

Speech on Housing

Marquis Childs

Action Imperative

Our Stake in Italian Elections

SENATOR KEM of Missouri predicts that the Marshall Plan will not stop Communism in Europe but will wreck American capitalism. From Italy we soon will have an answer to the question whether this \$5,300 million project is worth the price.

Control of the Italian Government will be decided in the April 18 elections, and all reports indicate that both the Communists and their opponents regard the promise of American dollars under the Marshall Plan as a major factor in the political campaign. If this American program provides the deciding margin against the Italian Communists, then Senator Kem will have to admit that the grossly inflated value of the U. S. dollar in the "cold war."

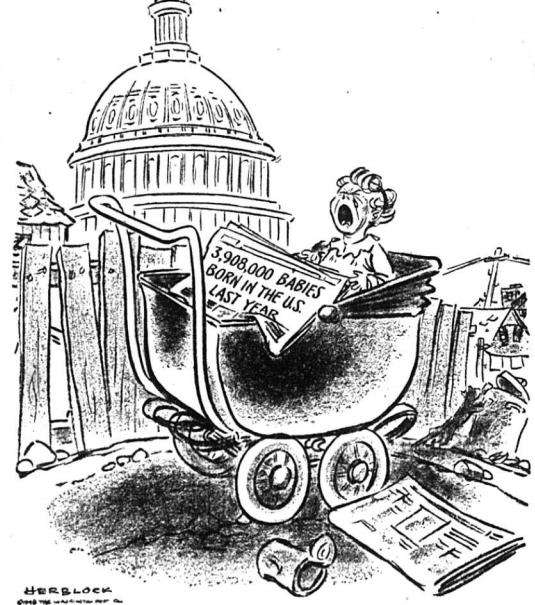
A setback for the Communists in Italy would avert the Soviet world threat but it would avert a disaster for the capitalist cause. It wouldn't eliminate the peril of war between the United States and Russia but it probably would defer the day of military conflict, thereby granting time in which other factors might develop a little more peace struggle without resort to atom bombs.

Costs of a Communist victory in Italy would be incalculable. It would give Russia control of the Mediterranean, undermining the position of British, Palestine and the Middle East, force us to recast our whole world strategy and create an immediate war situation at a time when we are not prepared for major hostilities. The psychological and political effect of a Red Italy on the rest of the world, Communist seizure of Italy would serve notice that the Western European coalition which we now are try-

ing hastily to form is a hollow shell that may be cracked by the same disruptive forces that have swept Czechoslovakia and other nations into the Soviet orbit. From Italy, the Communists would be able to move swiftly on Scandinavia and Western Europe. It is doubtful that even France under an authoritarian De Gaulle regime would be able to prevent the Communist advance. With Moscow's shadow extending clear to the English Channel, it is difficult to see how Britain could do other than come to terms with the Soviet power.

After military threat is the one thing that would restrain Stalin from ordering the Communists to go all-in in this gigantic campaign. Would that threat be sufficient to deter him from the opportunity to consolidate his hold on all Europe before we can establish our bridgeheads and build up our striking power? Since we have succeeded in convincing the Russians that we mean to strike as soon as we are in a better position, it seems likely that they would prefer to go to war with the United States now rather than later. Such is the threat behind the Communist campaign in Italy. On the other hand, a defeat for the Reds in the April 18 election would put a large crimp in the timetable for world revolution. It would signify that the capitalists have defeated a potent answer to the Communist appeal and the European peoples have new hope and spirit. It would rally other nations to stand and work with America in the political, economic and military measures that now are being developed to steady the capitalist world.

In Italy on April 18, the world reaches a fateful turning point.



People's Platform

New Tax Idea Draws Protest

CHARLOTTE
The following letter has been addressed to Mr. Herbert H. Baxter, Mayor of Charlotte.

Dear Mr. Baxter:

We note with regret your plan to obtain a municipal tax from the local hotels on the use of their rooms.

I believe that we are a representative sales organization and would like to point out that such a tax would be discriminatory against traveling men and that by instituting such a tax in Charlotte it would rapidly spread to all other cities in the Southeast.

Charlotte at the present time has an excellent good will among traveling men, but I can assure you that this good will will immediately disappear should such a program be put into effect. From the long-range point of view, I can readily see where it would do the most harm, and that is among the executives of such prospects should be penalized on their hotel rooms as a result of their being in the city.

I might add that our impression of the cities of Atlantic City, N. J., and New York City where such a tax is added to the hotel bill leaves a very unfavorable impression on the tourist trade, whether they are on business or pleasure visits. I know particularly of one of its automobile groups which will refuse to return to Atlantic City because of this penalty which is assessed to those in attendance. As a business man, I believe that you are wrong and I believe it is a short-sighted means of obtaining revenue.

Your comments will be appreciated.

—SIDNEY BUTZ & ASSOCIATES,
SINCE BUREAU.

between the Russians and us.

The Wallace Plan would not bribe the Europeans and Asiatics to accept American capitalism but would extend their faith in it. For the Wallace Plan would permit the nations to decide for themselves their own form of government. And the Wallace Plan would restore to the UN the faith that has justly given way to cynicism.

