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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1958

Chinese Stalinism Viewed With Fear And Fascination

By WALTER LIPPMANN

NOT long ago a leading Polish journalist was invited to give a lecture on the Soviet Union. His subject was the development of communism in Poland and after dealing with the socialization in the industrial areas he began to describe what had been done in agriculture.

WASHINGTON



STALIN

When he had finished, there were questions from his audience, and he was promptly attacked on the ground that Polish policy in agriculture is reactionary and anti-Communist. He was, it was pointed out, a quick-witted fellow.

THE CLINCHER

Then, when the audience was digesting this frank statement he added: "You see, our Polish peasants would resist the setting up of your system of collectivization just as your farmers would resist the introduction of the Chinese system of the communes."

I was told this story by a Pole who is high in the councils of his government, and he had had the story directly from the mouth of a significant source, I think.

because it illustrates a great truth about the Communist doctrine. It is that however uniform and often radical may be the theoretical generalities, in real life the application of communism varies often radically from the country to another, in any one country from one time to another.

IMPLIED CONTRACT

What is common to all the countries which fall, which are pushed or are pulled, into the Communist line, is that they have very powerful governments which rest not on elections and the consent of the governed but on their proclamation of their own right and their own capacity to shape the future.

It is plain enough, I think, that once a revolutionary movement has passed the phase of liquidating the old regime, what it can do after that will be determined by the kind of country it is dealing with.

For the old Russia contained the essential elements of modern technological development and the skeleton of an administrative system to operate a large and complex society. China is far poorer in these essential elements, and far poorer, of course, in the fundamental capital structure of its economy.

Please Save Us From The Liberators

"THE South," as she is uniformly dubbed by brethren from other points of compass who ignore that a Tar Heel and a Virginian wouldn't even use the same courthouse cuspidor if they could help it, has her friends.

One is Sen. Paul Douglas. Every twice, every deviation down here invites his advertence. He scrutinizes us like a dotting parent. He is anxious to reform us, to raise us up and up until we are just like Illinois, Land of Lincoln, model of brotherly affection.

Why should Sen. Douglas be so absorbed in our destiny? Politics, of course, couldn't be involved—he just wants to reform us and shake all that earnestness and decency out of us now, he has revealed, to "liberate" us.

There are many frightened people in the South, he said over a New Orleans television program—"somehow restrained by the pressure of public opinion and fear of what may happen to them if they step out for a more liberal policy towards the Negroes."

How is "liberation" to take place? "The federal government," he said, "can help liberate these people." He failed to say how.

Since it's the season for such, the "South" would probably admit to a need for reform and liberation. But not the sort of reform or liberation in which Sen. Douglas and his ilk are interested. The vast, abstract, and powerful "federal government" which it would wield with such dispatch, as if it were a

kind of patent medicine, will not cure the South's silence—if it exists. For this is the silence of conscientious confusion, which will not yield to arbitrary help from the outside. This is not a season for what Sen. Fulbright calls "sovereign remedies."

But as to this silence—Sen. Douglas has no doubt read, as we have, of the quiet firing of a teacher or preacher here and there throughout the South, of the quiet firing of a state government official because of the sovereignty of a complacent majority at another place. But as in Atlanta, the "silence" is broken here and there by petitions, manifestos, and editorials and the power of unorthodoxy is being tested against the state government of Georgia. From the Virginia line to Texas, there are many outspoken agents of change. That is true no less of North Carolina or Mississippi than of Douglas' own Illinois or Indiana where moral monitors of the South abound.

Does Sen. Douglas really think that it will "solve" or "remedy" the moral flaw of the South's racial order if a bit more verbal deviation is beaten out of the South?

The fatherly solicitations of Sen. Douglas, far from chastening the South, far from awakening a deeper consciousness of its failings, rakes into that deepest layer of feeling where regionalists of all positions unite. The result is solidity, stubbornness, sullen withdrawal.

We can do without such "liberation," thank you.

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There's Some Leftover Christmas Cheer

CHRISTMAS 1958 was a tonic in more ways than one.

