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The High Cost of Two Worlds

THE open, defiant Communist seizure of power in Hungary and the preliminary maneuvering in Austria mark the death of the cherished American dream of one world. In a sense, it is best to see the point at once where those faults hit, or to discuss what might have been done to avoid it. The hard fact is that, for better or for worse, the United States chose to draw a line across Central Europe and place its nations on this side of it under its protection. There is no reason to be surprised, therefore, that Russia is now consolidating her own position on the other side of the conservative side.

The thing we must understand now, as Sumner Welles has pointed out, is that "we are now engaged in an increasingly critical contest with the Soviet Union." Mr. Welles believes that "the announced policy of the Government is the policy most likely to prevent war and to enable the United Nations eventually to achieve world authority." But he also offers a grim warning that the policy cannot succeed unless our presenthold on controlling foreign policy is drastically revised.

Mr. Welles does not refer to the mechanics of our diplomacy. His criticism is aimed directly at the policy-making functions of the Federal Government, and the delays and uncertainties caused by our political system. There are enough classic examples at hand to fill a book. The Congress, for instance, has been all but hysterical in its approval of the general out-

line of the anti-Russian Truman Doctrine, but it has not yet been tested. The State Department is now working out the details of its plan for the economic reconstruction of western Europe as a bulwark against the spread of Communism. This certainly is going to cost billions of dollars; there are even indications that Harold Stassen's devotee one-tenth of its production for a decade to the task may well be on the conservative side.

Obtaining Congressional approval for an official anti-Communist attitude is no trick at all. Obtaining appropriations running into the billions to support that attitude is something else again. The Administration has thus far avoided that test, but it cannot be postponed forever. Most Washington observers now believe that the whole matter will be fought out this Fall in a special session of Congress called for the purpose. Certainly these basic issues must be drawn soon—not only before Congress but before the people, who are apparently left out of all official calculations these days. The United States is still a democracy, and its foreign policy can be no stronger than the popular support it is accorded. Popular support, as we have had far too many occasions to remark here, cannot be provided by an uninformed public.

Mr. Albright Figures The Odds

RAYNE ALBRIGHT, the bright young man from North Carolina politics, is now an avowed candidate for Governor. He is in the exact sense of things, an independent, since he does not have, and is not likely to acquire the support of any stable political group except the disintegrating G. Democrats. But Mr. Albright has an even graver handicap; he is a liberal and proud of it.

It is true that few orthodox politicians would take more than minor exception to Mr. Albright's eight-point platform:

Better education; better health; greater wealth and higher per capita income; more responsible government; better government services; better planning and promotion; more development of the state's natural resources; greater development of the state's human resources.

But Mr. Albright's unlikely mix of his contemporaries does not look upon these things as merely desirable. He also believes that it is the duty of the State Government to work constantly to achieve the goals Mr. Albright has set. If elected, would try to make some changes in the way North Carolina traditionally conducts the people's business.

Mr. Albright, if we understand him correctly, does not mean better education, State services, etc. within the limits of the current North Carolina budget; he means better education, State services, etc. at

whatever cost may be necessary to obtain them. And this, of course, places him in fundamental opposition to the prevailing political philosophy. This would not be a grave political handicap if the philosophy were the exclusive property of the political leaders who oppose him. But the fact is that their faith in the status quo is currently shared by the great majority of the voters. This has not always been true, and it will not always be. There is a faint uneasiness beneath the complacency of the people, a memory of difficult times past and a present uneasiness about the future. It is not yet a political factor. Unless there is a marked change in the economic weather, Mr. Albright will find himself in 1948 conducting a campaign out of context—offering solutions to problems that, so far as the rank and file voter is concerned, do not exist.

This does not mean that Mr. Albright is not wise to enter the race, even with the odds long against him. He is a self-confident man, and he knows it. He is a hard habit of looking ahead. The canvass in 1948 will serve to place his progressive views on record. If, as now seems certain, the passing of time serves to underscore them, he may reverse the odds in a future campaign—entering as the youthful prophet who cried havoc way back in the era of the full belly.

Just A Friendly Little Chat

SMOKY SCHROEDER, railroad fireman of Osceola, Iowa, is being justly celebrated these days as the man who penetrated the Iron Curtain. Smoky managed this feat by picking up his telephone and spending some time with the Soviet ambassador in person call to Commissar Molotov at the Kremlin and AT & T did the rest.

There was quite a bit of confusion when Mr. Molotov first came on the phone, Smoky remarks. He wanted to know if Mr. Molotov was a Communist, and he wanted to talk about diplomatic matters. Smoky said he just wanted to be sociable, an approach Mr. Molotov hasn't encountered very often of late. After that, the conversation was largely to the weather and railroading in Iowa and the USSR. Smoky wound up his seven minutes by chatting briefly with several of the girls in Mr. Molotov's office. They lost interest, however, when they discovered that he had never been to Hollywood and didn't know Van Johnson.

