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'You Used To LIKE Me To Sit On Your Lap'

A Bitter Turnip For Truman

PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S double blast at the Republican Congress yesterday provided impressive evidence that the "Turnip Day" special session has been a fiasco on all counts.

Mr. Truman cannot be serious when he calls on the Republican leadership to reconsider its plan to adjourn by Saturday or early next week. There already is too much evidence that the extra session, called in the midst of the campaign as a maneuver to put the Republicans on the spot, has succeeded chiefly in putting the Administration over a barrel. On the basis of the results achieved since Congress reconvened July 26, the President should be very happy to see the Senators and Representatives pack up and go home.

The President cannot count one certain political gain for himself and his party in the two weeks of squabbling since Turnip Day. He and his advisers hope that the voters will be angered at the refusal of Congress to approve the "inflation control" proposals recommended by the Administration, and signify their dissatisfaction at the polls Nov. 2. However, the Truman strategists will have made a large miscalculation if there is a price decline between now and election day, as is said impossible. Meanwhile, they are discounting the public's reaction to the disruption of the orderly business of government by the electioneering show in Congress.

On the other hand, Mr. Truman can count a definite political setback from the Russian spy ring disclosure which the Republicans are developing in Senate and House hearings. The President properly labels this investigation a "red herring" to divert popular attention from Republican inaction on anti-inflation measures, and he protests so vigorously because the spy ring propaganda show is serving that Republican purpose very well indeed.

For a week, the main headlines have been stolen by the GOP airing of charges that Communists and fellow travelers infiltrated into positions of influence in the Government under the Democratic Administration. From all signs the Republicans are prepared to keep this Red hunt going all Summer, and no one is more responsible for giving them this grand campaign opening than the man who called the Republican Congress back into session.

Our native Communists protest that the spy ring exhibition has been staged by American war-mongers to sabotage diplomatic exchanges for a peaceful settlement which now are under way between Russia and the Western powers. Coming at this critical moment, it is possible that these disclosures will make our international relationships more difficult. It is also true that the whole Turnip Day special has had an evil effect on America's world leadership. The intense politicking on both sides has placed an added strain on the bi-partisan foreign policy, and contributed greatly to general confusion and disunity at a time when the public, the Administration and the leaders of both parties should be concentrating their thoughts, hopes and energies on the effort to end the world crisis.

Filibuster Dampens Revolt

WHEN the Republican-controlled Senate on Wednesday surrendered to a filibuster by Southern Democrats against an anti-poll tax bill it buried the whole Truman civil rights program which has kept the South in a state of ferment for nearly a year.

Dixie gratitude to the GOP for this sop will be restrained in view of the Republican promise to revive the anti-discrimination legislative program in January, along with a new rule making it easier for the Republicans to stop a Southern filibuster. That pledge carries more than ordinary weight in view of the civil rights records and views of the men who head the 1948 Republican ticket, Dewey and Warren, and in the light of the Republican Party's plan to recapture the Negro vote for subsequent elections.

What effect this development in Congress will have on the Dixiecrat revolt against President Truman and the national Democratic ticket remains to be seen, but it would appear that the shutout for civil rights legislation in Washington will put a heavy damper on the campaign of the States' Rights Democrats. In other words, the success of the filibuster in this session will give Southerners more time and more reason to reflect on the dubious features of the Dixiecrat bolt, and that undoubtedly will have a chilling effect on the revolters.

It has been clear all along that this States' Rights campaign could accomplish nothing except the defeat of the national Democratic ticket, and that the Dixiecrats themselves understood that elementary point even while they shouted that they were going to defeat both Truman and Dewey. Continuation of the bolt after this week will provide further glaring proof that the main purpose of this Dixiecrat revolt is to wreck the Democratic Party rather than to block the Federal civil rights legislation recommended by President Truman and officially endorsed by the Republican Party.

