

AMERICA'S PRIVILEGED MILLIONS

POLITICIANS—even some fairly reputable ones—have during the past century talked consistently about the “privileged few” in America. They have found it to be a very effective phrase in turning less fortunate people against those of wealth and accomplishment, and hence a good vote getter.

But any person who stops to study this technique of winning votes will soon realize that the control of this nation by a “privileged few” is a myth.

There was a time in America—the age of the so-called “robber barons”—when there was ample reason to denounce Wall Street bankers and the heads of vast industrial and railroad empires. But that economic era is over, because in the United States of 1951 the ownership of our large corporations is so widely distributed that instead of the “privileged few,” we have—and rightly so—“our” privileged millions.

How many stockholders constitute “a few”? There are approximately 15 million stockholders in the United States. Each one enjoys the same privileges regardless of whether he owns ten shares or ten thousand. Each stockholder shares proportionately in the earnings of the company in which he invests. As Irving S. Olds, Chairman of the Board of the United States Steel Corporation, wrote recently:

“The citizens of many other nations do not have that privilege. They are compelled, by taxation, to provide capital for Government-owned corporations, whether they want to do so or not; and they are denied the right to participate proportionately in any profits which their investment might yield.”

Of the 256,630 stockholders of U. S. Steel, not one owns as much as three tenths of one per cent of either the preferred or common stock. Could one truthfully say that the giant U. S. Steel is owned by “the privileged few”?

Many of the largest American corporations have more owners than employees. American Telephone & Telegraph is owned by more than a million stockholders. General Motors is owned by approximately half a million, and General Electric has approximately 250,000 stockholders. Very few of the owners of large companies are wealthy. The great majority have modest incomes in the neighborhood of \$5,000 per year or less.

There is no other nation in this world where such great and extensive natural resources as well as organized industries belong directly to the people. And yet the demagogue mounts his rostrum and flays whoever he chooses to call the “privileged few.”

It is the “privileged millions” who have made America the land of freedom and abundant promise. The knowledge of this truth has made the Statute of Liberty our symbol, as she stands proudly at the gateway of the nation and warmly welcomes all who come to our shores. And they come in large numbers from foreign lands to get away from dictatorial authority and slavery. They come to settle side by side with 150 million privileged Americans.

BIGGER THINGS AT STAKE

IN the past three decades, the St. Lawrence Seaway project has been bootstrapped along in so many different directions that it has ceased to look like the political football it once was. It is now taking a different shape, for bigger things are at stake than the two original objectives: (1) to provide a continuous route for outgoing freighters from the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes cities, and (2) to produce some 4,000,000 horsepower of electricity.

The reason for the change in the project—the protection of iron ore supplies that are vital to the U. S. economy.

The Saturday Evening Post, unrelenting enemy of public power and other such “socialistic” ventures, puts it this way:

“The Mesabi Range (in the Lake Superior area) will be played out in a few years. No one knows just how quickly, but soon. The nearest large iron-ore deposit is Mesabi in Quebec, and it is in Labrador. As things stand now, the ore would have to be shipped by sea from Labrador to an East coast port, such as Boston or New York, and then by rail to the Pittsburgh area for smelting.”

Not only would that increase the freight charges greatly, says Secretary of Commerce Clegg, but it would also mean that the Mesabi Range would be exhausted as early as 1955. Now it appears that the exhaustion is going to be delayed by many years by means of the seaway could we, it was argued, safeguard an adequate supply of iron ore.

St. Lawrence Seaway project has a field day with the ore barges plying the open, unprotected Atlantic Coast.

ECONOMIC LOSS FROM HIGHWAY ACCIDENTS

MOST RAIL HEELS must surely be aware by now of the tremendous toll in deaths and injuries from highway accidents in this state. We wonder how many of them have passed to calculate the tremendous economic loss that is caused, also.

