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The Condition Will Not Cure Itself

THE mess in Judge Basil M. Boyd's City Recorder's Court is as unsavory as ever today.

As expected, the auditor's report presented to a weary and crochety City Council yesterday afternoon raised more questions than it answered.

It is small consolation that no money is missing. What is missing is something vastly more valuable: a semblance of order in the processing of cases for judgment and a guarantee that defendants have received equal and exact justice in a court of law.

Three spectators haunt Judge Boyd's careless rapture concerning the integrity of his court:

1—The unknown number of warrants illegally not prosessed.

2—The known number of forfeited but uncollected bonds.

3—The mysterious use to which Police Capt. L. W. Henkel has put the court in cashing checks totaling more than \$26,000 in less than a year—checks that occasionally bounced only to be re-deposited and accepted later.

Not one of these matters has yet been dealt with successfully—although the public scandal has been developing for the better part of two months.

Council apparently does not fully appreciate the enormity of the issue involved. Facts already unearthed are damning enough to suggest that there has been something abysmally wrong with the conduct of City Recorder's Court for a very long time. This involves the administration of justice, not the Dog Day drollery of some two-bit municipal commission. It deserves more than ordinary concern on the part of the city fathers and more than ordinary indignation on the part of the public at large.

The real story of the operation of City Recorder's Court—in all of its gamy detail—still remains to be told. And it is still Council's responsibility to tell it.

'After The Sideshow, Back To Business

THE exchange of verbal artillery between City Manager Henry A. Yancey and Police Chief Frank N. Littlejohn in the mayor's office yesterday was a lively but nevertheless unseemly sideshow. It added nothing to the solution of much more serious problems involved in the court scandal and only served to divert the public's attention from the main event.

It is regrettable that Chief Littlejohn felt it necessary to question the city manager's integrity at all. It is even more regrettable that when the error of his "assumption" was pointed out he did not offer Mr. Yancey the courtesy of a

It is not enough to order the auditors to take their compilations back another two years or so.

It is not enough to invite the officials of City Recorder's Court to appear before Council and tell "what is going on," as Councilman Herman Brown so quaintly phrased it in a motion yesterday.

Nor is it enough to pray that the whole sweaty business will all blow over by the time Independence Day casts its patriotic spell over the populace.

It is, instead, Council's clear duty to put competent investigators to work at once, evaluating data that has already been collected and ferreting out details that are still veiled in considerable mystery.

What is needed is, quite frankly, a police-type investigation of the curious manner in which City Recorder's Court has been conducted.

If there has been actual wrongdoing then the proper authorities can be called in to take appropriate criminal action.

If there has been laxity then the Council can spot it and cure it.

Whatever the trouble—whether wrongdoing or laxity or both conditions are to blame for the mess—Council will have to have a clear idea of its dimensions before it can guard against its recurrence. And it must guard against the recurrence of whatever tomfoolery has caused City Recorder's Court to be thrust so suddenly and so unfavorably into the limelight.

It is up to Council to get the facts and share them with the public.

The court cannot properly investigate itself.

The newspapers cannot do the job by themselves—although they have already turned up a considerable part of the mischief.

Only Council is really equipped to determine the cause—and the cure—for what ails its own municipal court.

full and unequivocal withdrawal of the

Mr. Yancey's temper may have been showing a bit unbefittingly yesterday but there has never been anything discernibly wrong with his integrity. We are confident that he has been as straight-forward and fair in his handling of details of the court scandal as is his custom in all matters of municipal administration. The "assumption" that he "deliberately delayed" the release of the audit of court records "in order to go to Judge Basil M. Boyd a chance to start cleaning up his own house" is patently absurd.

Ike Leaves His Allies In The Lurch

THE political logistics of the Eisenhower administration continue to throw Congress into periodic fits of angry amazement.

It's understandable. When key Republicans and Democrats go into the bipartisan trenches in support of the administration and then glance up at the moment of victory to find the general leading a charge against them, it's bound to be disconcerting.

The latest and one of the most depressing examples of this was the Senate's unexpected one-vote defeat of a move to give the administration specific authority to extend economic aid to Soviet satellites. The President, apparently under the influence of Sen. Knowland, arranged the defeat by a full-circle reversal of his stand on the matter.

Thus he denied himself authority that

he might have used to advantage—but did not have to use—in attempts to wean any satellites away from Soviet dominance. It was authority he had sought and, in the case of Yugoslavia and Poland, authority he had used with promising effect. But at the point of getting formal Senate endorsement of this tactic, the President apparently was overwhelmed by his own timidity and the bluffs of the Republican right wing.

