. In arbitration public opinion seldom comes to bear as it does in strikes.

A FEW UTILITY men are beginning to realize that while a strike by their employees might leave the public without essential services for a few

days, the public would likely turn the heat on the strikers.

Under the Indiana anti-strike law, however, it works the other way. The employees stay on the job, the wage question is settled by arbitration.

But if the settlement forces the utility to seek increased rates from the Public Service Commission, then it's the utility that catches the blast of public opinion.

It is doubtful that Republicans who helped pass the law will come around to suggesting its repeal. However, don't be surprised when the 1951 General Assembly rolls around if the GOP legislators have lost interest in opposing repeal.

And don't be surprised, either, if Democrats and union leaders seem to have lost interest in getting rid of the "dastardly slave labor law."

Washington Calling—

Mine Operators Believe John L. Can Be Whipped

Present a Solid Front Against 'Able and Willing' Clause

By The Scripps-Howard Newspapers
WASHINGTON, Dec. 3—Can John L. Lewis be licked this time?

Coal operators think so. They say they'll stand together, grant no further money benefits, sign no contracts containing the "able and willing" clause which lets Lewis pull out half a million men any time.

Factors against Lewis:

"Soft spots"—Operators willing to compromise with Lewis—have died or retired. Industry's now under a discipline something like that in miners' union.

Northern and Western operators are now as anti-Lewis as Southern group has always been. U. S. Steel, which once played with Lewis, got its fingers burned, won't do it again.

Lewis has no friends in government to try to save his skin. Also, miners have been on strike nearly a third of normal working time this year, have greatly reduced incomes. United Mine Workers, though it's one of the wealthiest unions, with \$15 million in banks, plus the welfare fund, pays no strike benefits.

Factors favoring Lewis:

Miners do what he tells them. It's one industry where strike-breaking's never attempted.

Miners remember many benefits Lewis has won for them.

Also, Lewis operates a secret police, in case loyalty wavers.

Strong-arm men who don't shrink from physical combat work for him in all the coal fields.

He shifts them around whenever trouble seems likely. These squads put fear of mayhem, even death, into miners and their wives. No man works in the mines if Lewis says no. So miners fear to talk openly against union leadership.

Lewis will try for separate agreement with anthracite operators in talks starting Tuesday. Some of them may deal with him, since anthracite is used chiefly for heating eastern homes, and operators fear conversions to oil or gas, permanent loss of markets. But settlement here is not likely to crack solid front of soft coal operators, who employ 400,000 UMW members.

Pass a new law? Neither war labor disputes nor Taft-Hartley has broken Lewis' grip on coal industry. Many Congressmen want to make anti-trust laws apply to union monopolistic practices. But all labor organizations would fight that idea tooth and nail.

Ward Faces Delay

DON'T EXPECT Angus Ward to be on American-occupied soil before another week or more has elapsed.

Ward and his consular staff will leave Mukden Tuesday at latest. Meanwhile, State Department must choose among American ship lines having vessels due to call at Taku.



Mr. Ward

Mr. Ward's arrival there. Difficulty lies in rearranging schedules so that ship chosen can make direct run to South Korea or Japan, normally a two-day trip.

Ward's train trip from Mukden to Tientsin will take two to four days, with another delay of possibly two to four days at Taku while ship is discharging and taking on cargo.

Formosa Hot Issue

STATE OF Formosa is hottest issue on Secretary of State Acheson's desk, now that Angus Ward's been sent home.

China ceded island to the Japs in 1895. President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill promised it would be returned to China after the war. This never has been formalized by peace treaty, but Chiang Kai-shek and other Nationalists fled there.

Sen. H. Alexander Smith (R. N. J.) wants it placed under United Nations trusteeship.

The Communists in the U. S. and Britain are supporting this. But others block resolution. It was proposed by De Gasperi's party.

Safe as long as aid flows in, tops the strain quickly. The peace is not yet

World Report—

Unheralded Policy That Costs Each Taxpayer a Dime Builds Rich Reservoir of Good Will for U. S. in China

\$5 Million Set Aside on Farm Reforms Points Way to Help Undeveloped Areas

By GORDON CUMMING

Compiled From the Wire Services
East kernel of a new American policy, observers in the Far East reported today, may lay in a little known American investment of \$5 million in China.

Little known because the Communists triumphs have squeezed it out of the news. Even though it has paid off it may prove to be too little and too late.

And it was done with dimes, in a manner of speaking, for every Chinese family affected by land reforms alone cost each American taxpayer about 10 cents.

Congress passed the China Act in 1948. ECA was given \$275 million to spend. But Congress provided that 10 per cent of it must be spent on rural reconstruction. It covered non-Communist areas.

Eighty per cent of China's population, it must be borne in mind, live on the land—111 in, in other words, for a living. But for the most part they do not hold title to the soil they work. The vast majority, then, are tenants.

Tenants were usually forced to sign new contracts whenever the landlords chose. In spite of the high rents, tenants paid "deposit money" when they rented land frequently equal to one-fifth of the purchase price of the land.

The deposit was theoretically refundable. But landlords frequently kept it and tenants were helpless in presenting their cases in the landlord-dominated local courts.

