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Get Tougher Or Smarter?

ELMO ROPER's Survey of public opinion, which appears in the News today, shows there has been a sharp rise in public disapproval of the United States policy toward Russia in the last year. Our policy was voted inadequate by 51.6 per cent of the people in this cross-section sampling in July, 1947, and by 53 per cent last April.

Significantly, the Roper breakdown of the critical vote shows that 42.7 per cent want Washington to get tougher with Moscow while only 15.7 per cent express a desire for a milder policy.

At first glance, these figures seem to provide statistical evidence that there has been a large surge of belligerence in America in the last twelve months. However, that impression doesn't hold up when Mr. Roper tells us that although most of the citizens want Washington to become more hard-boiled on the world front, the Survey indicates that less than 1 per cent of our people want a war with Russia.

This contradiction in American thinking or sentiment is the despair of jingoists who are calling for an immediate military showdown with the Soviets. It is a phenomenon which the Kremlin strategists surely have observed. It is a phenomenon the size of the anti-war sentiment in this country explains why our harder foreign policy hasn't made more of an impression on the Russians.

In power politics, it is elementary that a "get-tougher" policy will not work unless

the Government which follows such a policy is backed up by a spectacular display of the militaristic spirit among the people represented by that Government. Hitler Germany is a classic example of what is required in this business. The Nazis made Britain, France, Russia and other nations jump when they spoke not only because Germany had overwhelming military might but also because the German people were exhibiting an insane desire for a big war.

It seems plain to us that the American demand for a harder foreign policy springs largely from the widespread notion that Russia can be bluffed in this "cold war" contest. That notion grows from an overestimate of our own strength and insufficient understanding of the obstacles in our path. A policy based on such false calculations could lead us to the point of a global war, or propel us into impossible undertakings. In fact it already has done just that, in the case of Germany.

Don't Mistreat The Butcher

TEXANS, who envied the national spectacle last year by staging a revolt against the lower hem-line, are now taking the lead in a boycott of butchers as a measure to combat high living costs.

As we recall, the revolt against the New Look had no effect except to impress on the women of the nation that they had better be caught dead than seen wearing a short skirt. There was, however, some economic sense and justice in the brief and futile protest against the style decree which vastly increased the consumption of the women's wardrobe.

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The economic boycott is a dangerous weapon and it always does more harm than good. In this case we can see no good at all as a possible result of the week's bungling. Whether or not the boycott is unenforced, it is a waste of time and effort. It is a waste of time and effort. It is a waste of time and effort.

Brother, Can You Spare 7 Cents?

ONE THING about Rep. John W. McCormack's proposal to mint a seven-cent piece is that it would make it easier to pay bus fares here.

Rep. McCormack, a Massachusetts Democrat, has introduced a bill in the House to create a seven-cent coin. This new piece of federal tender would take the place of the five-cent piece which justly has won its way to the trash can, says Congressman McCormack.

His right enough there, of course. But then neither is the dime, the quarter, the half-buck, nor the dollar bill worth anything. They are all just pieces of paper.

Even a penny isn't worth a cent these days. Says McCormack has logic behind him, however. He says the public has become accustomed to buying candy bars, soft drinks

and other items from vending machines built to take only nickels or dimes. But costs have gone up so far, he says, that manufacturers can't make the old nickel's worth of candy or the old five-cent piece for less than seven cents.

Some of the manufacturers have gotten around this little problem by raising the price of their product to a dime. If you pay a dime for your candy bar, the Congressman figures, you pay three cents too much, or "you pay a home" for it. You get a cheap product or the manufacturer takes a licking.

We can't kick too much about his plan, really. We're getting awfully tired of hearing folks say, "Don't take any wooden nickels." It's "How 'bout a nickel for a cuppa' cawwy?"

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People's Platform

Slums Retard Industrial Growth

THE unfavorable publicity that the City of Charlotte and the State of North Carolina is now receiving is a detriment to our future industrial progress.

