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THE EMPTY STOCKING IS HANGING OUT

IT HAS BECOME one of the finer traditions of the community to announce the opening of THE NEWS' Empty Stocking Fund on Thanksgiving Day. For the Fund, in a very real way, bridges the span between Thanksgiving, when we are conscious of and grateful for our good fortunes, and Christmas, when the act of sharing with others expresses the true spirit of the season.

And so, for the 22nd time, the Empty Stocking was hung out yesterday. As in the past, we leave it to you good people of the community to fill it if you so desire. You have never yet let down the needy people, young and old, in our midst. And we are confident that you will not let them down this year.

The Empty Stocking Fund came into being in the dark days of the Great Depression. It was designed originally to bring some small measure of joy and cheer to the thousands of children whose jobless, hopeless parents were unable to provide the necessities of life, much less the extras. At first the money was used to give big Christmas parties for the kids, where they got toys, fruits and goodies, and small gifts. Later food baskets for the whole family were distributed on Christmas morning by scores of volunteers.

Over the years, we came to realize that something was missing. And it was pretty important. The missing element was the full participation of the family, not only in the receipt of some modest gifts, but also in the planning and anticipation of Christmas. And so the Christmas Bureau was established, and the system of distributing cash gifts instituted.

It is our belief that the best possible plan has been worked out. The Christmas Bureau is operated by the United Community Services with an advisory board of community leaders. The Bureau screens carefully the list of recipients in order to be sure that the need exists and to avoid duplication and overlapping. The Bureau also makes an effort to see that the people who get the money use it wisely.

Although THE NEWS is the instrument for collecting the money and the Christmas Bureau the agency for distributing it, the Empty Stocking Fund is your program. Because of your gifts, it has brought warmth and cheer to many thousands of needy persons in the past 21 years. Now you have another opportunity to know the real joy of sharing with others.

SECRECY LIMITS PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO KNOW

STATE SEN. Arthur Kirkman of High Point is a stocky man with a firm jaw, an independent mind, and the courage of his convictions. In the 1953 session of the General Assembly, he was one of a minority voting against the "secrecy" law. This week he had more to say on the subject.

Speaking to a Winston-Salem audience that included Sen. Calvin Graves and Rep. William F. Womble, both of whom voted for the secrecy bill, Senator Kirkman called the measure one of the three most important—and worst—measures passed by the Legislature.

"North Carolina is, as far as I know, the only state in the union with such a law on its books and the legislators' action had, and will continue to have for a long time to come, an impact on the state's political and financial affairs," he said.

The secrecy bill authorized the appropriations committee and its subcommittees to hold executive sessions while preparing the annual spending bill. Senator Kirkman emphasized two aspects of the measure that were overlooked during the debate on the bill.

1. Members of the General Assembly, he said, sowed seeds for the impasse between news reporters and assembly that provoked sentiment for the bill. "I think it was a calculated impasse," he said.

2. Not only was the general public shut out of the budget deliberations, but "Fewer members of the General Assembly had access to and knowledge of the appropriations bill than any previous Legislature in the state's history."

Kirkman admitted that there are times when legislative investigations may properly be closed. But he then laid down a principle to which this newspaper subscribes fully:

"When it comes to questions of what's to be done with the tax dollar, I think discussion should be open to the press or anybody else. I'd be willing to hold them in the Raleigh auditorium."

The 1955 General Assembly will have an opportunity to repeal the secrecy bill, but action is unlikely unless the people, whose right to know has been infringed, demand it of all candidates in next year's elections.

SAUSAGE, POLES AND THE COLD WAR

A COUPLE of "country" boys who write editorials for the Greensboro DAILY NEWS and Sanford HERALD are having themselves a time reminiscing about ways to make pork sausage and how to use it in the cold war. What started them off was the visit of a TIME reporter to the mountain home of Cpl. Ed Dickensen, who decided he preferred West Virginia to North Korea. The reporter noted, in Ma Dickenson's frying pan, a "fat slab of sausage".

Ho-ho-ho, came the guffaw from Greensboro. Who ever heard of a "slab" of sausage? The HERALD nodded agreement, told just how sausage should be made, adding that if the recipe were followed and the product served at Panmunjom it would sweeten the temper of the Chinese Communists, improve the outlook of the North Koreans and "diminish the fury of the Poles".

Apparently the HERALD doesn't know much about Poles. And neither paper knows much about sausage.