One New York reader, C. N. Gillette, whose hobby is studying and promoting highway safety, has sent in his own tabulation of the annual economic loss caused by highway accidents. The loss for North Carolina in 1950 was \$63,600,000, writes Mr. Gillette. A sum that would do any of the following:

- Provide driver education training for every school child in North Carolina, at a cost of \$6.5 cents.
- Operate the State Division of Highway Safety for 74 years.
- Pay debt service expenses on general fund bonds of North Carolina for 127 years.
- Pay 2,130 miles of highways at an average cost of \$30,000 a mile.
- Operate the State Highway Patrol for 34 years.

From The Baltimore Evening Sun

TIME OFF

HOW much vacation does the conscientious Federal employee need? Two weeks? Three weeks? Four? Five? More than five? He new gets more than five, by one day. With 26 working days, he can conceivably take a two-week vacation in August, acquire a good suntan at the beach, take another two weeks off, refurbish his tan in Florida along about February and still be back at work when the month of August comes around. And there's still one day left over.

The Senator, in a bill just passed, indicates that he thinks the ten days for the month is fairly luxurious and it ought to be cut some. The ordinary mortal looking forward to his traditional two weeks in August would probably agree.

“The Senator,” the time down to twenty working days, as the Senate legislation does, would still leave the Government worker with four weeks of vacation a year. Add that to the eight holidays that civil servants or

‘Let’s Keep An Eye On The Job, Bub’



People's Platform

Letters should be brief, written on one side of the paper. The writer's name must be signed, but may be withheld from publication in the discretion of the Editor. The News reserves the right to condense.

What Hot Weather?

Editors, The News:

SINCE the advent of our real warm weather in late June, people seem to be worrying over the heat. In fact a lot of people have just about returned to the attic and the porch.

For a number of years we have been getting soft. We enjoy too many comforts. My own recollections of June and July back 65 years, long before the advent of electricity or fuel oil, and we really had some hot weather in the not too distant past—also ten billion flies and a host of mosquitoes, bedbugs, fleas, wasps, yellow jackets, snakes and the like.

But things could get a whole lot worse. When we had hot nights the past three summers, cotton was nearly a total failure. It takes long hot nights for cotton to do well. We can't expect cotton at night and have big crops of cotton.

Of course, we have some breezes around 10 P. M. and people finally manage to sleep a little. The tycoons have air conditioning in their homes. The sick have large fans, and the poor have got to go to some juke joint and cool off with city-controlled beer. Duke Power Co. has lots of current for sale, and the breweries have a lot of soft drinks.

If you can read this and will publish it, some of the editors will read it and enjoy it. And after all, they're the ones who keep The News a going concern.

—J. B. WISE

For A United Korea

Editors, The News:

HISTORY recalls that the present Korea, China, Russia and a great part of Europe and the Near East were conquered by the mighty Genghis Khan. The vast Mongols then conquered a great surface of the earth and even threatened the early Egyptian civilization and the Holy Land. Which at that time was undergoing a Christian Crusade to free the Holy Land from the heretic Moslems.

From the time of the conquering Khan till the present, Korea has been swept with war. Korea was at one time under the control of China which at that time contributed greatly to civilization and aided man to emerge from the darkness of the stone age. Chinese influence is felt in Korea in customs, traditions and religion.

It was Russian imperialistic policies in the days of Teddy Roosevelt that engulfed Russia in the coming Japan, for Japan too wanted Manchuria and Korea in its ever quest for new lands for its expanding population and markets. Russia and Japan battled secretly against each other under Japanese control until World War II when it was divided into two separate countries. The demarcation line that separated both countries was

the 38 Parallel line. The North was under the influence of Communism, the South under the Republic of South Korea, a democracy similar to our own.

The weakness of the military might of South Korea and our pulling out of South Korea and leaving this new small democracy at the mercy of the world Communist hordes.

—measure, gave rise to the present Korean conflict. Korea on the whole has never had much measure of independence during the course of its noble history. In the event peace does come to Korea—the whole of Korea and not just one part of it should be united under a democratic self-government system much like our own, backed by a strong army of defense to insure its continued freedom.

—MARK A. BROWN

Musings About The War

Editors, The News:

HAVE been wondering just what our people are thinking about the war and the way it is being carried on.

It has been nothing about the Chinese and they have nothing about it. So why all this trouble we are now having?