Up to now, some excuse has been offered for the Dixiecrats on the ground that they suffered from a certain obtuseness natural in men who are shaken by anger. If they go on with their revolt, more and more will be heard of the simpler explanation that the Dixiecrats are Republicans at heart, or disguised Republicans, or disgruntled politicians who can't make the grade in the Democratic Party.

We Like Mountain Music

WE HAVE just read a piece on mountain music in which the writer labors under the illusion that the jug-blowing, straw-hatted comedians who clutter the airwaves each Saturday night are indeed presenting hillbilly music to millions of listeners. We are constrained to point out that there is hillbilly music and there is hillbilly music.

The indiscriminate combination of notes raucously delivered through millions of nasal passages that now passes for hillbilly music is an imposter.

Genuine hillbilly music delivered by such folk music authorities as Burl Ives and Richard Dyer-Bennett is seldom, if ever, found in a juke box.

The men and women who sing for nickels what they refer to as "hillbilly music" deserve to be called musicians only because they can deliver rapidly in a loud voice what, for lack of a better term, is referred to as music.

Hillbilly music as it is now performed need not have originated in the hills, nor need it be sung by a native of the hills. It is recognized by the juke box public if it is presented with a minimum of respect for enunciation and accompanied by a guitar. A well-known example of "hillbilly music" was popular a year or so ago under the title "Pistol-Packing Mama."

A less familiar example of genuine hillbilly music is performed quite often by Burl Ives. Its title: "Foggy, Foggy Dew". This melody never achieved the mass popularity of the "Pistol-Packing" number nor has it made a tenth as much money for its performer.

A few American musicians — men like Lamar Stringfield and Aaron Copeland — have set many of the old folk ballads and jigs into permanent form in suites and concert pieces. To group this hillbilly music with the hillbilly music of the juke box and radio is a grave error.

Probably the only way to dispel the confusion that clouds the like-hillbilly, don't-like-hillbilly question is to give the hillbilly label to Tin Pan Alley, which has preempted it anyway, and refer to the genuine mountain melodies as folk music.

From The Louisville Courier-Journal

Rosy Future The Stars Ordain

PROPHECIES are fascinating. Which accounts for the power of the Delphic Sibyl and her professional sisters, the long preoccupation of Western mankind with the musings of Nostradamus, and the livelihood of present-day palmists and fortune tellers.

We all know better, of course, than to believe them. But after all, Cousin Mary did lose that diamond, and the fortune-teller did tell her it was in the trap under the bath tub, and when the plumber came—why, there it was.

The most titillating prophecies, of course, are those that tell us what we want to believe. And that, if we may judge from this year's issue, is why *Old Moore's Almanac* has lasted in England for 251 years. There will be world-wide recovery in 1949, says *Moore's Almanac*. There will be special recovery for Great Britain. But the United States, poor thing, will have to undergo "a wave of industrial unrest," perhaps "political upheaval" and all in all, "considerable strife." The Soviet Union, according to *Moore's* star-gazers, will undergo administration changes in February, and after that a wave of affection for the West will billow out from the Kremlin.

All of this must be excellent reading for Englishmen, as heartening as an especially pleasant dream, if no more substantial. Yet there was that diamond of Cousin Mary's and *Moore's* has been predicting for 251 years.

Gone with the snows of yesteryear are the profits of the bubble gum industry . . . One of the biggest bubble gum firms dropped almost $400,000 last year trying hawk its wares. It had made $750,000 the year before. It is too bad that adult enthusiasms don't run their course as soon as the youngsters; if they did, we might be rid of the nearly-new used car racket and a few other carryovers from the war emergency. — *Baton Rouge (La.) State-Times.*

A seasoned politician is one who can tell at a glance whether a woman votes her husband's ticket or he votes hers.—*Arkansas Gazette.*

Barnet Nover

Beware Bargaining

WASHINGTON

A year or two ago, the news of such a meeting as was held Monday in the Kremlin between Premier Josef Stalin of Soviet Russia and the envoys of the United States, Great Britain and France would have been greeted everywhere with great jubilation.