Up in the north country, young farm lads eye with suspicion the fragile "rings" or "ropes" of Greensboro-Sanford type sausage. For real sausage to them is *blutwurst*, which they helped make by carrying to a snowbank and stirring rapidly a skillet of blood from a freshly-killed hog. Then mom added the head meat and seasoning, encased the work in narrow cloth sacks and in due time it was served up in generous slabs, if you please, alongside a stack of pancakes.

Furthermore, sausage has a peculiar effect on Poles, who love it—an effect certainly not calculated to diminish their fury. Stan Rojek, who played a fair shortstop for Montreal, Brooklyn and Pittsburgh, used to have sausage shipped in to him from his Polish relatives, and got as much energy from it as ordinary persons get from a gross of vitamin pills. Other persons of our acquaintance, whose names end in the traditional Polish "ski", put jackrabbits in their sausage. This concoction certainly doesn't diminish their fury. It makes them go out and shoot more jackrabbits and make more sausage.

It is hard telling what a Pole would do if he ate some Greensboro-Sanford sausage.

From The Greensboro Daily News

BEAUTY AND POWER OF WORDS

WHAT are the 10 most beautiful words in the English language?

Dr. Wilfred Funk, the man who writes dictionaries and poetry, thinks they are these:

tranquil	mist
murmuring	chimes
dawn	luminous
hush	golden
lullaby	melody

But so many people criticized Dr. Funk because he omitted their pet words that he added an additional 21:

chalice	bobolink
jonquil	alyssum
thrush	oriole
serenette	anemone
gossamer	damask
rosemary	oleander
fawn	halcyon
carnelian	amaryllis
myrrh	tendril
marigold	cerulean
	asphodel

Somebody ought to write a poem using all those words. It might be good, and it sure would be pretty.

One of the finest workmen in words was Lafacadio Hearn. In a letter to a friend he wrote:

"For me words have color, form, character: They have faces, ports, manners, gesticulations; they have moods, humors, eccentricities; they have tints, tones, personalities . . .

"Because people cannot see the color of words, the tints of words, the secret, ghostly motions of words;

"Because they cannot hear the whispering of words, the rustling of processions of letters, the dream-flutes and dream-drums which are thinly and weirdly played by words;

"Because they cannot perceive the pouting of words, the frowning and fuming of words, the raging and racketing and rioting of words;

"Because they are insensible to the phosphorescing of words, the fragrance of words, the noisomeness of words, the tenderness or hardness, the dryness or juiciness of words—the interchange of values in the gold, the silver, the brass and copper of words—

"Is that any reason why we should not try to make them hear, to make them see, to make them feel?"

When his friend replied that people would not buy his books, Hearn replied that he never expected to make money but that he wrote "for beloved friends who can see the color in words, can smell the perfume in syllables in blossom, can be shocked with the fine elfish electricity of words. And in the eternal order of things, words will eventually have their rights recognized by the people."

We can't add anything to that.

"He's real pleased with himself . . . his doctor told him he probably wouldn't live to witness Armageddon."

Lobbies Preparing For Battle

Another Co-Op Tax Fight Likely

By CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY

WASHINGTON

THE OLD issue of taxing co-operatives could provoke some hot lobby battles again next session.

This, at any rate, is the opinion of a handful of national lobbies which are preparing for the anticipated fight. They believe that, with reductions in some other taxes scheduled, a revenue-minded Congress may look longingly at co-ops as a possible source of extra income.

Under present law, co-operatives do not pay federal taxes at the co-op level on earnings that are distributed to members, whether in cash, stock, certificates of indebtedness, or by bank allocation.

STUDY EARNING STAX

Treasury Department officials are studying the possibility of taxing these earnings, and two Congressmen who have led the drive for widening co-op taxes Reps. Noah M. Mason (R-Ill.) and Clifford Davis (D-Tenn.)—seem ready to press again for legislation, already before Congress, for this purpose.

On Nov. 9, Mason, a member of the tax-writing Ways and Means Committee, urged taxation of co-ops and co-except business as one method of offsetting possible revenue losses.

"There is neither rhyme nor reason in permitting co-operatives to do $20 billion worth of business in competition with taxpaying businesses without paying the same kind of taxes themselves," Mason.

Currently preparing to battle for wider co-op taxes is a list of organizations led by the National Tax Equality Association and the National Associated Businessmen.

These long-time advocates of such action hold that co-op savings passed back to members should be taxed in the same way as dividends of regular corporations. They say that Mason has estimated that "full" taxation of co-ops and related groups would bring in more than a billion dollars.

A tabulation of government statistics credits co-ops with at least 30 million members. Those who oppose further co-op taxes, including a bloc of groups led by the Cooperative League of the U. S. and the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, argue that earnings from co-op activity are not profits, do not legally belong to the cooperatives, and therefore cannot constitutionally be taxed except as income of patrons.