But beyond declining to accept a Senate blessing and extension of a strategy he has been using, the President left his allies to take all the political risks involved in this attempt to make U. S. foreign policy more "dynamic" to use a phrase from an old "Modern Republican" handbill.

It may not be so trite as it seems to say that risk is always involved in leadership.

Caroline Coleman In The Greenville Piedmont

THE OLD BLUE BACK SPELLER

LEARNING the "a-b-c's" was a laborious process for the youngster who, according to Noah Webster, could not learn to spell until he had mastered the alphabet. Parents were considered careless and indifferent if they failed to teach their children the alphabet before starting them to school. However few of the little fellows did know their alphabet before entering the rural school.

Children started to school at an early age in the past century; that is, all who lived at no great distance from the schoolhouse. When it was a walk of two or three miles, the least one in the family had to be six years old before he could walk that distance.

Each child when beginning was given the Blue Book speller, his sole textbook, his class text and his home work—all in one. The first text page in the Blue Book Speller was taken up entirely by the alphabet. Mysterious little quirk and quirls, those five rows down the length of the page. The tot who sat with feet dangling above the schoolroom floor, in a room full of children who seemed infinitely leaved, quailed at the thought of his lack of knowledge and the prospect of ever being able to master the quirls called "letters."

"Johnny, take down to here for your lesson today." Teacher would bark below the first six letters, then pronounce

the letters for him. Johnny would go back to his seat, and try to connect Teacher's pronunciation with the various letters she had pointed out. After hearing the reading classes, spelling, arithmetic, geography and others, Teacher would call out, "Johnny, we'll have your lesson."

Trembling from head to foot Johnny would march to the desk and manfully try to connect the sound "a" with the mark which stood for the sound. After an attempt at reciting the letters he would go back and study again. This went on and on for days and weeks until Johnny had proudly mastered the entire row of letters, and the mark which stood for "and so forth." Letters were learned in Roman and Italic, small letters and capitals, and the fifth column which gave the sounds of the letters was learned along with the letters.

"Johnny knows his a-b-c's," a mother would say proudly and by the time Johnny had reached that point in his education the page on the Blue Book had been worn thin and bore the marks of Johnny's thumb prints—not too clean.

Learning the a-b-c's as a prelude to spelling was the method of teaching until the turn of the century. Other methods are now in vogue and as each new method is brought out, there are those who still believe in the good old methods of other days.

By JOSEPH ALSEP

DAVID'S District is one of the many grandiose mountain masses of this country of the Kabyles—the "free people"—the pre-Arab inhabitants of Algeria prefer to call themselves.

The mountains of the Djebel Aissa Mimoun, dim-colored at this season, surge steeply upward from the valley floor. Olive groves, fig orchards, and little patches of barley and millet cling to the mountain's flanks. And on the top-most crest, built so that each village almost definitely occupies its own lonely crag or peak, are the tiny, whitewashed, earth-built houses of the district's 10,000 to 12,000 people.

This is a region of many grim but interesting problems. For example since the French subdued the Kabyles, the population has increased at such a fearful rate that the Kabyle land now only feeds its people for three months each year. The little villages on the mountain tops chiefly live, nowadays, by exporting labor to metropolitan France.

GUERRILLA COUNTRY

But from David's point of view the most immediate problem presented by the Djebel Aissa Mimoun was its ideal character as guerrilla country. He came here just about two years ago, from assignment in Hong Kong as liaison officer of the French intelligence. One of the few who were really informed about Communist China, David made a lot of newspaper friends in Hong Kong. This was why he was suddenly burdened with a weekend guest, here in this remote Kabyle country.

As the jeep carried us up a kind of enlarged goat track into the mountains, David vividly described the condition of his district back in 1956. As it was a

natural fortress, the Djebel had been occupied by big bands of fellagias from the beginning of the Algerian rising. At first, a whole French battalion had been needed to fight them.

THE REAL RULERS

"The worst part of the job was over," David said, "when the battalion left and I moved in with a company of troops. But the rebels still had a field force of 20 men on the Djebel. The villagers paid tribute to them, and fed them, and clothed them, and kept them constantly informed about our movements. They were the real rulers. To us the villagers were a closed, absolutely closed people. The people did not speak to us, they would do no work for us. We could not even go

among them, except in armed groups."

