

Does the GOP Protest Too Much?

PRESIDENT TRUMAN got off a trum on the other day to the effect that there is no need for the present boom to turn into a bust if common sense is used and greedy people do not get control of the economy. Nobody could quarrel with that, of course, but Mr. Truman said thoughtfully that "there hasn't been much opposition along that line legislatively or publicly."

This drew an immediate rise from the Congressional Republicans, who seem to be growing abnormally sensitive these days. "It's an old, old game for the White House to blame Congress," thundered Chairman Knutson of the Ways & Means Committee. "The President should furnish Congress with a blueprint. Congress has done everything possible to halt an inflation spiral." Chairman Wolcott of the House Banking Committee added: "It is the duty of the President to report from time to time on the state of the union. If he has criticisms or suggestions on the economic situation he should communicate them to Congress."

By and large this is just for the political mill, but there is some solid truth in it. Mr. Truman, having had his reconversion program—which included continuation of OPA, Federal housing, and maintenance of present high tax rates—through the Congress, the White House hasn't laid any detailed blueprints before the 80th. On the other hand, it is difficult to find anything in the record to sustain Mr. Knutson's assertion that Congress on the whole has done nothing possible to halt the inflation spiral. Mr. Knutson, in fact, is the leading proponent of the blanket income tax reduction which almost any economist would agree is highly inflationary.

The fact of the Republican protest, however, has some importance. It reflects a

The Babbling Of Mr. Reece

MR. CARROLL REECE, Republican National Committee member, snuffing the air like the legendary King of the South Sea Islands, Old Limber, has babbled badly, a foxhound sin, and should be taken up from the cast. "This apt, if ill-considered, description, in the pen of Edward McCall of The Raleigh Constitution, a gentleman who would not be expected to have kind words for Mr. Reece under any circumstances. But even Mr. Reece's best friends, it seems to us, would have been shocked to hear him say:

For the babbling Mr. McCall refers to is one of the most absurd public statements of this or any time. Mr. Reece has unveiled a new thesis and offered it as official Republicanism, the ultimate extension of the doctrine of the last year. The Government has no business dabbling in economic matters at all, says Mr. Reece, for there is no proper connection between the economic and the social and political aspects of our society.

A good many honest Americans have come to believe that there is in fact a closer relationship between the economic, the political and the social. Mr. Reece concedes, but they are the victims of a vicious

The Cotton Fields Of Buncombe

ASHEVILLE, it appears, will have a group of distinguished and glamorous guests from Hollywood within the next few weeks. Headed by Van Heflin and Susan Hayward, a movie company is expected to arrive to film preliminary scenes for the forthcoming picture, "Tap Roots."

We are pleased, of course, that Tap Root scenes will thus be immortalized on celluloid, but we are also more than a little puzzled by it all. "Tap Roots" is a novel about life in Mississippi between 1888 and 1892, and North Carolina figures in it only by way of the fact that its author, James Street, is now a resident of Chapel Hill.

It could be that Walter Wanger is sending his crew to Asheville as a mark of respect for Mr. Street. But we fear that the explanation is not quite that simple. We fear, in fact, that the gesture is symbolic of the prevailing American provincialism which identifies the South as one vast, flat field of cotton stretching from the Potomac to the Rio Grande.

Another Voice

Funds Versus Freedom

ALL who seek to preserve freedom of religion in the United States would do well to take note of the far-reaching declaration of the Southern Baptist Convention against acceptance of public aid for church-sponsored schools:

Acceptance of such grants upon any basis whatsoever would mean the Baptist witness in behalf of the principle of separation of church and state.

Churchmen who may be tempted to seek public aid for sectarian schools should be well take heed of the fact that such governments pay for them to control. Churches are free to maintain schools to teach their own religious doctrines. But they should not expect taxpayers who dissent from such teaching to support it.

The Baptist statement was partly evoked by the recent Supreme Court decision permitting New Jersey to pay bus transportation to parochial schools. But it was not aimed merely at Roman Catholics, for it is stated that they have already an Oscar for 266 different denominations "to put

On this road also lies a danger that government will first subsidize religion and then control it. The Baptist are well rejecting the subsidies. — Christian Science Monitor.

Bond in Washington are for withholding tax cuts and other goodies until '48. While it is true politically that there is a Santa Claus, he only comes in election years.

