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Mr. Vishinsky's Definition

Andrei Vishinsky, famous Russian prosecutor and deputy minister of foreign affairs, threw a shaft of light through what might be called the iron curtain of Russian thought when, in a speech before a group of French jurists, he defined the Russian government as a "democratic dictatorship." "Dictatorship of the proletariat" is an old, familiar Marxist-Leninist figure of speech—a little obscure to the uninitiated, perhaps, but generally taken to mean "dictatorship by the proletariat." However, Mr. Vishinsky's definition was somewhat different.

A dictatorship, he explained, can be democratic "when it acts in the interests of the people." Well, that depends upon what definition of democracy one picks. American dictionaries offer a choice.

One definition is: "Government in which the supreme power is retained by the people and exercised either directly, or indirectly through a system of representation." Another is: "Belief in or practice of social equality; absence of snobbery."

By the first definition, no dictatorship could be democratic. By the second, a dictatorship might qualify, though this definition in English applies to social rather than governmental democracy.

But perhaps the Russians have evolved an entirely different interpretation. At any rate, let us go along with Mr. Vishinsky's definition of democracy, admit that a dictatorship is democratic when it acts in the interests of the people.

It might be more precise, however, to say that a dictatorship can only be democratic when it acts in the interests of the people, and that when it doesn't it becomes fascism or nazism.

Therefore, by Russian admission, there is no virtue in the institution of dictatorship, but only in the men at the head of it.

Obviously, the heads of the Russian dictatorship (as we may call it now, without any fear of giving offense) consider themselves virtuous. Obviously, they believe that they can indoctrinate and choose so carefully that, even though dictators are mortal, their successors will be men of similar virtue.

But can the Russians guarantee the validity of wisdom and virtue in a dictatorship where only the leaders and not the people are permitted to pass judgment on these qualities?

Anyway, we're grateful to Mr. Vishinsky for his definition of the Russian form of government, even though it doubtless leaves most of us more incapable than ever of admiring it.

Q—What is army's new RD division?

A—Research and development, a department with general staff status for exploration of military-scientific problems.

What portion of our electric power is dependent on coal?

A—About half, 110,000,000,000 of the 222,000,000,000 kilowatt hours produced in 1945.

Q—Did Italy gain or lose population during the recent war years?

A—Gained, from 44,600,000 in 1939 to an estimated 45,800,000 now.

Q—What was the first coin minted?

A—The silver dollar, Oct. 15, 1794.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By DREW PEARSON

WASHINGTON—The last time Herbert Hoover went to the Argentine—as president-elect in 1928—he put his foot in his mouth at almost every step he made, beginning by kicking the representative of the powerful newspaper La Nacion off his battleship.

Today it looks as if the Argentines were going to help him repeat. Already they have devised a neat plan to challenge us to restore rationing during Herbert Hoover's trip.

In the first place, the Argentines regard Hoover's trip as primarily a "propaganda" move. Argentine government officials say that not another grain of wheat or another ounce of fats for European famine relief can be squeezed out of their country. Therefore, they argue, the former president's tour must be interpreted as "a gesture, intended to impress South Americans with the humanitarianism of the USA."

So, President Peron is planning to go the United States one better. He will inform Hoover that Argentina is prepared to institute food rationing, and urge that the United States do likewise. This suggestion will be given full publicity, with the idea of bringing Argentina out on top no matter what happens.

If the U. S. government agrees to return to rationing, Peron will get credit (he figures) for having proposed the move. If not, Argentina will go ahead anyway and "show the Yankees up."

This scheme has been carefully mapped out and Peron is prepared to put rationing into effect no later than August 1. He was seriously considering the step in any case, for domestic conservation purposes. Now, he will simply make a virtue out of his necessity and time the publicity for Herbert Hoover's trip.

RR Labor Fumes
Truman's able labor adviser, John Steelman, may have forgotten, but he had a significant talk with RR brotherhood leaders some time ago, indicating that the union leaders were irked at Truman quite a while back.

Those who called at the White House were: Davy Robertson, head of the firemen; Elmer Millman of the maintenance-of-way men; and Lewis M. Wicklein, vice-president of the sheet metal workers, a brotherhood affiliate. Long-time friends of Truman, they desired an interview with the president but couldn't get it. So they took it out on John Steelman as follows:

"Look, John, we're behind Harry Truman 100 per cent. We like him more than we liked President Roosevelt. Roosevelt was with us and we could depend on him; but Harry Truman is more our kind of man."

"Well, John, you've got to admit that things aren't going right these days—certainly they're not right from the labor standpoint. Harry should sit down and chat with us—we always used to listen to us."

"If he continues to shut us out, we're going to have to turn elsewhere. You know, we usually support democrats—only occasionally have we supported an outstandingly friendly republican."