The Wallace Plan would rehabilitate the world with justice and without giving any nation's political future; that should be up to the nation itself.

Curfew And The Bob Cat

POLICE CHIEF LITTLEJOHN and his trusty men deserve a round of cheers from the community for their quick and effective work in solving the Freedom Park mystery and apprehending the two overgrown brats who drained the lake and filled the fish. We also would like to commend the Chief again on the lecture course he is giving the parents of Charlotte who neglect their children while they, the old folks, go about their own pipe smoking and fishing. We believe that Mr. Littlejohn has overreached himself in suggesting that an 11 o'clock curfew is needed to deal with this problem.

Curfew will not do the trick for either the young or the old delinquents. Better than any argument we have on this point is the illustration of the problem that is coming from Hartsville, C. S. Hartsville is conducting a "grand-pat" Bob Cat. Our correspondent, Mr. Thomas H. Coker, reports that this "old granddaddy stumpy, shiny-eyed, terodious-toothed, tramp, grizzled-haired Bob" has been seen and killed one night last week on the highway between Cheraw and Society Hill.

To come to the point, the Bob Cat story is presently not for the details of how he was killed when he strayed from his woodland haunts but for the moral that Mr. Coker draws, which is:

If old man Bob Cat had remained with his family, his children and grandchildren,

and had been content and composed to have stayed with his loved ones—listening to the consoling croak of the frog, instead of playing the part of a pestiferous intruder about—abuse on him—he probably would have been asleep today.

Plaintly, the problem in Charlotte is the same as trouble around Hartsville. There are too many Bob Cats who haven't sense enough to stay away from bright lights and strange places. A curfew will not make them stay in it. It will simply excite their contrariness and increase their determination to prowl after 11 P. M. That goes for both old and young Bob Cats.

As Mr. Coker points out, the clue to the problem is in the home, and the proper remedy lies in making home life and kind activities more attractive for the wild brats. A curfew that instates them to go will not get any improvement in the young cats until their mothers, papies and granddaddies take the lead in creating interests and setting examples that will keep the boys and girls busy at home at night. All a curfew will do for Charlotte is to mark us as a horse-and-buggy town, burden the police and enable parents to shirk their responsibility to their children.

Explains Wallace Plan

GREENSBORO
The Truman Doctrine began under an earnest desire to help the suffering Greeks and Turks. It has led to our sending high ranking military men to Greece and Turkey to see that the Truman Doctrine was effected under the UN, as the Marshall Plan would be.

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Takes In A Large Area

SOUTHERN PINES
REFERENCE to your request for opinions on Drew Pearson and his column.

Drew takes in a large area when writing his column. These enemies come from all political parties and all classes of people.

Drew breaks into many a "dishonest" or "dishonest" also labor C.A. also into the playground of most of our citizens. He has many enemies. These enemies come from all political parties and all classes of people.

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Flaw In Taft-Hartley Law

FEDERAL DISTRICT Judge Ben Moore in Washington has held unconstitutional that section of the Taft-Hartley Labor Law which bans political expenditures by labor unions. The Court has dismissed an indictment against the CIO Communist Party, Phil Murray, who deliberately violated this part of the law in order to test its validity.

Judge Moore's reading of the Constitution leaves little or no room for belief that his decision will be reversed by the Supreme Court. It is well, however, that the Department of Justice is moving promptly to appeal the case. The issue is one that must be settled finally at the earliest possible moment. Means and Congress and the authors of this law can study Judge Moore's lucid opinion with a feeling of dismay while critics of Taft-Hartley law feel the decision as confirmation of their charge that the law is unconstitutional.

From the day that the law was passed, it was obvious that Section 304 of the Act had the effect of muffling the voice of labor in national affairs. Doubts as to its constitutionality were expressed by some of the Congressmen who voted for it. Even the

Government admitted in court that the prohibition against union spending limited the CIO's freedom to a certain extent.

Main defense of Section 304 was based on the contention that it represented the exercise of constitutional power to safeguard elections. Judge Moore finds that the law defeats that very purpose.

By interesting coincidence, an special "outing of the committee's report suggests that it was intended to counteract the public reaction to the Court's adverse decision, which was anticipated. This partisan defense of the law is more apt to strengthen than weaken the impression created by the Court that too much politics and too little knowledge of or regard for American fundamentals went into the writing of the Taft-Hartley Law.

Drew Pearson's: MacArthur Still Maintains Censorship

WASHINGTON
NOW that General MacArthur has announced for the Presidency, it is only fair that the American public know more about his administration of Japan.

The apparent intent of the Japanese for eleven long years and the only barometer of his ability to govern the United States which he has had to govern.

Most people have had the impression that whereas the U. S. administration of Germany was a continual mess, MacArthur's administration of Japan operated with clock-work precision.

But what they don't know is that Japan remains the one state in the world—the Russian territory—where the U. S. Government still prevails. Whereas a news man can go to Germany and write anything he likes, in Japan it is the exact opposite. Not only a news man, but American news men are subject to court-martials.