They term Mason's estimate "fantastically high" — others have ranged down to as little as $10 million — and emphasize that, except for the tax exemption on earnings turned back to members, co-ops pay all taxes, including some corporation taxes, under the same laws and at the same rates as other businesses.

MAILBAG BATTLES

Skirmishing already is in progress. NTEA and NAB are issuing letters and pamphlets urging support of a new co-op tax. An NTEA letter to members announced: "Your Congressmen are at home! . . . It is important that you tell your Members of Congress, with no uncertainty, that you and other taxpayers in your community want and demand tax equality legislation passed in the coming session."

NAB also is urging its state chapter members to contact Congressmen at home. According to one official, this is "the tried and true way of getting things done."

A number of other trade associations are actively in the battle for "tax equality," and some banks have joined in an effort to have a federal income tax imposed on building and loan associations and savings banks.

On the other side, the Cooperative League is giving nationwide distribution to a pamphlet explaining why further co-op taxes would not be feasible.

Another group, the Credit Union National Association, is urging officers and members to confer with fence-mending Congressmen. "We've found that when Congressmen realize how important self-help co-ops are, they're usually ready to aid us," one CUNA official told Congressional Quarterly.

Representative Mason is answering his mail on this issue by sending out reprints of two published articles bearing his by-line which urge broader co-op taxation as part of a move to close tax "loopholes." On the back of each is a "Dear Taxpayer" letter, signed by Mason, calling on readers to ask their Congressmen to help close these loopholes.

Some co-op leaders point out that the Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee which considers all tax bills is Rep. Daniel A. Reed (R. N.Y.), who in the past has opposed additional taxation of cooperatives. They believe any co-op tax drive won't get far in the House.

Both the President and the Republican platform pledged support to co-ops, but neither specifically mentioned co-op taxes. And NTEA spokesmen claim "increasing support" in Congress for taxation of co-ops.

TWO MAIN ADVOCATES

Much of the controversy over co-op taxes centers around two advocates of the tax: National Tax Equality Association and National Associated Businessmen.

In the verbal ruckus stirred up by these groups' drive for co-op taxes, critics have used some harsh words to describe the two organizations. NTEA and NAB officials term the critics "co-op partisans."

To get behind the controversy, Congressional Quarterly interviewed Vernon Scott and Loring Schuler, members of the public relations firm which largely directs and guides both groups.

Scott, who has headquarters in Chicago, said NTEA was created in 1943 by a group of Northwestern businessmen concerned over co-ops' competition.

They called on Scott to help them get established and retained his firm to direct a publicity program.

Schuler, who works out of Washington, is executive director of NAB, which was set up in 1946. "It was felt that a new group was needed to lobby before Congress and let its members know how certain businessmen feel about co-op taxes," said Schuler.

"NTEA is the research arm of the co-op tax drive, while NAB, through its state affiliates, takes care of Congressional contacts," he added.

NO OFFICIAL CONNECTION

Although no official link exists between the groups, Schuler told CQ, "There is close connection between Scott's office in Chicago and my own in Washington."

Schuler contends that a misleading impression of both NTEA and NAB has been created by Congressional critics. In 1951 Rep. Daniel A. Reed (R-N.Y.), now head of the House Ways and Means Committee, attacked NTEA as an "unscrupulous racket," whose "vicious and inflammatory literature" constitutes "the most brazen attempt yet made by any group of men to destroy a basic industry; viz: American agriculture." Reed challenged NTEA estimates of potential revenue from additional co-op taxation.

In rebuttal, Scott told CQ that Colin Stam, chief of staff of the Joint Committee on Internal Revenue Taxation, has estimated that "full" taxation of co-ops would bring in $800 million of new revenue. Scott said NTEA's claim was similar and therefore has been backed up by an official source.

LARGE OR SMALL

After an investigation conducted in 1950, the House Select Committee on Small Business, headed by Rep. Wright Patman (D-Tex.), said that the claim of NTEA and NAB to represent small business was "false and misleading." The Patman report said NTEA had accepted contributions from big-business concerns.

Ike Wanted To Be Sure Lt. Radulovich Got Fair Play

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

A DEEPSEATED conviction for fair play and decency in human relations is one of the underlying traits of President Eisenhower's character. It comes out again and again in the warm and impulsive remarks he makes both in press conference and on more formal occasions.

That impulse was evident in his brief talk to the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith when the President was given the League's Democratic Legacy award. He said that every man should have the right to face his accuser. No one, said the President, can hide in the shadows while practicing character assassination.

