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Farm Bill Got Treatment It Deserved

PRESIDENT EISENHOWER, trapped by the Democrats in a heads-wins-tails-you-lose game, did what he had to do. His veto of the farm bill was an act of moral necessity and political responsibility.

The defects of the legislation were notorious. They included surplus-producing price supports at 90 per cent of parity, an obnoxious dual formula for deterring parity, multiple price systems for wheat and rice. It coupled the desirable soil bank proposal with every imaginable incentive to encourage unneeded production.

To support such a mish-mash—partly designed to win votes for farm belt politicians at the expense of sound economics—was unthinkable. Furthermore, the President's signature on the bill would have cut the ground from under Agriculture Secretary Benson and two thirds of the Republican Party, including Mr. Eisenhower's legislative leadership.

Despite his radio-television appeal to reason last night and despite hasty adjustments under existing law to improve farm income now, the President has exposed himself to direct political fire.

With enormous glee, the Democrats today activated some intricate campaign strategy long discussed in Capitol cloak-

rooms. There is even a name for it: "Operational Transfer."

Until today, Secretary Benson has received most of the brisibats from the unhappy farm belt. It has even been suggested that the administration was happy to have him on the team as a convenient scapegoat. Now this political buffer has been removed. The President himself is the prime target. He killed the price-fixing legislation. Now he must take the consequences.

In the months to come we will hear much about "high parity" and "political betrayal." Unfortunately, complex problems are not reducible to simple slogans. The American people should know this by now, having been exposed to assorted messiahs and various numbingly frequently in the past—"full dinner pail," "return to normalcy," Dr. Townsend and his "Townsend Plan," Henry George and his "single tax" and William Jennings Bryan and his free course of silver at 16 to 1 to come easily to mind.

The farm problem is complex. It can be solved by complex means—free of any and all restrictions. If members of Congress from both parties will kindly remove the wisps of straw from their hair and consider their responsibilities to the nation as a whole we feel sure they too will reach such a conclusion. It is not too late.

Parris Island: Job For The Generals

DEATH of six Marine recruits at Parris Island has lifted the rust off incidents of brutality that must concern even the most ardent admirers of the corps' record of competence and courage.

During the last 15 months nine drill instructors have been court-martialed for mistreatment of recruits at the base. One of the six instructors convicted was accused of jumping on a recruit's stomach 19 times to toughen his stomach muscles, "mule-kicking" another in the chest and striking a third 19 times with a swagger stick. From a letter one of the recruits drowned had written home, the public has learned he had been forced to drink 19 bottles of pop after drinking one forbidden him.

The reason for these incidents must be a dual system of laws operating at Parris Island. The official regulations forbid cruelty. The unwritten code of drill instructors permits it, the condition being that if complaints are made or incidents such as drownings occur, the official rules take precedence. The system results in injustice to both recruit and instructor.

The tragedy on Ribbon Creek nine days ago killed six recruits and doubtless will subject the instructor to court and deserved punishment. Had the "discipline" not been fatal, however, the

night march would have been considered routine.

Basically the system is at fault and that is the responsibility of the generals. It is their job to protect both instructor and recruit from an instructor's zeal turned to fanaticism, and to weed out instructors who cannot separate dedication to duty from self gratification.

The instructors' unwritten code undoubtedly produces superior fighting men. It also produces cripples and deaths. Changes can be made to prevent the latter results.

The generals should approach that task with conspicuous energy and speed.

Inflation Note

WHEN it comes to staking out claims on the future, the first civic planner hasn't got a chance.

Just four days after one planning committee outlined new facilities to take care of Charlotte Memorial Hospital's needs for 25 years another group proposed a city-county office building good for 50 years. Undaunted City Manager Henry A. Vancey yesterday advanced a plan to serve City Hall needs for 100 years.

Who'll try for 200?

Reticent Repealer Of Income Tax

AN EXTREMELY zealous collector of a Federal income tax for three years, T. Coleman Andrews is now a resentful collector.

He would be "several times a millionaire if I didn't have all these taxes to pay." He thinks the government should get its money in a less painful manner, and there ought to be a law against income tax.

To the painting question he said: "I've got my own thoughts on what should be done but I'm not ready to discuss them."

We have brooded about this. Our conclusion is that there also ought to be a law against a man saying on April 15 that "income tax should be abolished. I've got a plan, and I'm not telling."

Simon Stylites in Christian Century

LOST FAMILY ART

MAY I announce dogmatically that the king of indoor sports is not poker or scrabble or watching TV but reading aloud in the family. And it has become a lost art, worse than the lost art of writing.

I can hear a mythical reader gasp. "Great grief, what a back number poor old Simeon is!" To which insult I make two replies.

The first is, "Just step outside and say that again." The second is, "There's a lot to be said for back numbers. I have a friend who has a mess of back numbers of an old magazine in light blue covers, the Strand Illustrated of London, containing the installment of 'The Adventures Of Sir Simeon Holmes. It would match that against anything that reaches the newsstands tomorrow."