But times have changed.

The Chinese Communists have made significant political capital of that. "Land to the man who farms it" sums up the Red program.

That is where the \$5 million American investment comes in.

It was administered by a commission of Chinese and American specialists whose purpose was to "give the Chinese farmer a better break." And it is not just another bureau. Fact is, from top to bottom its personnel numbers less than 160.

The commission has concentrated on: Improved seeds, better hogs, pesticides, chemical fertilizers, veterinary services, rural industries, strengthening co-operatives and marketing units, irrigation and flood control, mass education and land reforms.

And to its credit it has these substantial achievements:

ONE: A considerable contribution to the welfare of the estimated 80 million people in Szechuan and Kwangsi provinces and the island of Formosa.

TWO: More fundamental goodwill toward the United States in these areas than produced by any other American aid effort in China since V-J Day.

THREE: Some valuable lessons on how to contribute toward the social, economic and political health of the underdeveloped peoples of Asia and at a relatively small cost.

The Sino-American commission found that China's population pressure gave landowners an advantage over tenants not known in America. And tenancy conditions in China

China

CHINA'S reeling Nationalist government appeared today to be preparing for the final flight from the Chinese mainland as fast-moving Red columns moved in for the kill.

Chengtu reports said the government had ordered the evacuation of all "non-essential" workers from that sleepy university town which became, almost overnight, the "refugee capital" of China.

Although the government has ceased publication of military communiques, Communist armies were reported advancing on Chengtu from the Northeast and Southwest. Influential government leaders were reported pressing for a quick retreat to the fortress island of Formosa.

Retired President Chiang Kai-shek was said to favor a further retreat on the mainland.

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The Chinese Reds who, striking from Kiang (2), took Chungking (1) this week, pressed on today toward Chengtu (3), the new Nationalist capital. Red armies also were driving on Nanchang (4) and Changshau (5). Rolling down the Hankow railroad they already have captured the industrial city of Liuchow (6).

land, arguing that fight to Formosa would make the government "lose face." Other nationalist leaders were reported arguing that they risk losing their heads if they stay on the mainland.

France

THE Cominform's latest meeting—held in a mountainous region of Hungary—was productive of a number of decisions of particular interest to France, reports said today.

Among other things, credible sources disclose, Paris was selected as the likely capital to serve as the center of the Soviet's newest propaganda campaign.

The French Communist Party, it appears, will direct the "peace partisan movement" which the Kremlin has decided is the most effective weapon it can use to counter the "war" policy of the United States.

A source close to Red party leadership in Paris disclosed that French delegates Jacques Duclos, Etienne Fajon and Georges Cogniot got a severe lecture because of the stagnation of Red action in France the past year.

The French Communists were warned to be on the watch for any sign of Titoist seepage into their ranks and to keep a wary eye on writers and poets of Communist leanings who might feel inclined to follow the lead of writer Jean Cassou. Since his return from Yugoslavia in September, Mr. Cassou has been loud in praise of Tito.

Cheschoslovakia

THE country's Roman Catholic bishops disclosed today that Bishop Antonin Zapotocky has answered their request for a revision of the church control laws with a blazing letter which sounded as if it were addressed to "criminals."

In a reply made available to Western correspondents today, the bishops heatedly denied that they were "criminals" and charged the Communist regime with violating both its own constitution and the laws of God.

Their letter, signed by all Czech and Slovak bishops including Archbishop Josef Beran of Prague, did not reveal what Mr. Zapotocky told them. It said merely that his communication "contained threats."

The bishops letter charged that Czechoslovakia had less religious freedom than states which do not pretend to guarantee religious freedom.

The 200-word letter continued, "we demand that the government of the Czechoslovak republic abandon its attempt to enforce a law which can not be fulfilled."

It raked Communist officials for trying to give the new state church office headed by President Klement Gottwald's son-in-law, Alex Cepka, a "spiritual power." The bishops said it was the state, not the church, which was stepping into a sphere in which it did not belong.

The letter told the Communists that with the church, God's law came ahead of the state's law.

Yugoslavia

The Yugoslav Communist organ Borba last night linked the recent Budapest Cominform resolution calling for revolution inside Yugoslavia with the imminent Sofia trial of Traicho Kostov, former No. 2 Bulgarian Communist.

Sunday's Borba, in a four column editorial, said that the resolution was merely an attempt to maintain the Kremlin's campaign against Yugoslavia's independence.

The Borba article said the U. S. S. R. has "only its own selfish interests at heart" and was destroying the independence of all the people's democracies and attempting to make "Yugoslavia the culprit."

Comparing the Kostov trial to the recently concluded trial of Lazlo Rajk, former No. 2 Hungarian Communist, who was hanged, the article said the same "Budapest recipe is being served up."

It said both Mr. Rajk and Mr. Kostov went to Moscow for "pre-trial treatment" and that the terminology of the indictments was almost identical, indicating that the same hand had written them.

France

MEMBERS of the Schutstaffel or SS, Hitler's most ruthless and most dedicated soldiers, were beginning to appear today for the first time since the end of the war among prisoners returning from the Soviet Union.