This conversation has no particular diplomatic significance, of course, and isn't likely to have any profound effect on the

course of world affairs. But at least Smoky now knows considerably more than he did about the USSR's plans for using diesel locomotives on its main roads, and Mr. Molotov has much more understanding of the tall corn of Iowa, for which Smoky said he got in several plugs. If Smoky doesn't rush out and join the Communist Party, Mr. Molotov expects to hold to his firm view that the United States is probably far to say that they understand each other better than they did before.

We have an idea that the telephone service between Washington and Moscow is even better than that between Osceola and Moscow. We wonder, however, if any of our officials are ever seized by the same impulse that sent Smoky reaching for the receiver. Has Harry ever called Joe to talk things over? Has George ever wondered where the bird in the bush was and tried to find out the easy way? Smoky Schroeder demonstrated that the Iron Curtain is no barrier at all for a man who just wants to be sociable and, somehow, there seems to us to be a moral in his strange little story.

Another Voice

They Ain't Being Ruined

A COUPLE of years ago a learned American pedagogue, weighty with degrees, tried to bludge Santa Cruz by declaring that "the American people are being ruined by the harmful to youth, and that Santa ought to be liquidated. There was no noticeable response to his exhortation, except a few loud whistlings, including one from the "Times-Dispatch." The lady who made the harmful to youth, and that Santa ought to be liquidated, it was the professor who had enunciated this doctrine.

And now Punch and Judy may be about to go on the block as menaces to the youth, the morals, the morality, etc. The amazing tidings have arrived from London that the Middlesex County Council has eliminated an \$800 appropriation for Punch and Judy shows in public parks, and that a lady went before the Council and delivered herself of the following:

"Punch and Judy shows are on a par with bear-baiting and cock fighting. Punch's sadistic treatment of Judy is bad for children, when children see the Punch

and Judy learn to delight in violence and fighting. It leads them to take it for granted that if you can't get your own way, the right thing to do is to knock somebody on the head."

True, Punch and his lively opposite number are a bit in the "Wham! Sock! Zowie!" tradition of slapstick. They do belabor one another with the aid of a variety of variable vices, but apparently have never been any fractured bones. Punch and Judy are able to "take it," and also to "dish it out."

Maybe there's a lesson here for our younger generation. Instead of ruining our boys and girls, perhaps Punch and Judy are teaching them how to get along in the school of hard knocks. Which would mean that they ain't been ruined yet—*Richmond Times-Dispatch.*

Fears are voiced that loans to Greece and Turkey will be the first swipe with a handful of wallpaper cleaner. Once started, you must keep on and on.



People's Platform

Neighborly Prognostication

I SUPPOSE Charlotte and York County will be grateful to Charlotte and Mecklenburg County for the wealth they have sent us. For if any town in these United States, counting slightly in excess of 3,000 souls inside its corporate limits, can rely on liquor trade to put \$130,000 in tax revenue in its treasury annually. Last year Port Mill's part of the State tax on whiskey sold here was excess of that figure, although it failed to approach it. Of course, the city gets only a very small percentage of the retail price of each bottle—4 per cent of State tax. But, as you see, this 18 cents a gallon mounts up when it is calculated on the enormous volume of business done by liquor stores—more than 80,000 gallons last year, or a total business of about \$3,200,000.

The thought of all these Mecklenburg millions coming to South Carolina in recent years does not seem well with many Charlotteans. They are weary of seeing their greenbacks line the pockets of local liquor dealers, and providing a surplus in City, County and State Government. They want their money kept at home. But most of all they want to see Charlotte and Mecklenburg and North Carolina get on their feet. They want to see the revenue that Charlotte bootleggers are sending for themselves as a portion of their huge profit. This covetousness is not difficult to understand.

Much comment and discussion is being heard and printed in Mecklenburg concerning the coming referendum. As usual, both sides are already claiming victory with the referendum still open.

Now even in my own county I am not particularly famous as a political prognosticator, so it is entirely possible that I may err in predicting the outcome of this referendum. But I believe that the three partners of the "unholy alliance" will turn the tide and keep Mecklenburg dry from voting standpoint. It will doubtless be a repudiation of the referendum of ten years ago—the military and Church people, with intention to honor and honor will join with the bootleggers and the South Carolina liquor interests, with intentions selfish, in an attempt to arrange a dry vote. Strange bedfellows, to say the least.

There are few newspapers in South Carolina that haven't and many in North Carolina that have given Port Mill considerable publicity in the past few years because of its economic prosperity as a local store during 1946. Yes, Port Mill has made a name for itself, and as a result would be dealers will doubtless apply to open additional stores here in ever increasing numbers.

Yes, I guess we should be grateful to Charlotte for all this publicity. But we are not. We are people of the whiskey business in South Carolina is perhaps the best kept secret in the State. Many of our people aren't overly enthusiastic over the riches derived from it, and greatly dislike the notoriety the business has brought to the open air.

Proof of this statement lies in this fact: Not since the repeal of prohibition in 1933 has a Port still man owned a permit to produce liquor. There has been one so much as applied for a license to open one. Always, the prosperous Port Mill dealers have been "outlanders."