Many, allowing their hopes to color their beliefs, as they so often did between 1942 and 1947, would have seen in this conference and the fact that the Western envoys came out of the Kremlin with broad smiles on their faces the beginning of a new era of friendship, good will and peace between the Soviet Union and the Western democracies.

Now, having been instructed and chastened by a long succession of hopes that died a-borning, the reaction in London, Washington and Paris to the news from Moscow is, at best, only one of cautious optimism.

NEW APPROACH

It is felt that the development may mark the beginning of a new approach toward an East-West settlement or, anyway, produce an easing of dangerous international tensions. But nobody can be sure of that.

Certainly, signs of any moderation in Russia's attitude toward her wartime partners are still few and far between.

The not-so-cold war continues to rage in Berlin where Russian pressures on the population of the western sectors and on the Western powers are still heavy. In Belgrade, backed by her satellites who together command a majority of the votes at the Danubian conference, Russia is making a mockery of the provisions in the treaties with the Balkan states regarding the internationalization of the Danube.

Similar indications that Russia is determined to copper-rivet her control over every area where she has established her dominance and expand her domination to cover the rest of Europe are to be found everywhere.

For this reason it would be folly to assume that Russia has undergone or is about to undergo a change of heart. The most we can afford to assume is that she may change her tactics.

There are imperative reasons why such a change of tactics, from the Soviet point of view is now desirable.

The continuation of tactics Russia has been pursuing in Europe for some time contained the seeds of disaster. She had failed to win over the West. Her position in such countries as Italy and France is now far weaker than it was. This has been paralleled, to be sure, by a tightening of her control over such countries as Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Bulgaria and Hungary. But this development was, from the long-range point of view, bound to be of dubious value as long as increasing Russian domination happened to coincide, as is proving to be the case, with increasing economic distress in those countries.

CHANGE DESIRABLE

As this column has previously pointed out, it was precisely because Russia was losing out in her struggle with the Western powers that she has sought to gain a great victory of prestige by forcing the United States, Great Britain and France to withdraw from Berlin, or alternately, accept humiliating conditions in return for being permitted to stay there.

The siege of Berlin has been costly business for the Western powers. But they have not been brought to their knees and there appears to be no immediate likelihood that this will or could happen in the near future. In the meantime, tensions generated by the Berlin crisis had become so acute as to create the possibility of war.

There are powerful reasons for assuming that Russia does not want war. But it is also no secret that the Western powers do not want war.

The latter fact the Russians may now seek to capitalize. To ease tensions very largely of their own making they may now generously agree to be bought off What the price will be remains to be seen. It may be the extension of ERP to Russian satellite countries and Russia herself; the abandonment of plans for a unified West Germany, Russian participation in the Ruhr (incidentally how producing at the highest post-war level) or some other concessions that the Western powers will be asked to make.

But whatever the Russian price may be, the Western powers would be well advised to move cautiously. Any bargain that would leave Russia stronger than she is might prove, in the long run, a very dangerous bargain indeed.

People's Platform

Dave Clark's 'Buggy Ride'

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

MR. DAVID CLARK is trying to take North Carolina Democrats for a "buggy-ride" with his "cry-baby" propaganda for the Dixiecrats. It would probably be news to this eminent Charlotte liberal to know that he will be remembered in history. A letter which he once wrote to THE NEWS is now reposing in the archives at Hyde Park for future historians to see the Roosevelt "hater" at his very peak. In this famous letter, Mr. Clark castigated the newspapers, the radio networks, the movies, the railroads and about 128 million Americans for the public show of grief over the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, of sainted memory.

David Clark is now trying to make suckers out of Democrats. If he publicly acknowledged that he was a Republican, there would be little arguments with him. It would show an unfortunate choice, but at least one that was open and sincere. But using this week will provide further glaring proof that the main purpose of this Dixiecrat revolt is to wreck the Democratic Party rather than to block the Federal civil rights legislation recommended by President Truman and officially endorsed by the Republican Party.