It not only gave the nation a welcome respite from worrying about the Russians but it also performed a little lesser feat with the national economy. At least, most Americans emerged from the holiday buying binge with a pleasant sense of optimism about the future. Since psychology plays an important role in boom and bust this optimism is not to be taken lightly.

Present attitudes contrast sharply with the black mood the country was in this time last year. At that time, the tailspin had already begun and the hot-eyed prophets of deeper disaster were helping the situation along. There was frank talk about a full-blown depression.

The economic indices for the first few months of 1958 were not reassuring. Looking back this week, BUSINESS WEEK noted with a shudder that the economy "dropped faster and deeper than expected." But there was no spiraling decline, no swampy and treacherous bottom. Instead, business began a recovery that has carried most economic indicators to within touching distance of their all-time highs.

The administration's contravention of action to get the U. S. economy back on its feet was not impressive. The snap-back was more likely due to shrewd business management, the fact that when the chips were down U. S. consumers didn't panic and what some economists frankly call "a big dose of luck."

There are new cries of alarm about inflation. But the problem of keeping inflation in check is a considerably happier chore than dealing with a depression.

With repaired confidence and a fresh outlook, the nation can guard against the dangers of both conditions now. It is easier to prevent a fire than put it out after it has started.

Bread & Circuses

GOVERNMENT reports forecast a 957-million bushel crop of wheat, enough to stack a whopping new surplus on the old and already mountainous surplus of about 1,320,000,000 bushels.

What to do?

Well, for the classic combination of poplin and circuses we sure have the makings of the first Bread.

For the circus, we suggest the present wheat surplus control plan.

Is Youth A Handicap In N. C. Politics?

IT'S only the day after Christmas that one Tar Heel politician is already penning letters to Santa Claus for the next two Yules to come. He's Terry Sanford who has his heart set on the North Carolina governorship.

There is, however, some grumbling in certain quarters about Mr. Sanford's youth. He'll be only 42 in 1960.

Maybe somebody will even resurrect that ancient wheeze—"A Boy For A Man's Job"—that gave the Tenth District David Clark such a bad time. But if that's all Mr. Sanford's opposition can

find to carp about they might better spend their time with a good North Carolina history book. They would find that Charles B. Aycock, one of the state's most famous leaders, was 41 when nominated for governor. O. Max Gardner was the lieutenant governorship when he was only 38. Rufus W. Simmons was 32 when he first ran for Congress.

There were also men who started late and contributed much. But it is hardly necessary for a man to wait until his hair turns snow white and his knuckles are similarly bleached before he tackles a major political office.

From The Matoron (III.) Journal-Gazette

THE AMERICAN BACHELOR

IT seems as if it is becoming more and more unsound—economically and socially—for a man to remain single. One doesn't have to be a sociologist to see that the single man loses out on many things that the married man is able to cash in on. From where we sit, the single man has only one advantage—his freedom. And the head-scrinkers say that having a great amount of freedom is not necessarily desirable.

Economically, the government takes a bigger bite, proportionately, out of the single man's paycheck than out of any married man's. Naturally, the family man spends more money on his family than the single man is obliged to spend on any one item. But the chances are that a married man will bring home more bacon.

When it comes to finding a job, the married man usually has the advantage. Many times we read in the classified ads: "Help Wanted. Married man, 25-50..." The single man is often thought of as a disheveled Romeo with a plush five-room apartment, two or three cars, at least a dozen girl friends and more time than sense. That's why many employers shy away from hiring him.

And socially, the single man is often accepted as if he were the inventor of the common cold. At a party of married couples the single man usually takes the role of the third person in the "two company" three's a crowd routine.

We're not suggesting that every single man take the big step, but let's face it. The gay whirlwind of the flashy, young (or old) bachelor is not all it's cracked up to be.

A very attractive, but rather dumb, young chorus girl was offered a trip around the world. She thought about it for a minute and then said, "No, I think I would rather go somewhere else." —FORT MYERS (FLA.) NEWS-PRESS.