It is a laughing up his sleeve about the war that is now going on between us and the Chinese. He knows that we can never kill out all the Chinese. He knows also, that we are spending our money at a fast rate. He knows, too, that we are losing many of our best soldiers. This is what Uncle Sam has been wanting all the while.

He knows, also, that we are not going to Russia to fight, consequently the next big war will be fought here in the good old U. S. A.

Now I am quite certain that I do not understand these big questions as I should, but you can put that in your “cook pipe” and I am sure, too, that some of your good readers are ready to ask this question, viz: What time will this war begin? My answer to that question is, the day we become well prepared.

One other thing I don't like, I don't like all these “secret meetings” that our folks are having up there in Washington. That does not look like democracy; it is more like the way they do in Russia.

—KIMSEY O. HUSKEY

Forthcoming (Continued Chronicle)

The split in the British labor government over whether the government should furnish false teeth for or not brings to mind the old, old saying. A colored minister was speaking in his congregation on Judgment Day. “And on that day, brothers and sisters, I want to say to you, I do not think the Senator should be elected.”

“He told them, ‘A sister on the front row exclaimed: ‘Preacher, I ain't got no teeth.’ ‘Teeth will be furnished,’ the preacher yelled back at her.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Ground

SENATORS are finding it novel and refreshing to have a newspaperman as a colleague. However, the new Senator, Blair Moody, who is a helluva fellow, the “club” rules, and some Senators don't like it.

For instance, it's against the unwritten Senate code for one Senator to expose another in a hall-of-fame. Yet that's what happened when Senator Homer Capehart, Indiana Republican, tried to vote with the meeksters in public and pretend he was on the side of the housewives in public.

Under the “club rules,” Capehart's colleagues would have excused this deception as political and let him get away with it. However, Michigan's Moody was not a member of a newspaperman.

“That happened is that Capehart voted behind closed doors to kill a price control. Yet posing as the housewives' friend, he delivered a political speech on the Senate floor blaming President Truman for not freezing prices sooner.”

“A situation has developed through an almost unparadigmatic on the part of the Administration, because the Administration did not freeze prices as of Sept. 8 last year,” proclaimed the Hosiery Senator.

However, Moody had said in the Banking & Currency Committee that he had battled secretly against price controls. So he stood up and challenged:

“I should like to ask the Senator from Indiana whether he feels now that it is advisable or feasible to remove all price and wage controls.”

“I have never advocated it,” blurted Capehart.

“Then why did the Senator from Indiana vote to do so in committee a few days ago?” Moody shot to do so.

On The Spot

“That is not correct,” Capehart denied angrily.

“The Senator from Illinois, Mr. Dirksen, made the

Local Teacher Gives Report On Lectures At Institute

By MARY LOUISE BUTLER

(Note: Miss Mary Louise Butler, American History teacher at Harding High School, was one of three Charlotte teachers who attended the Carolina Institute of International Relations at Greenville recently, under the sponsorship of the International Greenbook Committee of the Charlotte Rotary Club. With her were Miss Frances W. Gant, a teacher at Alexander Graham Junior High School, and Irving J. Edelstein, of the Piedmont Junior High School faculty. This is Miss Butler's summary of the lectures she heard at the institute. Editors.)

...the Chinese had lost freedom of silence. National and church leaders have been arrested for non-alignment of position or policy. Large numbers have been executed and these are the factors which are fostering a martyr's readiness among the people. However, a tolerance of the Communist party exists. Measures that have been followed which include the building of railroads and the re-allocating of land, thus giving the Chinese a new sense of ownership. The economy is run for the benefit of the Russians, however, and much of the food needed in China is sent to Russia and Siberia.

DR. DOUGLAS STEERE, professor of Philosophy at Haverford College, talked last night “Understanding the Europe of 1951.”

In describing the situation in Europe Dr. Steere described the crisis in which Europe stands between the Russian and Western Democratic ideologies.

“What a country like Germany needs in its physically, psychologically, and morally torn state,” he said, “is ten years of quiet. Instead it is the disastrous for both sides,” and newspaper political propaganda. The countries of Western Europe like France, Italy, and Germany do not at this time seriously fear Communist victories inside their countries if war does not break out.