If Mr. Clark were sincere about civil rights, he would move heaven and earth to get votes for Truman, instead of Dewey. In the civil rights matter, Dewey has gone far beyond Truman. Dewey long ago set up an FEPC law in New York State. He has appointed 28 Negroes to State civil service positions, one Negro judge, two Negro district attorneys, and one Negro examiner for the State Board of Regents. Maybe all of this is admirable. I am not here arguing for it or against it. I am arguing against people who want a Republican President, but who use any device to sidetrack the issue plainly and openly. The civil rights proposition is being used as just such an artifice. It is being used to help Dewey, who is living the civil rights program and to defeat Truman, who is only dreaming the civil rights program. There is quite a bit of irony in this, but the true Democrats may not be fooled. Before the campaign is over, old Harry may yet show them up for what they are.

—P. L. LINDSEY.

Mr. Yancey's Necktie

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

DIDN'T you nearly "bust your sides" laughing at the picture on the front page of the first section of THE NEWS of Tuesday, Aug. 3, 1948? I don't have to tell you which picture, 'cause there was only one.

Somebody once said: "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink." Somebody else came along a good many years later and observed: "You can buy a man a necktie, but you can't make him wear it." But I see from the aforementioned picture that the lure of the camera lens was too great. They just couldn't resist puttin' 'em on for this special occasion. Ain't them simply darbs that Harry Sutton and Henry Yancey are sportin'?

Who's afraid of inflation? The citizens of Charlotte are positively getting the biggest bargain of a century in that $16,000 per year office boy down at the City Hall. Just look what he said concerning the enforcement of the "Standard House Ordinance", which should have been enforced two and a half years ago:

Quote: "And we can't be accused of picking on anybody because in almost every case we don't know who the owner of the property is and have to go to some trouble in looking him up."

Had enough, good citizens of Charlotte?

—HUB HUNEYCUTT.

The Soldiers Of Christ

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

THE hour has come in the Christian Church when I believe we are on the circumference of a field of battle in which a life and death struggle is beginning which will soon become a convulsive conflict, in which all the forces that hate the gospel will be united against the army of the soldiers of Christ who bear aloft His cross and herald His supremacy and His Saviourhood.

Too many ministers are modernistic themselves—denying the need of conversion, the blood atonement, and rejecting the deity of Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ was born in the meanest of circumstances, but the air above was filled with the hallelujahs of the heavenly host. His lodging was a cattle pen, but a star drew distinguished visitants from afar to do Him homage.

His birth was contrary to the laws of life. His death was contrary to the laws of death. No miracle is so inexplicable as His life and teaching.

He had no corn fields or fisheries, but He could spread a table for 5,000 and have bread and fish to spare. He walked on the waters and they supported Him.

His crucifixion was the crime of crimes, but, on God's side, no lower price than His infinite agony could have made possible our redemption. When He died few men mourned, but a black crepe was hung over the sun. Though men trembled not for their sins, the earth beneath shook under the load. All nature honored Him; sinners alone rejected Him.

Sin never touched Him. Corruption could not get hold of His body. The soil that had been reddened with His blood could not claim His dust.

Three years He preached His Gospel. He wrote no book, built no church, had no money back of Him. After 1900 years, He is the one central character of human history, the perpetual theme of all preaching, the pivot around which the events of the age revolve, the only Regenerator of the human race.

Was it merely the son of Joseph and Mary who crossed the world's horizon 1900 years ago? Was it merely human blood that was spilled on Calvary's hill for the redemption of sinners and which has worked such wonders in men and nations through the centuries?

What thinking man can keep from exclaiming: "My Lord and my God!"

—WARREN W. WOODS.