Reading aloud is a great indoor sport when any one of a hundred "right" books is chosen and the object is not improvement of the mind but to read crimes have been committed in that name! but just fun. What else can so powerfully draw a family together in a strong bond of imagination?

And what else can match reading aloud for developing the imagination? It is a cardinal mistake for parents to stop reading to the children when Susie and Willie learn to read in a poor, slipping, stammering tongue. Susie and Willie need training in what Shelley called "to imagine what we see."

The superiority of imagination over chess detail is well shown in Arthur Knight's reflections on the film version of OKLAHOMA! Imprinting its firm grasp of the obvious:

This OKLAHOMA! (film) insists on the obvious. This screen can take in miles and miles of Oklahoma! All right.



'There's no such thing as a 'bad boy'... If you can instill in him the convenience of going along with the herd, to conform, not to be different, he'll be okay... Of course, he'll be a complete bore later on in life.'

The Price Of Drift

Atlantic Alliance Shaken

By JOSEPH ALSOP

LONDON It is very hard to sum up the impressions of a fortnight of intensive inquiry in London without sounding like a gloomy lunatic. In compliance, prosperous America.

Two points stand out like sore thumbs. On the one hand, the Atlantic Alliance that guards the freedom of the West is already rather deeply undermined. The walls and bastions still stand. The fortress looks impregnable. But any fairly sharp ear can already catch the sound of the Communist engineers driving their tunnels underground, to bring down the walls in ruin.

HOPE FOR THE BEST On the other hand, the undermining of the Atlantic Alliance is going forward so successfully only because the policy-makers in Washington seem to be incapable of any firm decision about the right way to stop it. It cannot be stopped, unfortunately, by a combination of hoping for the best and vaguely appealing to the United Nations.

Anyone who says these things must sound a bit cracked at home because, as one rather desperate and weary British leader remarked in this reporter, in Washington, the surge of Arab nationalism is in turn indirectly directed, as the Kremlin intended, against what remains of the old British imperial position in the Middle East.

London's first reaction has been to try to prop up the old familiar order by any means available, and at all costs. That is the real explanation of the present state of affairs in Cyprus, which is an essential base for any future military operations in the Middle East.

The policy towards which London is tending means, in effect, fighting Arab nationalism all-out against the British Empire, and the United Kingdom on the other side. The British government has come close to a firm commitment to this really awesome risky policy, which would initially take the form of a determined attack on the position of General Nasser in Egypt. If one may venture a guess, it seems likely that a firm commitment was only prevented by the urgent representatives of the British ambassador in Egypt, Sir Humphrey Trevelyan.

Even from this angle of vision, the policy of trying to crush the Arab nationalism and to look practical, there are alternative policies of the main theme of trying to come to terms with the Arab nationalist. But these alternatives are not practical either, unless the British government is prepared to constructively take the leadership. Since the United States must promise in plain terms to ensure London against the risks that must be involved in a new way of doing business in the Middle East, Washington is plainly unable to dodge this alarming responsibility, taking refuge in empty optimism and in the slogan, "Atrocities in the present situation strongly recall the first stage of the Iranian oil crisis, which was a forerunner of this one."

This time the Middle East is involved, rather than just one corner of it. This time, moreover, the drift in Washington is extremely likely to cause the British to drift, in their turn, into the policy that already tempts them. But when if the British finally commit themselves to all-out opposition to Arab nationalism, our own policy makers are due for a sad awakening.

For the British have nowhere near the resources now needed to carry through such a policy successfully. It is of the utmost importance to the United States, in a strategic sense as Middle East, to see that Britain is not over their depth, we shall have the unpleasant choice between going in ourselves to bail Britain out, or letting Britain founder, and so permitting the Atlantic Alliance to founder, too.

It is speculated, however, that U.S. strategy, if the orders stand, will be to protect American citizens in Saudi Arabia, where some five to six thousand Americans are employed by the Arabian-American Oil Company.

Strategic Station If located at the American colony in Bahrain, the 2nd Armored would be in a strategic location to intervene to prevent hostilities should war break between Israel and Egypt.

Another delicate situation exists in Saudi Arabia where King Saud is engaged in a bitter dispute with the sheik of Abu Dhabi over the Buraimi Oasis, one of the greatest oil reserves in the world. Interventions here might cause some complications, because the British are on one side and the United States on the other.

Rich Oil Rights The Arabian-American Oil Co. is backing King Saud while the British are backing the sheik of Abu Dhabi. If the

Sheik wins out, A British company will get all his rich oil rights, perhaps the most valuable in the world.

Military Split One reason U.S. policy in the Near East has been confused is the fact that the National Security Council has been split wide open over what steps to take in case the Israeli-Egyptian disputes flare into an all-out conflagration.

The Navy, which has drawn heavily on Arabian oil in the past, wants to take a strong action to preserve future oil. So does the Air Force, which has an important base at Dhahran.

Another Korea? But the Army (differently, and so does John Foster Dulles) The Army which had to take the main beating in Korea, is worried about getting bogged down on the desert sands in a preventive police action into which the Russians would throw countless Moslem "volunteers" similar to the Chinese volunteers which did the major fighting in Korea.