Even as the jeep wound upwards on the mountain track, it became clear that these days were over. The men working in the poor fields often waved as we passed, and the innumerable and enchanting children always stopped their roadside play to wave and smile.

ASSILI VILLAGE

At the Company Headquarters, old Assili, a veteran of the French Army and now the mayor of the surrounding village, had drawn up his self-defense force of 15 men, in order to show their newly-used hunting rifles to David. In the two big lower rooms of the Company Headquarters building, school was going on. The

school teachers were soldiers in uniform, whose rifles hung by the blackboard. But the hundred or so little boys and girls in the two classrooms, who had never had any other sort of school teacher, seemed to be learning their ABC's with cheerful enthusiasm all the same.

A long day's climbing around and over the Djebel Aissa Mimoun gave much more evidence of the same sort. In all the villages, French soldiers were running schools and French medics had opened infirmaries. In all villages, small self-defense forces had been formed. There were practical improvements too. One village had a new fountain which gave good water, even in the parched weeks of summer. Another had just built itself one of the goat-track roads—a real mira-

cle, this goat track—and had immediately invested in a communal truck.

BEST FOOT FORWARD

No doubt, the David officer who has now succeeded Assili as company commander and district officer did his very best to put the district's best foot forward. Sometimes, indeed, his eagerness carried him rather ludicrously far. But there was no doubt either that the fellagha's absolute grip on the Djebel Aissa Mimoun had now been broken. They ruled the Djebel no longer.

With voluble enthusiasm, David described how the job had been done. Oddly enough, the Fellaghas owe their defeat on Djebel Aissa Mimoun to the theory of Mao Tse-tung's, that an army must live among the people "like a fish in water." The whole process started when David moved his company from an isolated, fortified farmhouse into the very midst of one of the hostile villages. From there, the process went by leaps and bounds. The people to work for the company was the first step. The next was strengthening their confidence that the company would protect them from the fellagha's vengeance.

TURNING POINT

A great turning point was an old man's mid-time visit to give the names of the fellagha cell-members who held his village in a ransom grip. Another turning point was the destruction, in a series of sharp clashes, of the Djebel Aissa Mimoun local rebel forces. In this manner, gradually and village by village, the whole Djebel was in fact reconquered.

"It can be done everywhere," said David, who was given a promotion to major for doing it here. One could not help wondering whether doing it "everywhere" in troubled Algeria might not strain the supply of men of David's character as well as the French Army's supply of ordinary manpower. But David's District was a striking achievement all the same.

Boycott The Communist World? It's Wishful Nonsense

By WALTER LIPPMANN

WASHINGTON

LAST week in dealing with the foreign aid bill, the Senate touched briefly on the fringes of a great question which is becoming increasingly important and insistent. The question is whether the general direction of our foreign policy should be to expand or to restrict economic relations with the Communist countries.

The question was raised on a rather narrow technical issue, that of the Kennedy amendment which would have eliminated the rigid prohibitions of the existing law. But Sen. Knowland, who just managed to defeat the amendment, based his fight on the broadest possible ground. As he argued his case, it would be fair to say that he regards any economic intercourse with any Communist country as an unfortunate lapse from the ideal policy, which would be by embargo, boycott, and if it were feasible, blockade, to have no economic intercourse.

COLD WAR STRATEGY

His thesis is that economic intercourse brings in goods which strengthen the Communist states, and that non-intercourse, as nearly perfect as possible, will weaken the Communist states, will reduce their military power, and will cause discontent among their people. Mr. Knowland's doctrine is that in the cold war we should as respects economic matters act as we would towards an enemy in a shooting war. Anything short of that is a compromise with evil and a threat to our security.

Although Mr. Knowland brought about the defeat of the Kennedy amendment by a margin of only one vote, it is fair to say that his fundamental theory has for long and until recently been that of the preponderant majority of the Congress.

MOLOTOV'S CUE

We can say that the cold war, which has been latent since the Russian Revolution, broke out openly in July, 1947. The cold war began when Molotov, taking the

Czechs and Poles with him, withdrew from the Paris conference which was dealing with what was to become the Marshall Plan. A few months later in March, 1948, the administration initiated a program for export controls designed to prevent the sale to the Soviet bloc of commodities which would strengthen its war-making capacity.