It's anybody's guess as to why the grasshoppers lit upon Mississippi. Wonder if the threatened Democratic revolt could have had anything to do with such a furious invasion of states' rights? —Shreveport (La.) Journal.

In the forests of this country, the United States Forest Service has found, according to the Encyclopedia Americana, 826 species of forest trees, 228 varieties and 87 hybrids. This totals 1,177 different forms of trees. Of the commercially productive forests lands, which total nearly five hundred million acres, almost a quarter is owned by the Federal Government. The Pacific Coast region of the country contains more than 60 per cent of the total saw-timber of the nation.

U. S. Of Europe

Idea Of Unity Grows

By DEWITT MACKENZIE
AP Foreign Affairs Analyst

For close to 150 years idealistic statesmen have dreamed of and labored for a United States of Europe, but ironically enough it has taken the frightful menace of Communism to start this vision on its way to partial materialization.

That seems like a queer twist of fate, but maybe it's not so strange after all. Atheists turn to prayer in extremities and men of many minds band together for mutual defense in time of danger. Anyway, Western Europe has started a swing toward a Confederation of Democracies which are making concessions in sovereignty for the common welfare.

We were given two further notable indications of this trend this week. Italy's free-thinking, outspoken foreign minister, Count Carlo Sforza, stated that in order to effect a European union his country is ready to take the lead in accepting "curtailment of its political sovereignty, even in the most unexpected aspects." About the same time French Foreign Minister Paul Reynaud said he hoped Britain would come out in full support of a United States of Europe next autumn, after the Dominions Conference in London.

There is no indication of whether these two statements were coincidental or concerted. It would be interesting to know. In any event, they aim at the same objective.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Of course these pronouncements aren't the first positive developments along this line. There was the sensational formation of the five-nation Western European Union some five months ago, when Britain, France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg formed an alliance which was hailed by many observers as giving a decided fillip to the idea of a union for the whole of Western Europe, and received the blessings of the United States.

This Western European combine neatly complemented the union of sixteen European countries which had banded together in support of the Marshall Plan. Indeed, time may demonstrate that America's European Recovery Project provided the necessary stimulus for a United States of Western Europe — and perhaps finally of all Europe in the happy days when Communism had had its run and the continent has returned to freedom.

DEVELOPMENT

Italy's adherence to the Western European bloc so openly is a striking development in view of her powerful Communist Party which at one time seemed about to deliver her into the hands of Moscow; Count Sforza this week urged union now as the only cure for the continent's economic and political ills and as the sole hope of peace. His stand for unity was strengthened last week when the Italian Senate, in approving the Marshall Plan accords, urged their early development into effective union. Only Communists and fellow-traveling Socialists offered opposition.

The 74-year-old Sforza — still square-shouldered and vigorous despite his years—is a blue-blood aristocrat of great wealth who is a liberal, pursues republican ideals and long has been advocate of European unity. After Mussolini came to power Sforza went into voluntary exile, traveling about Europe, Asia, South America and the United States writing and lecturing against the evils of both Fascism and monarchy.

Reynaud has some encouragement in expressing hope that Britain will give full support to a United States of Europe. While the British Government has been cautious about committing itself in this matter, Prime Minister Attlee has said that he personally favors a federated Europe. Foreign Secretary Bevin has gone so far as to point out that the Western European Union (which he fathered) is the hard core of Western Europe and that other nations are free to join.

And one cannot stop without recalling that England's famous Winston Churchill long has been going up and down the land, lending his powerful voice to the idea of a United States of Europe.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Republicans Think Of People Back Home

WASHINGTON

HOUSE Republicans shoved the Democrats off the House floor the other day, locked the doors, and obediently rubber-stamped the decisions of their leaders at a cut-and-dried caucus.

Only a mild protest was raised by one Republican—Minnesota's Walter Judd, who wanted to know whether the leadership had intended to commit the Republicans without holding a conference. He referred to the fact that GOP chiefs had answered President Truman's message without talking it over with members of the party.