WIDE APPLICATION

Those simple words could be related directly to many of the disturbing aspects of the current compulsive search for total security in an insecure world. But the members of his staff who, as the President pointed out, had so thoroughly briefed him for his talk believe he had one particular instance in mind as he spoke. That was the case of Lt. Milo J. Radulovich of the Air Force Reserve who had been found on the base of a record full of anonymous accusation to be a security risk.

The President had personally concerned himself with the Radulovich case. The final responsibility rested on Secretary of the Air Force Harold Talbott. But Mr. Eisenhower wanted to make sure that the young reserve officer got fair play.

Secretary Talbott has now found that Radulovich is not a security risk. He overruled the findings of an Air Force board that held the young officer a security risk because of continuing association with his father and sister who were in turn alleged to have had Communist associations. Radulovich denied under oath he had been influenced ideologically either by the sister or the father.

The charge seemed to many equivalent to the "blood guilt" of a primitive time. The case attracted wide attention after Radulovich hired lawyers to fight publicly to retain his status. Talbott has shown common sense and—in the context of our troubled time—courage in finding for the accused officer. Investigation of the father's background did not warrent the accusations made anonymously against him. They seem to have grown out of a bitter partisan quarrel within the elder Radulovich's trade union in Detroit.

In many ways the Radulovich case illustrates the dilemma of the day. Within the Air Force it has been said that if the 26-year-old lieutenant had not hired counsel and carried the case to the public in a somewhat spectacular fashion, the Air Force board might not have felt under necessity to defend the case originally made.

But if such a fight had not been made, it is conceivable that the whole matter might have been confined behind closed doors as routine with the issue concluded on the side of caution. That would have been understandable in view of the growing timidity in the executive branch of government before the loud political exploitation of the Communists-in-government charge.

AF PROUD OF SYSTEM

The Air Force takes justifiable pride in having a system for hearing security cases. In other services a man may be denied promotion or have his reserve commission withdrawn without knowing why the action was taken.

This, in the view of one observer, is the essence of the matter—the right to a defense. It is all very well to say, as Air Force officers have said, that separation from the service for security grounds does not mean conviction for a crime. But in the times in which we are living it tends, if there is any publicity, to be equivalent to the stigma attaching to a criminal conviction.

In sometimes angry letters this observer is accused of "defending" this or that accused person. There is a dangerous confusion here. In this instance after Eisenhower I have not "defended" the individual in question. I have insisted again and again on the right of the accused to a defense under the historic process of law built up so painstakingly over the centuries.

True, the Communists repeatedly abuse the privileges as they did in their outrageous conduct in the trial of the 11 top party leaders. True, they are part of a secret conspiracy. But if we resort to the technique of guilt by denunciation, then we have lost one of the great foundation stones on which our strength to resist communism is based. This concern was inherent in the recent statement of the Roman Catholic bishops who reaffirmed "the essential dignity of man . . .the rights which flow from it."

It must become more and more the concern of all Americans not blinded by prejudice. If hatreds are allowed to destroy fundamental freedoms under law, then we will have won the battle abroad, and no man will be safe. As a fairminded citizen, the President himself must be increasingly aware of this danger.

Give Junior And Sis Useful Toys--And A Few Chores Too

By ROBERT C. RUARK

ONCE in a while you just have to lay back and laugh at the curious circumlocutious ways we Americans double on our own trail, especially when we deal with bringing up the young. I see now that Junior and little Sis may expect a new kind of toy loot when Santa stumbles into the living room. They will be toys, according to the Christmas preview of the Toy Manufacturers of the United States, which will teach the little monsters to work while they play.

In short, the baby sister will get herself a closet full of brooms, mops, and pails, to make a game out of helping Ma with the housework. Little Adenoids will get a handy-dandy plumbing kit, a small, boy-sized lawn mower, and a shoe-blacking outfit. He will also have a television repair set, of course, and Sister will have a sewing kit.

MAKE THEM USEFUL

This is thought to be a highly therapeutic way to teach the children a few simple values, to make them of some use around the house, and keep them from on my kind preoccupation with "space cadets" and the grislier murders on TV. It is completely masked in psychiatry, of course, plus the more-advanced teachings in child care, and contains nothing that Grandpa didn't do as well or better in his day, without highfalutin' instruction.

In my boyhood all this putting Junior to work as he plays was more simply identified as "chores." There were things around the house that small boys and small girls were supposed to do, and no excuses were brooked, by the parents. From the time she was old enough to totter, Sister made her own bed and helped with the dishes.