“In France, where workers get \$65 to \$75 a month and where cost of living is high, the wages are as high as in this country, inflation moves ahead of wage inflation, which is cheaper. In Italy the wages are also lower than inflated prices.

“You will understand why workers are restless. They do not want Russian Communism or American rule, they want an Italian state with justice and freedom. To improve their living standard fifteen per cent and you will encourage them to believe in the faith in the country.”

ROBERT HUMBER, Greenville attorney and author of a world government resolution adopted by the United World Government, said that a modified U. S. foreign policy is necessary if World War III is to be avoided. Mr. Humber said that the United States should support our foreign policy is based on diplomacy which limits the choice of the world government, either to surrender or to fight.

“We must evolve a world regime based on a legal order,” Humber said, “under which individual nations would be prepared to delegate to the world government the right to exercise their sovereignty to a world state.”

The critical issue of the day, said Humber, is the Federal government's action must be taken quickly to establish a Federal world government under United Nations leadership and Russia, if it stayed put, would still respect it.

The Greenville attorney said that world government would cause no interference in national internal affairs and would be concerned exclusively with international peace and order.

Others are looking to the United States to produce the leadership which will move in the direction of world government, he declared. “The world government is relatively simple.” The calling of a conference to implement a world government, he said, is a law-making body. Humber extended his remarks by saying that the rising sentiment throughout the world for such action, but this country is looked to for the initial move.

In a forum after Humber's address, Dr. Kenneth Boulding, University of California, Berkeley, protested that the world is not yet a unified psychological community and that the world government is not yet a unified psychological community. Humber then cited the psychological differences existing at the time of their federation, but that did not prevent a strong start being made.

In summing up his discussions on China, Dr. Steere said a long range view of Chinese history would show that the Chinese are rugged individualists, and although there is now a Communist regime, the Chinese are rugged individualists, and although there is now a Communist regime, the Chinese are rugged individualists, and although there is now a Communist regime, the Chinese are rugged individualists.

Then, in keeping with his newspaper training to double-check the facts, the Michigan Senator phoned the committee clerk, and a minute later reported back to the Senate. “I have just called the clerk, and he says the vote was 8 to 4, and I remember very clearly that the Senator from Indiana did vote for that motion.” The Senator from Indiana held up his hand, and I think that was an indication of a vote.

“The Senator from Michigan says that I held up my hand to stop the Senator from Indiana from voting on the floor, and whether it is necessary to have persons snooping to see whether a Senator holds up his hand,” fumed Capehart. “I wish to say that I do not like such statements. I think it is out of order for him to do so.”

“I do not believe it is out of order,” retorted Moody. “Why should a Senator's position on a matter of this importance be secret?”

Moody Challenges Capehart on Voting

Reason for President Truman's coolness toward the Malik proposal was a secret report he'd received that Communist China is training 1,000,000 men for a Korean drive. The report came from the State Department, and the Russians at Mukden at which Mao argued that his troops were too lightly equipped, demanded heavy equipment. The report came from the State Department, and the Russians at Mukden at which Mao argued that his troops were too lightly equipped, demanded heavy equipment. The report came from the State Department, and the Russians at Mukden at which Mao argued that his troops were too lightly equipped, demanded heavy equipment.

Marshall's New Pup

NORWEGIAN school children who want to thank the United States for Marshall Plan aid, have been saving up their pennies to buy a gift for the author of the Marshall Plan. The money, they finally decided to send him a Norwegian eskimod parka.

At first they weren't quite sure whether the Secretary of Defense wanted a dog, but after the Norwegian Minister had seen him and after he conferred with Mrs. Marshall, the answer came back in affirmative.

So now nineteen-year-old Arnt Natland of Bergen will arrive in Washington July 10 to make the presentation. Natland won an essay contest—part of the money-raising drive for the Norwegian Red Cross—by writing “Economic and Military Co-operation.” The grand prize is a trip to Paris, New York and Washington.

The Norwegian school children's people-to-people friendship is similar to the American Legion kids' club, too, which sent several million toys to the children of Europe this year and last.