Speaker Joe Martin pacified Judd by saying that the statement drafted by the leaders was only a "proposed statement." If it wasn't adopted by the caucus, he promised, a new one would be drafted. Needless to say, it was adopted —unanimously.

Before the rubber-stamp vote, Rep. William Dawson of Utah urged his colleagues not to close the session "without making an honest, conscientious effort to do something about the high cost of living.

"We may not agree with the President on price control and rationing," Dawson declared, "but the people still expect us to do something about high prices."

Martin agreed that the committee should "tackle the problem" and give it more than superficial examination. Even majority leader Charlie Halleck admitted that "we should not be cavaliers and dismiss the session with a polite bow." However, he made it clear that he still favored an "early adjournment." This last remark was greeted with boisterous applause.

NOTE—Even this was a change of heart for Charlie, who had argued for an immediate adjournment until he was knocked back on his heels by Speaker Martin and Senator Taft.

NOTE—New York's Jack Javits leaped to his feet and demanded changes in the Displaced Persons Act and action on the $65,000,000 loan for building a permanent UN home in New York.

"We already have the hole dug," he shouted.

Broke in isolationist Frederick "Doc" Smith, the Ohio horse doctor: "Transmit as you already have the hole dug, you may as well put the whole United Nations in and bury it."

NOTE — Presidential candidate Tom Dewey telephoned Senator Taft and Speaker Martin that he would like the special session to act on at least two points in President Truman's message—liberalize the Displaced Persons Act and approve the loan for building United Nations headquarters in New York.

Cabinet Member Gets Scolded

FOR calling Congress "irresponsible," Secretary of Agriculture Charles Brannan was given a stern scolding this week by President of the Senate Arthur Vandenberg.

Even hotter under the collar with resentment, junior statesman Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts pounded the table and tried to jam respect for the 80th Congress down Brannan's throat. But after Republican tempers had cooled, Brannan still hadn't retracted his statement.

Facing his first Congressional firing squad since taking office, the young Secretary of Agriculture met behind closed doors with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, to appeal for ratification of the international wheat agreement, of great importance to farmers. Instead of taking up wheat, Vandenberg, scowling sternly, ordered Brannan to read an interview which he had granted to the New York Times. In the text, Brannan called Congress "irresponsible" for not ratifying the wheat agreement.

"You had no right to use that sort of word," snorted the big Michigan Senator.

Then he pointed to the Senate's bipartisan record on foreign policy, demanded to know how Congress could be called irresponsible after passing the European recovery Program and the peacetime draft. His own Foreign Relations Committee, Vandenberg insisted, had voted unanimously on all important issues.

Senate's Junior Statesman

AFTER Vandenberg's stern lecture, Lodge broke in: "I interpret this charge to have been directed at me!

"Neither the committee nor I should be subject to that kind of charge!" shouted the Boston Back Bay Senator, using his fist for a gavel.

Brannan had mentioned Lodge in the interview as chairman of the subcommittee which failed to act on the wheat agreement.

"You can't pass that kind of bill in the limited time available," thundered Lodge, still flushed with anger.

Finally Senator Tom Connally, Texas Democrat, interrupted. "Let's get on the merits of the case and close this political wrangling," he urged.

"I never have dragged politics into this committee," Lodge sputtered back.

Brannan assured the committee that he held it in high esteem, that the teamwork of Vandenberg and Connally had demonstrated the ability of opposing groups in a democracy to work together in the best interests of the people. However, Brannan recalled that he came into the Government at a time when wheat farms were lying uncultivated—not because the land wasn't productive but because the cost of growing wheat was more than the market price.

Therefore, Brannan added, he was "deeply moved" when an opportunity to guarantee wheat farmers a market seemed lost. The wheat agreement would guarantee a world market for U. S. wheat for five years.

Lodge interrupted once to demand whether Brannan still stood on his original statement.

But Brannan ignored the question and went quietly on with his discussion.