THOUGH it has been denied officially, and though the orders may be changed, there is no question but that an alert has been sent to the 2nd Armored Division in Germany to prepare to sail for Saudi Arabia in 30 days.

Replacement Simultaneously, an order was sent to the 2nd Armored Division at Fort Knox, Ky., to prepare to move to east to Germany to replace the 2nd Armored Division. The 2nd Armored originally had been scheduled to leave for Germany on Aug. 15.

It was also arranged that the British would support the 2nd Armored Division with airborne troops.

Unknown Mission Beyond these bare orders, the military men who received them have no knowledge as to what their mission will be in the Near East or whether the orders will be countermanded.

Key Senators Take Pledge: 'No Unilateral Disarmament'

By DORIS FLEESON

WASHINGTON MEMBERS of the Senate committee on disarmament stand shoulder-to-shoulder on the proposition that the United States must never again disarm unilaterally, as it has so often in the past.

Their astirring anti-Communist pledge came as a brace to the capital, which has rather tended to relax in the face of changed facts by the Russians.

Its principal spokesman was the patriarchal Kentuckian, Sen. Alben W. Barkley, the former vice president who served in the House during World War I. Barkley reviewed the content and distasteful record of American complacency between wars. To his "never again" pledge, all his colleagues rallied.

Senior members of both parties from three important committees—Foreign Relations, Armed Services and Atomic Energy—voted on the 12-man subcommittee. Sen. Herbert H. Huppuess of Minnesota offered the resolution creating it, and it is his chairman.

Far from opposing a dramatic maneuver, the subcommittee has been demanding one with increasing emphasis. But it is exploring the problem on the broadest possible basis, determined that there shall be no bugs nor blind alleys in any agreement Congress is asked to approve.

For example, its current hearings revealed that this country now knows no method of discovering hidden stockpiles of atomic weapons. Aerial inspection in this area is worthless, the subcommittee would hold, in the present state of U. S. knowledge.

The witness was Thomas E. Murray, senior member of the Atomic Energy Commission. Murray said the commission was working on a scientific breakthrough on the problem—how and in what areas it is a secret.

With a large stockpile of tactical nuclear weapons, he testified, "American and allied forces would be equipped to handle all the various possible contingencies that might arise."

Murray believes that what we call tactical and morally use for limited wars are all kinds of tactical nuclear weapons. He said we were not making nearly enough of them, and that weapons demonstrations should be held in limited military actions should be employed in very great quantities.

Murray's proposal would not limit U. S. nuclear power. They would distribute it, it would be of more value, he firmly believes, in the different form he suggests. With a large stockpile of tactical nuclear weapons, he testified, "American and allied forces would be equipped to handle all the various possible contingencies that might arise."

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People's Platform

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Citizens Councils And Inadvertence

ACCORDING to a news story in a Charleston, S. C., newspaper on Friday, April 13, one Sam England, Alabama state senator and executive secretary of the White Citizens Councils in that state, has publicly and inadvertently announced the political affiliation of these Citizens Councils.

In a telegram to E. Mark Jenkins, South Carolina Citizens Councils chairman, England is quoted as saying that the recent attack in Alabama on Negro singer Nat "King" Cole was "staged by an independent fascist group."

So Many Things Are Unconstitutional Editors, The News, Charlotte THE present New Deal Supreme Court has added segregation to the risks are immeasurably greater than they were when Moslemism was a name familiar to the West.

There are a lot of other things wrong in free America, so-called that are unconstitutional of which the present members of the Supreme Court are unconcerned.

The Constitution gives us every citizen the right to work and earn an honest living. But the labor union dictators say that no person has the right to work without a union membership card.

The Constitution gives to each of the 48 states the right to make and to enforce its own laws. It says nothing about taking dictation from the Supreme Court.

It is unconstitutional to force American citizens to pay income tax, both federal and state, and let this money be used all over the world to support other nations.

Convention Coverage By News Appreciated

Editors, The News, Charlotte ON BEHALF of the Medical Auxiliary, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to you for all of the splendid publicity which you gave to our "Doctors' Day" observance. We felt that the day was most successful and your assistance helped us greatly.

Convention Coverage By News Appreciated Editors, The News, Charlotte THE Charlotte members of the Catholic Daughters of America want to thank you for the coverage of the first state convention of the North Carolina Chapter of the Catholic Daughters. Your cooperation contributed to the success of the occasion.

Capital Chaff

Three unidentified men tried to discredit Sen. Kefauver at the Nebraska Women's Convention in Omaha. The three men sent an urgent, scribbled note to Kefauver while he was speaking, informing him of the incident. The note was signed by "three men" and Kefauver refused to make the phony announcement, had one of his aides call the three men's office in Kansas City. The note was a pure hoax.

A new series of atomic bomb tests is beginning this week in the South Pacific.



THE MIDDLE EASTERN POWDER KEG Is the Middle Eastern Telling The Truth!

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

U. S. Troops Alerted For Mid-East Duty

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