Its far-reaching effect on the mind of those who may be looking for a manufacturing site is dangerous and critical to our future welfare. Industrial management select a site or town knowing that such a selection must be based on a lifetime duration, and if past experience shows that the prospective location has been subject to epidemic disturbances that would affect the "labor turnover", management would be justified in looking elsewhere.

Without attempting to pass on the charges of epidemics or the question of responsibilities of several health agencies, we must squarely face the facts that the present epidemic is a "black mark" against our community and state.

Industrial management standards are based not only on engineering, cost production reports, but also the intangible, yet far reaching, reports on labor relations in the plant and labor community welfare.

These standards of management were and are developed not with any thought of philanthropy, but because it is good business to avoid any condition that interferes with the normal plant production. Management cannot afford to take a gamble on the failure or breakdown of community health.

"Slum" conditions and filthy surroundings are not peculiar to Charlotte. They are common to all large towns and cities, resulting from overcrowded living conditions, a lower standard of citizen responsibility and the failure of communities to insist on higher standards of health and sanitation; and the enforcement of these standards.

If the towns and cities of North Carolina expect industrial development, they must eliminate criticism of our health conditions.

NOTE: The foregoing letter was written by a leading Charlotte businessman who requests that his name be withheld.—Eds. (Tex. News.)

Fighting For Charlotte

Editor, Tex. News: I visit Charlotte in favorably impressed by the friendly, progressive people. Tuesday's visit was no exception. . . a big town, indeed. When we have a polo epidemic every time it strikes in the United States, I ask you, why has this not proposed since been made before now?

Just recently our City Administration had to be shamed into spraying the city, after a group of kids and an even better Charlotte.

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private citizens had volunteered to take up a collection and do it. Of course Charlotte does not collect any taxes, and has no money to make such a collection. Nor to collect garbage either. Just take a look at the recently published report of the City of Charlotte. It would be very enlightening if our city could publish a real financial statement, showing where the money goes, and above all, who gets it.

And this same thing goes for the State Government of North Carolina, with the highest income tax in the South, and sales tax that is a scandal to the jaybirds. It is just possible that if some of the money that the State spends for Building for the highway patrolmen to ride around in with their girlfriends, were spent in polo research and preventive science, that we would not be the polo center of the country every time it gets loose in the United States.

Our State has trouble with this disease every time it strikes in the U. S. and yet absolutely nothing has been done in the past to try and ward it off. Of course, they say, that is the so-called experts say, that the spraying with DDT is only twenty per cent effective. But if twenty children out of 100 can be saved, isn't it just possible that the money used for spraying would be well spent?

But I guess there is no use in crying, for as long as only the people who want something take the trouble to vote, we shall always have high taxes, and nothing to show for it except the shiny, high priced Buick cars that come out of Raleigh sold to the Administration.

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WASHINGTON
 THE REPORT of the Food and Agriculture Organization on Europe's fourth outlook, published last week, throws a revealing light on one of the real difficulties that EUROPE DEFENDERS will continue to find in the way of Europe's recovery.

In the fields of industry and transportation, the Marshall Plan countries have been making startling progress, although far more remains to be accomplished before these countries are really out of the woods. Nonetheless, the industrial barometer is rising. However, the agricultural outlook for Europe as a whole and for the 16 Marshall Plan countries in particular remains dark.

To be sure, good harvests almost everywhere in Western Europe, plus large-scale food importations from North America and elsewhere, have minimized the threat of starvation that faced so many people in the Old World as recently as 1945. Indicative of this improvement is the action of the British Government to collect the bread ration, first imposed in 1946.

OUTLOOK STILL BAD
 But while the people of the Marshall Plan countries now have enough to eat to keep them alive, and more to eat than they had, the outlook for a very large number of them is still bleak. In fact, at best, even if large-scale importations of foodstuffs can be procured.

The FAO estimates that, on the basis of present agricultural production, Europe will not by 1951 have restored her production of bread grains and cereals to pre-war levels.