UNFORTUNATELY more and more Congressmen, rather than public service. One who takes a refreshingly opposite position is young GOP Senator Wayne Moore of Oregon who just made the headlines in the Senate in many months.

Even Moore's conservative foes admitted it. "I don't do the kind of thing I am in opposition to," explained his vote against the Taff-Hartley labor bill. Moore said that it was not contemplated by the founding fathers of the United States that under the representative system, a man in the Senate of the United States should vote in accordance with the dictates of a majority as determined by a Congress.

Rather, continued Moore, representative government requires a Senator to assume the solemn duty of representing the people of his State in the public interest, even though he knows that, as of that moment, a majority of his constituents under the representative system, if they could be heard, would prove faulty, added Moore, the voters, at the next election, can oust a Senator guided by these principles.

"I think the people of my state want me to represent them by exercising an honest independence of judgment on the merits of law at the University of Oregon for thirteen years. He served as chairman of the War Labor Board prior to his election to the Senate.

I am not attempting in any way to cast aspersions at the Port Mill dealers, past and present. As I said before, their business is entirely legal and legitimate, but I do think it quite unusual that with so much wealth involved no local citizens have even thought of operating a store of their own here.—W. R. BRADFORD JR. in Fort Mill Times.

Outlandish

CHARLOTTE

DO you realize what a cross-town highway would be? We will attempt to tell you some of the uncouth things that will do.

First it will make a detour for children going to most of Charlotte's schools. But for course, smelly, dangerous highways will be there to stop the lights to stop the 50 mile an hour traffic (50 miles an hour is the speed limit on the highway?)

Let there be an American detour for children going to most of Charlotte's schools. But for course, smelly, dangerous highways will be there to stop the lights to stop the 50 mile an hour traffic (50 miles an hour is the speed limit on the highway?)

Charlotte is much too big a city to have a super-highway zig-zagging through residential sections. Think of all the people who live along the route of this outlandish thing. It will completely ruin 99 homes (not houses). How would you like to be in the place of the people whose homes will be left within ten, fifteen, more or less feet of this—this thing.

And of course it will be just wonderful having all the unnecessary traffic that will add to the already existing traffic in the city. There are just a few of the many reasons why we should stop this project. Let there be more arguments against this super-duper-highway.

—W. A. CLARK, A. A. STEPHENS.

The People's Platform is available to any person who cares to get it. The platform should be less than 300 words, typewritten if possible, and on only one side of the paper. It should be signed, dated, and include anything goes. Each letter must be signed, dated, and include anything goes. Each letter must be signed, dated, and include anything goes.

—W. A. CLARK, A. A. STEPHENS.

THE last streetcar in the state of Maine has been retired. Nevertheless, other moving objects remain to be shot at by mistake for Democrats.

UN plan call for a library eventually to house 1,000,000 books. Presumably half of same will be entitled "My Two Weeks Behind The Iron Curtain" and the rest, "My Ordeal In The U.S.A."

Please, Mr. Wallace—don't use that old stuff about being misquoted. Somewhere, at some time or other, you said it.

Russian-Money Scandal
THEY don't talk about it too loudly in the Pentagon, but the Army has been going to unusual lengths to cover up the fact that the U. S. finance office has refused to loan the Russians our currency plates to print German occupation marks.

For one thing, the War Department is now paying off German war prisoners who worked in the U.S.A. in occupation marks instead of dollars. This should have the Army around \$500,000,000 to be applied to the \$100,000,000 loan to Germany. The money is being used to pay private organizations in Germany are transferred to occupation marks. The Army makes something on the exchange transaction, and in point of fact, the money is being used to pay private organizations in Germany are transferred to occupation marks. The Army makes something on the exchange transaction, and in point of fact, the money is being used to pay private organizations in Germany are transferred to occupation marks.

Note—Decision to turn U. S. currency plates over to the Russians to print their occupation marks was made by top officials of the War Department. The money is being used to pay private organizations in Germany are transferred to occupation marks. The Army makes something on the exchange transaction, and in point of fact, the money is being used to pay private organizations in Germany are transferred to occupation marks.

Andy May's Machinations
THE activities of Congressman Andrew Jackson May of Kentucky continue to be amazing. In addition to the mass of evidence now being reviewed by a Federal jury, May's machinations, both big and little, continue to leak out.

One of the Garrison war contractors now being tried along with May had a relative—Capt. Joseph Garrison—who

Longing For Peace

WASHINGTON

IN striking a political balance sheet on the net result of the Wallace's recent barnstorming tour, two causes that crowds that turned out to pay money to hear him. One was the desire to see the good

gaining seed of the fellow-traveling. The other was the desire to see the good

This leaves out a third element which may be just as important as the other two. It is the desire to see the good

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ment that same day. Lansbury said he had had a most satisfactory talk with Hitler about the need for a peace conference of the powers.

"What I wanted to get from Herr Hitler, I got," Lansbury said. "Germany is willing to end the war and to open its heart to such a conference."

WE know now, from the secret Nazi archives, how long before that talk with Hitler about the need for a peace conference of the powers.

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