In 1950, as a result of the Korean war, the United States established an embargo on trade with Communist China. In 1952 our allies joined us in a system of controls which were stiller than those applied to the Soviet Union. The whole system falls short of complete economic non-intercourse. There is some trade which

is licensed, and among the great powers only this country has a complete embargo on trade with China. Where the existing system falls short of non-intercourse, it is because our allies and our clients have been able to refuse to participate in complete non-intercourse. The theory has had a reason-

ably reliable practical test for a period of ten years. There has been a little but there has not been a great deal of trade with Communist countries. If Mr. Knowland's conception of the whole thing is correct, his policy ought by this time to have led to a great deal of serious trouble in the economic affairs of the Soviet Union.

The fact of the matter is that the growth of the Soviet economy has been amazing. It may have been slowed up in some measure by the restrictions, but, in spite of the restrictions, according to a recent staff memorandum to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, "the Soviet rate of industrial growth for total production is considerably larger than that of the United States... although our total production is presently going faster in absolute terms, the Soviet rate of growth is greater." In spite of the restrictions, the Soviet Union has become a very great military power, and in the field of trade and economic aid to the under-developed countries, the Soviet Union is a formidable challenger.

OUTDATED THEORY

The basic theory that Communist development can be slowed up or strangled by our controls and boycotts is not working. What is wrong with the theory? In the last analysis the theory is left over from the past history of military warfare, from the days when Britain had undisputed command of the seas and could enforce an effective blockade on an enemy. The doctrine of blockade worked effectively against the Germans in the first World War. But in the second, as against the empire conquered by Hitler, it did not work. It did work against the Japanese islands when our submarines and air force succeeded in blockading them.

But as against a continental mass, which includes the Soviet Union and China, and extends from the heart of Europe to the Pacific, the notion of blockade, or of some near-equivalent, is a delusion. It is a form of the delusion of grandeur to think that such a great central land mass, with big resources and an enormous population and a powerful government, can be brought down by restraints on our trade and on the trade of our allies. Mr. Knowland's theory has not worked out in practice because it is merely wishful thinking which ignores the facts of life.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

THE inside story can now be told. President Eisenhower suddenly knuckled under to Sen. Bill Knowland last week on his request for authority to win friends for the U. S. behind the Iron Curtain. It's puzzling flip-flop came just after Knowland had been repudiated by voters in July, 1957. The cold war began when Molotov, taking the

Global Strategy

All Ike wanted was authority to offer the same kind of economic aid behind the Iron Curtain that Russia is now offering all over the world, particularly in South America. Originally, the Marshall Plan was offered to the Communist satellites, but vetoed by Moscow. With Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Rumania now more friendly to the U. S., Ike wanted to reinstate the Marshall Plan policy.

How Ike Knuckled Under To Knowland

This was why Massachusetts' far-sighted Sen. Jack Kennedy drafted an amendment to permit the President to assist any satellite country. The State Department welcomed the amendment, but suggested some language changes. Kennedy accepted them, April 14, in toto. His amendment was then accepted by the Senate committee behind closed doors, without a peep from its most outspoken member, Sen. Knowland.

Official Endorsement

The first confidential print of this bill carried the State Department's official endorsement: "The Executive Branch favors the foregoing Kennedy amendment."

Then out of the political bulk, Knowland descended on the State Department with all his ponderous bulk. He first pointed out assistant secretary William Macomber, threatening to slash foreign aid appropriations unless the State De-

partment reversed its approval of the Kennedy amendment.

Herter Panicked

Secretary Dulles was then vacationing in his log cabin in Ontario, so Knowland repeated his threat to Acting Secretary Christian Herter. Herter promptly panicked. He retreated as fast as he retreated from Stassen's proposal that he run for vice president. Deputy undersecretary Doug Dillon didn't. He stood pat. As a compromise, they agreed to let the Kennedy amendment in principle but let Congress decide how to implement it. This decision was reported to Chairman Green of Rhode Island by Macomber over the telephone on May 22.

Knowland Unsatisfied

However, this did not satisfy Knowland, who arranged a breakfast with Eisenhower one day after California

voters expressed overwhelming disapproval of his policies.

'Opening The Floodgates'

Ignoring the fact that the U. S. is bound, by years of history and thousands of immigrants, to Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and Rumania, Knowland demanded that no aid money be spent to help them. The Kennedy amendment, Knowland told the open "floodgates" of American aid to Communist dictators.

Ike's Retreat

Eisenhower explained that he wanted his hands untied so he would be free to use economic aid where he thought it would do the most good. He then treated, said the wouldn't insist on including this authority in the foreign aid bill. This meant the Kennedy amendment was buried until next year.