There is a shortage of food even when reckoned in terms of Europe's pre-war population, since production is still far below the large only barely self-sufficient in food production. Actually, there are ten million more mouths to feed in Europe than there were in 1929.

To make up for the anticipated deficit, Europe will have to rely for some years to come on continued imports of foodstuffs from overseas.

The FAO calculates that Europe's net imports of bread grains, if Europe's production proceeds according to present plans, would be about 10 million tons in 1951. It was in 1946-47 and nearly twice as high as that before the war.

This means a dependence on overseas countries, such as Argentina and Australia, which can be risky indeed.

For instance, the United States has had a long succession of exceptionally small harvests. There is no assurance, however, that we shall continue to have plentiful harvests throughout the period of the Marshall Plan. And even if we do have them, there would be the problem facing Western Europe of paying for food imports from the United States with dollars they do not possess and which it is unlikely they will be able to acquire through an increase in exports.

This means that the dollars they use to purchase food with—Marshall Plan dollars—will have to be used to cover the cost of the machinery, industrial raw materials and other essentials needed to put the European economy on its feet.

The FAO report makes it clear that it is up to the European countries to grapple more vigorously with the agricultural problem facing them.

A prime need is for a larger measure of integration and coordination of agricultural production programs by European countries than has been achieved to date.

In this respect, the Marshall Plan countries are even more backward than the rest of the world in tailoring their industrial production, transportation and currency systems to the needs of the Marshall Plan.

Pressure upon them to do so is mounting because of the fact that in the Marshall Plan countries of what ought to be done is Paul Hoffman, director of the European Recovery Administration. He has not produced "enough evidence of the kind of economic co-operation that is needed to make it work."

Nowhere, apparently, is such co-operation more needed than in the field of agriculture.

because it is still in session, but there's no indication it will.

On July 21 it indicated twelve top Communist Party leaders for possible removal from their posts. But that was something aside from the year-long investigation of the Communist Party Government employees.

NOW THEY ACT
 The two Congressional committees decided to call Miss Bentley here to testify openly before the House Un-American Activities Committee—Rep. J. M. McDermott, a New York Democrat—said he decided to throw Miss Bentley's information wide open to the public because he thought she was a spy.

Thomson said a special grand jury called together here in Washington to pick up the investigation. Within a week he may ask the Attorney General to call the jury.

The Senate investigating committee, headed by Senator Ferguson, Michigan Republican, apparently also, figured the New York grand jury investigation wasn't getting any place.

So it called Miss Bentley in and said it was going to start its investigation of the Government's program of checking on the loyalty of Government workers.

The program was set up after all but one of those mentioned by Miss Bentley had left the Government.

ALTOONA, Pa. (AP)—Melvin Acker Jr., 27, will be able to walk and work again after a spinal fusion operation without the limp caused by one leg being six inches shorter than the other.

Surgeons who removed three inches of bone from his healthy leg to make the bones of the injured leg the same length confident yesterday.

The youth's leg has been stunted since he suffered an attack of rheumatic fever 13 years ago. Surgeons decided the only way to equalize the six-inch difference was to shorten the healthy leg. Within a few days, Acker will be able to remove three more inches. He is now three inches shorter than he was when he was born.

Then Acker's height will be five feet, four inches, instead of five feet, six inches, as he was when he was born. He is now three months ago.

map, he found that Columbia, Mo., home town of the untalented, was on the Missouri line, so Jefferson Davis came to Montgomery, Ala., north of the Confederacy, and played on the side of the North.

He was a member of the Blue and Grey Association to which he charges \$1 membership and which has made him a member of the Blue and Grey Association.

standing. With the proceeds he plans to build a football stadium as a shrine to those who were both the Blue and the Grey.

UNDER THE DOME
 THE House Un-American Activities Committee is secretly

investigating the activities of American Negroes. Several prominent Negro leaders have agreed to testify.

Gov. McNamara will open his Presidential campaign in Detroit, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Thursday.

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