A true friend is one who thinks you are a good egg, even when you're busted. —ROCKMART (GA.) JOURNAL.

From a second-grader's classroom theme: "I have an uncle. His name is Uncle Louse. He has to go to Santious one a year..." —DALLAS MORNING NEWS.

A friend says he really doesn't mind baby-sitting with the grandchildren if only his daughter didn't act as though she was doing him a favor. —COLUMBIA STATE.

Sometimes preachers talk in other people's sleep. —ELBERTON (GA.) STAR.

A man pays a quarter to park his car so he won't be fined a dollar while spending a dime for a cup of coffee without a nickel. —GREENVILLE PIEDMONT.

People's Platform

Relocation Of Negro Must Be Voluntary

Salisbury

STEN. Russell wants the United States government to help Negroes of the South to move to other states so that each state will have its proportionate share of these people. The proposal might all right for families making a poor living in the South and who would have a better chance for a good livelihood in some other state.

But any proposal like this would have to be accepted voluntarily by any Negro families that would be affected because the Negro is a free American citizen and he has a perfect right to live where he wants to live provided he can make a living.

—JAMES W. JEWELL

A Reader Challenges

Truman's Evaluation

Charlotte

IN a letter of Dec. 8, Mr. Robert Alexander (commenting on a letter of mine about Joe McCarthy), asked if the Subversive Activities Control Board is "trustworthy." In a footnote to his letter, while not giving a yes or no answer, it was cleverly inferred that the board wasn't reliable because punchy Harry Truman said the following about certain provisions of the act which set up the board: "A clear and present danger to our institutions."

This is the same Truman, mind you, that labeled the affair surrounding the traitor Alger Hiss a "red herring" and the same Truman who wrote a letter of commendation to a Communist assistant secretary of state (Harry Dexter White) upon the latter's resignation from the State Department.

In view of your "illuminating" footnote, Mr. Editor, let us hope that Mr. Alexander has no doubt now about the "trustworthiness" of the Subversive Activities Control Board whose job it is to report on Communists and subversives to government. And, as any egghead fool can plainly see, that job is indeed a "clear and present danger" to our institutions. In view of the general fact, Mr. Alexander, let us say that any governmental board, or individual able to take Joe McCarthy, who goes after the Reds is a "clear and present danger," and is quite unpalatable in this country, particularly

among the leftwing "intelligentsia." Forgive me a moment, fellows, while I drink a toast to some good old American sanity! —J. R. CHERRY JR.

White's Note: If any Dexter White is not an assistant secretary of state, I am the secretary of the Treasury who later became U. S. director of the International Monetary Fund. He resigned from the latter post in April 1947.

Prosperity Depends On Wars, It Seems

Charlotte

IT SEEMS that prosperity depends, to a great extent on wars. For example, look how the big oil companies thrive on gasoline wars. Every time they have a big gas war, major oil companies open a few more stations. Of course they must consider their independent dealers' expense, just like the enlisted personnel in the big shooting wars. Fortunately though, there's always a big market for the ranks when a station operator bites the dust, and a little sign is placed on the front "open under new management."

Being a part-time motorist, I am happy to help harvest the fruit of these gas wars by using the low priced fuel, but I suppose I shall always feel a bit sad when I see the pained expression on the face of the poor station operators when the cut-throat gas prices go gunging lower and lower.

If such price wars are really good for business, it seems ordinary business men should accept their responsibilities and make similar sacrifices. Just think how nice it would be if Armour, Swift and Cudahy would engage in a meat war. Billings, Coble and Foremost a milk war; the big bakeries might cook up a bread war; the big insurance companies a policy war. And so on. But maybe it would be carrying it too far if the distilleries and breweries were to become belligerent. —A. C. BUCKLE

Why's Everyone So Excited About Chat?

Charlotte

I DON'T see why everybody is so excited about Yugo Humphrey and Khrushchev shaking such a long talk. It is only comradre-to-comradre chatter. —SYLVESTER STOVALL.