Talking up a possible strike of film talent, a cliche says "We would win because the studios couldn't make pictures without it." But they can't. They have already an Oscar for 266 different denominations "to put

You Too Bad You Ain't The Voice of Snowy-Suds

Illustration of a man in a suit holding a bottle of soap. Text: \$23,000,000 ANNUAL ADVERTISING BUDGET OF ONE SOAP COMPANY. \$3,000,000 TO SELL AMERICA TO THE WORLD. STERILOCK.

People's Platform

NEW YORK. Editor: The News. IN VIEW of Kirsten Flagstad's recent appearance in Charlotte, you may be interested in the following letter I wrote to George Sokolsky, columnist for The New York Times.

Your able discussion concerning the vicious attacks on Madame Kirsten Flagstad, by self-appointed and wholly illiterate guardians of the morals, has been needed for a long time. For these sinister characters, posing as the enlightened and thoughtful, have been endeavoring to frighten the public into accepting the prospect of a period of loud talk and little action. With an election looming and the only domestic co-operation possible between a Republican Congress and a Democratic Administration is on the level of the agreement of two prize fighters to abide by the Marquis of Queensbury rules.

And deliberate perversion of the history books. And who did the perverting? Why, who else but the Reds, who sent a gang of Communist authors to the United States some years ago to write our history books for us. These sinister characters, posing as the enlightened and thoughtful, have been endeavoring to frighten the public into accepting the prospect of a period of loud talk and little action. With an election looming and the only domestic co-operation possible between a Republican Congress and a Democratic Administration is on the level of the agreement of two prize fighters to abide by the Marquis of Queensbury rules.

Mr. McGill finds this "flaw in Republican history" tragic, and is inclined to brood over what may happen to the country if it is taken over in 1948 by those who share Mr. Reece's views. We doubt if it's quite that serious. Mr. Reece is a political quack, a mediocre journalist, and a mediocre writer. He is not a politician, and he is not a writer. He is a mediocre journalist, and a mediocre writer.

He has used much of his radio time and column space in the South. On this score I condemn him as stated in the foregoing paragraph. As an illiterate solipsist, jargonist, and a mediocre writer, he is not a politician, and he is not a writer. He is a mediocre journalist, and a mediocre writer.

Read the jargonist's columns following the last national election in which he damned the American people. He is a mediocre writer, and a mediocre journalist. He is not a politician, and he is not a writer. He is a mediocre journalist, and a mediocre writer.

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Drew Pearson's Salute To Josephus Daniels, Great Editor

WASHINGTON. WHEN the last surviving member of the Woodrow Wilson administration, Josephus Daniels, died last week, it was a sad day for the country. He was a great editor, a great man, and a great friend of the country.

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Men Around Dewey

ALBANY, N. Y. GOV. THOMAS E. DEWEY and the men around him might be the officers of a rising and aggressive corporation, or they might be the officers of the look of the traditional politician. No big cigar. No great show. No heavy-lifted professionals in the Republican Party have distinguished themselves by their association with Dewey. Leaders in the right wing, which might be described as the "conservative" wing of the party, look with suspicion on one who is so little like the traditional politician.

Nevertheless, they cannot help but envy and respect the Dewey team. Even those who are publicly hostile to him, they are compelled to pay tribute to the man. From the men around Dewey, you hear such phrases as "high discipline" and "high morals." The cynical bystander says with contempt, "Stooges, nothing but stooges." These men, however, are too capable to be stooges.

TEAM STAYS LOYAL The discipline comes down from Dewey, and it is stern and even ruthless discipline. But in spite of this discipline, or, maybe, because of it, the members of the Dewey team have remained loyal through the years.

That is one of the impressive facts about this organization. The men in key positions in the State Government are Dewey's intimate associates who have been with him since the days in the District Attorney's office. One of the young St. George, playing the dragon of crime and vice. They have been with him since the days in the District Attorney's office.

They work unconsciously long hours. They collect facts and figures with a holy zeal, and vast amounts of money are accumulated. Almost any one of them could get two or three times as much salary on the outside, yet they continue to move in the fixed orbit of the Dewey star.

First and foremost is Paul E. Lockwood, whose title is Secretary of the State. He is a quiet, unassuming man, but a very capable man. He is a quiet, unassuming man, but a very capable man. He is a quiet, unassuming man, but a very capable man.

Another man is Harold Keller, who is also director of public relations for the State. He is a quiet, unassuming man, but a very capable man. He is a quiet, unassuming man, but a very capable man. He is a quiet, unassuming man, but a very capable man.

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