In fact, American news men in Japan, feeling there was little difference between MacArthur's news suppression and that of Czarist Russia, have written a "Periphrastic" portion of it.

This correspondent who subsequently published or obtained such information, which obviously was in the possession of the enemy, was under threat of prosecution.

The fact that the Japanese government of any SCAP project which was still in the works was classified. The effect of this restriction was to curtail and if possible to prevent the free flow of information in the fields of Governmental and economic fields, and to present the public with a distorted picture of the situation.

Interpretation was substantiated by Mr. Francis Baker, PIO, when he explained to correspondents: "From now on you are to refrain from any attempt to publish or disseminate any information that has been classified. Correspondents who have been classified are to refrain from any attempt to publish or disseminate any information that has been classified."

Even Japanese Crime Censored

"In this manner, the shroud of security has been thrown over such subjects as Japanese crime, rationing, statistics, dollar loan negotiations, industrial rehabilitation plans and negotiations for wool and cotton imports. Even information concerning attempts by the Japanese to obtain information has been classified. Correspondents who have been classified are to refrain from any attempt to publish or disseminate any information that has been classified."

Newman's Home Riffled

"Another correspondent who reported a discussion concerning the economic surge was summoned by the deputy chief of staff. He was told to listen to the radio and the Articles of War and was informed that he had been called as a witness in a court-martial under the Articles of War for withholding such information. He said that he further was warned that if he gave the information to anyone, he would be court-martialed. 'Anything that has transpired in this room' and that he was not entitled to advice of legal counsel."

Russia And The Bible

THE UNITED STATES has now become the arsenal for atomic bombs—and Bibles. So declares the American Bible Society which is shipping millions of Bibles in all languages to a world hungry for faith. Especially interesting is the Society's announcement:

The Russians, crowding their churches and seeking an antidote against atheism, are asking for Bibles.

Some have already gone to them. Dr. M. C. Gentry, chairman of the American Friends Service Committee, further points out that the Amtorg Trading Corporation, official Russian import organization, has agreed to pay the freight on 400,000 Bibles and 2,000,000 New Testaments.

How MacArthur Censors Press

"A T conference with General MacArthur's public information officer, Mr. Francis Baker, in October, 1946, Mr. Baker stated that any material that any occupation or Master officer chooses to classify is protected by the rules of military security and that a correspondent can be court-martialed for publishing such material under the Articles of War. Mr. Baker also stated that any news man who repeated subsequent requests Allied correspondents in Japan have yet to receive these statements.

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WASHINGTON
NOW that the Senate has approved the European Recovery Program by an overwhelming majority, it is imperative that the House take action to approve it. The House must act before the recovery bill for Europe could pass the House without difficulty this year.

Unfortunately, China, Greece, Turkey and other expensive matters have been tied up in the vital issue of European aid April 10 is discussed as a target date for final agreement. That may be optimistic in view of the fact that the House must pass the bill and irrelevant features added, will have to go back to the Senate for ratification there.

Whether action by April 10 can effect the outcome of the Italian elections is debatable. That is literally the eleventh hour. James A. Farley, who knows quite a lot about elections, has said that nothing that happens in the last few days of a campaign can change any substantial number of votes.

It is time to go candidly at the Communist strategy in Italy and to see whether it is being carried out by outwardly legal means through the ballot box or the most difficult of all, the underground. The highly organized Communist Party in Italy is a powerful instrument of Russia's policy in Europe. The party is immediately responsive to Moscow and the aid is furnished in secret behind the cloak of legality.

STRATEGY CLEAR

When the Italian ball fell, the strategy of the ballot box seemed to be clearly marked out. There were two possible paths. One was to back up the Italian government in the United States, of a Communist nature, and to pull the strings behind the cloak of legality.

Realistic military power is essential to show that the U. S. means to back up the Italian government. In the long pull military power cannot win the day. The Soviet Union. This is the theme of a remarkably useful little book which has just appeared—"How to Stop the Russians Without War," by Fritz Sternberg. With great clarity Sternberg shows how the attraction of the United States must be a dynamic democracy supporting the forces of progress throughout the world. The Soviet Union actually stands for a world of peace. The truth of this needs to be driven home now, when they are part of the crisis, part of their nerves scraped. Public alarm is rising like fever on the Italian elections next month.

That is not likely, either. Those who have brought out as bitterly as they are precisely because of the deep crisis between ourselves and Russia. They are reflecting, in Italy, of the world spirit. The deeper the crisis grows, the more the world will turn to within Italy for a showdown, not on the issue of "crisis," action," "multiplicity of action," "multiplicity of action."

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Samuel Crompton

PHILADELPHIA
I would appreciate any assistance you could give me in locating a former Army friend. The name of this man is Bob Alexander and he is a resident of Philadelphia, Pa. He is the address below. We have many things to tell each other as we did not meet after I was shipped overseas. Thanking you very much.

—MAX KUSHNER,
Philadelphia 18, Pa.

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