'Got To Keep Things Balanced, You Know'



HELOCK

A Birthplace Of New Hope

By JOSEPH H. ALSOP

BERLIN

freely. But they do not complain. They help one another. They are warm and friendly and full of the promise of a better future. And they do not mind being "processed" so endlessly, partly because they are used to worse, and partly because they understand the reason for it.

THE PROCESSING

The setting, a bleak cloud of workers' apartment houses surrounded by a high wire fence, is depressing in itself. The "processing" is worse. Everywhere there are the same long, patient queues of ill-clad people, slumped on hard benches, eternally waiting to be re-interrogated and interrogated, assigned to a committee, or sent to the chilly darkness just before the belated winter sunrise. It is simple to escape on a weekend, because the worker is not mistreated from his work; and the family can tell the guards on the trail that they are going to visit friends or relatives at any rate. Mariannefeld is quite exceptionally cheerful. The habit of years keeps the people in the queues from talking too

through the free city at the rush hour. At this season, the flood of refugees is less because, as one young couple from Dresden remarked to me, "It is hard to leave your own place just before Christmas, even when you have decided it is all bad and you must go." But no ups and downs in the weekly totals can alter the fact that this human flood is a massive hemorrhage of the East German body politic.

Too many of the thousands who flee each week are the best and brightest of their education just completed, and now professors, engineers, scientists, and other highly skilled technicians of all sorts.

I talked with several of them. "I fled," said Herr Ulbricht, "not greatly mind the gap left by my young art historian with a minor museum post. He had fled 'because of his engineering training. And now he and his capable wife and his two gay, bright-haired children had all come out together, only three months after he had taken over the job he had been so laboriously trained for."

"It will not be easy," said the wife, "to get another job as good as that. But he knew what he must do. It is strange, no, that we are all so cheerful to lose everything we had built up here."

The others in the long queue nodded and smiled. At the Christmas season of 1958, when the threat of blockade again hangs over Berlin, those people in their queue make a good holiday thought.

But consider the signal engineer from the East German state railways. The East German state had invested seven full years in this man's engineering training. And now he and his capable wife and his two gay, bright-haired children had all come out together, only three months after he had taken over the job he had been so laboriously trained for.

"It will not be easy," said the wife, "to get another job as good as that. But he knew what he must do. It is strange, no, that we are all so cheerful to lose everything we had built up here."

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Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editors' Note: While Drew Pearson is in Alaska on his annual Christmas trip to entertain American troops, his column is written by his assistant, Jack Anderson.

WASHINGTON

HERE is the net impression President Eisenhower received from two important American observers, Sen. Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota and Eric Johnston, head of the Motion Picture Association of America, after they interviewed Nikita Khrushchev, the strong man of Russia.

What Is Nikita Khrushchev Really Like?

doesn't go off half-cocked. If he doesn't know, he doesn't answer. He just changes the subject. If you ask him about Yugoslavia, which is embarrassing, he will talk about China.

WASHINGTON

Khrushchev appears to be a man who is exactly what he's doing and exactly what he is talking about. He has expert knowledge on many subjects and

No. 1 Goal

His No. 1 goal is to beat America. He has studied the United States and knows it perhaps better than many American statesmen know the New York Times is placed on his desk every morning and he can quote figures on American production, population, kilowatt hours. Last October he predicted a Democratic sweep in Congress but told Eric

Johnston that Nelson Rockefeller seemed to be gaining in New York. He diagnosed intelligently the problems Eisenhower would face with Democratic Congress. Eisenhower was particularly interested in the fact that Khrushchev made it clear to his callers Russia did not want war but was set back in its progress during a war, and Khrushchev expressed apparently genuine fear that the United States might start a war in desperation because it was losing the cold war.

This is the man, according to the reports by President Eisenhower, who directs the fate of the Soviet Union.

Khrushchev does not drink to excess. He takes an occasional cocktail, sips a sober. He has no nervousness, no kidney trouble reported. During the long sessions he had with both Sen.