Little Buster moved that lawn. Little Buster ran them errands. He chopped that kindling and toted that wood, hustled groceries from the store, and even hired out as handyman to the neighbors. The little girls were taught to cook and tend a sick room, to sew and mend, and the boys were encouraged to seek outside work, such as newspaper routes and the selling of seed packets and magazine subscriptions. There was not, actually, a great deal of idle time to keep the devil busy.

In return for simple assistance in the lodge we got rewards, in the form of small allowances, payment of which depended on whether that lawn was groomed or the dogs fed or the pony watered — and made an occasional bonus buck in dimes and quarters from neighbors. The free time was always sweeter, because before the baseball set played or the fish caught or the birds hunted, certain unpleasant chores were performed as a payment on the free fun time.

I cannot remember that this put any undue iron in juvenile souls, and can remember that it taught an early responsibility that never hurt a man or woman in later life. If nothing else, it taught a certain self-reliance and an early realization that life was not entire pie-in-the-sky, and that what you took out of it you had to put back.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Bipartisan Inquiry Of Communism Needed

WASHINGTON

THANKSGIVING being a period when we are supposed to do some thinking about our country and its blessings and how we can keep those blessings, I would like to put forward at this time two ideas which may help to end confusion and bitterness engendered over the Brownell spy exposes. Here they are:

Idea No. 1—Appoint a bipartisan commission of ex-judges or men of unimpeachable integrity to sift these charges and tell the American people the real truth.

This was proposed by President Roosevelt did when mistakes were made at Pearl Harbor. Owen J. Roberts, a Republican member of the Supreme Court, was appointed to review Pearl Harbor errors. Calvin Coolidge did the same thing during the Teapot Dome scandal, when he appointed Owen J. Roberts and ex-Sen. Atlee Pomerene of Ohio, Democrat, to sift Teapot Dome guilt. Woodrow Wilson followed the same practice during charges of airplane scandal in World War I involving the present Secretary of the Air Force, Harold Talbott. Wilson appointed the Republican who ran against him for President, Charles Evans Hughes, to probe the whole matter.

Idea No. 2—Adopt a system not unlike the practice of the Catholic church where by those who honestly sinned in regard to communism and have honestly repented, may be forgiven.

The Catholics, who have given haven to a great many ex-Communists in recent years, have shown the greatest wisdom and compassion in this respect. They recognize that there is no way for repentant Communists to leave the party these days, because the shame is too great. Instead they must remain in the party, unwilling prisoners, driven underground.

It is important that spies who deliberately betray their country be prosecuted. However, little people who were duped into embracing communism should be encouraged to desert the party, not forced to remain prisoners. Unfortunately, one way Communists keep their party together these days is by threatening prospective deserters that they will squeal to McCarthy or Velde if they do desert.

Double Standard

UNFORTUNATELY, also, the House Committee on Un-American Activities has set up a double standard for dealing with Communists. Lucille Ball, top-rated television actress and star of "I Love Lucy," was exonerated by limelight-loving congressmen even though the record shows she was a member of the Communist State Central Committee, the top governing body of the Communist Party in southern California.

The potent backing of Philip Morris and the Columbia Broadcasting System, however, was such that Congressman Jackson of California and other members of the Un-American Activities Committee felt it best to overlook the Communist Miss Ball, as a young girl, had merely acquiesced to grandpa's wishes by attending Communist meetings.

In contrast, the same Un-American Activities Committee hauled 22 obscure teachers before the TV cameras in Philadelphia and pilloried them for having once been members of the Communist Party. Both they and Miss Ball were pretty much in the same boat as far as communism was concerned, except that Miss Ball was higher up in Communist ranks and reaches a good many million people every week. In contrast, the Philadelphia school teachers reach only a few hundred. Yet they were fired. Miss Ball is still entertaining on television. She changed her mind about communism and was given a break. Most people, I think, are delighted that she was forgiven.

The 22 Philadelphia teachers, on the other hand, were not forgiven. Certainly they should not be teaching if they are still Communists. But if they also repented and changed their philosophies, there's no reason why they shouldn't become useful members of the community—perhaps even more useful because they now understand the pitfalls of communism.

More Tolerance

WHAT the nation needs today is more tolerance, not more TV headlines for congressmen. It needs more forgiveness and a safe way to ascertain whether a man has genuinely embarked on a new life. The doctrine of the Catholic church regarding confession and forgiveness is one which we might well apply also to our national way of life.

Unfortunately, the best way for a congressman to get elected these days is to make headlines, and the easiest way to make headlines is by an investigation. Investigations have an important place in our political picture and should not be abandoned. But when such important questions as loyalty and national safety are concerned, they should be nonpartisan.