"But today we don't hear from the policy-makers in the democratic party. At the same time, however, the republicans are constantly calling us for advice and conferences. They really try to make us feel we're wanted—and that's something no one here does."

"We've got serious problems and unless we can get an ear we may have to go over to the republican side of the street."

Steelman threw up his hands in horror. "Don't ever think of doing that!" he said. "It's unfortunate the president hasn't been able to see you—but you know he has been terribly busy with international affairs and hasn't had time to see half the people he'd like to see likely. You just sit tight and I'll arrange an appointment just as soon as possible."

Truman's Old Friends
Brotherhood men say this incident has been forgotten and the boys bear no grudges. Nevertheless, the incident symbolizes the growing coolness toward the democratic party on the part of some labor groups.

Most people don't know it, but the railroad men had a great deal to do with reelecting Harry Truman as senator when some politicians considered him on the ropes in 1940. Even some of Harry's best friends, including John Snyder, feared he was a dead duck. But the railroad brotherhoods came to his rescue, collected \$1 each from their membership and finally raised a campaign kitty of \$16,000.

It was partly their energy which finally sent Harry Truman back to the Senate—and, later on to the presidency.

Inside the Round House

Real power behind the RR strike is the son of an Iowa preacher, A. F. Whitney. The other strike leader, Alanby Johnston of the locomotive engineers, is described by RR men as merely the "whistle following the calliope." He is content to follow, though never quite sure where Whitney will lead him. Johnston was born and educated in Canada, did most of his railroading on the Great Northern. Both Whitney and Johnston are roundly hated by the three other brotherhood leaders. The RR brotherhoods have proposed 44 rules with pay. These rules are in addition to the demanded 20-cent pay increase. Here are some of the rules: Extra night pay of 10 cents an hour for working between 6:30 p. m. and 6:30 a. m. ... Time and a half for Sundays and holidays. ... Stop-over pay for traveling employees after 12 hours. ... Changes in overtime pay rules for yard service employees. ... Brotherhoods are by no means together on what they want. They broke apart at Chicago mediation councils early this year when Whitney's trainmen and Johnston's engineers refused arbitration. The switchmen, firemen and conductors on the other hand, agreed to have their wage dispute (not the rules dispute) go before an arbitration board. The 16-cent-an-hour increase awarded by the board wasn't received with joy, however, by any of them.

Besides the five "operating" brotherhoods which run the trains, there are 15 non-operating brotherhoods who don't run trains and who also demand pay increases of 14 cents above the 16 cents already awarded. A strike vote shows they mean business. Some Washington observers are wondering of the upshot of all this won't mean government ownership of the rails. Pushed between airplanes and motor trucks, the RR's can't increase their costs too much and stay in business. (Copyright, 1946, By The Bell Syndicate, Inc.)

Bird of Prey



Avoca

Mrs. Henry Maseman

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Ruge and Larry spent Monday afternoon with Mrs. Dena Ruge.

Mrs. Ernest Emshoff and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Linhardt were Lincoln shoppers Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Emshoff and family of Nebraska City spent Friday with Mrs. Sophie Emshoff.

Mrs. Caroline Marquardt returned from Lincoln where they went for a medical check-up.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Zaiser were Omaha visitors Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Rohlf of Lincoln were visiting relatives here Saturday evening.

Mrs. Philip Maseman and Nicholas went to Nebraska City to visit her parents Tuesday.

Sunday dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Maseman were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Holm of Syracuse, Mrs. Robert Nutter and Jerry and Mrs. Bud S. Coffield of Murray, Spencer Fox, Stuart Backman and Robert Glen of Bertrand.

Mrs. Dick Bollman, who has been ill several days, is feeling better.

The George McFadden family visited with Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Lacey Monday evening.

Miss Virginia McCorkindale of Bellevue, visited friends here Sunday. She is assisting at the postoffice at Bellevue this summer. Her father, the postmaster there, has been ill.

Mrs. Bessie Paap of Lincoln spent several days last week with her sister, Mrs. Martha Ruge.

Doris and Clara Jane Ruge and Marlene Hennings are spending several days in Lincoln.

Elaine Rippe spent several days with her grandmother, Mrs. Kirkoff, of Weeping Water last week.

Mrs. Martha Ruge, Mrs. Calvin Carsten and Mrs. Henry Smith were Lincoln shoppers Monday.

Ted Nutzman came for Janice, who has spent two weeks with her grandparents.

Eagle

Miss Dorothea Keil

Mrs. Otto Ketelhut is in the Lincoln General hospital where she underwent an operation last week. She was able to sit up the first part of this week.

Miss Bernice Phillips of Omaha is visiting her brothers, Walter and Robert Phillips, and their families.

David Cantley, who was stationed at Richmond, Wash., recently received his discharge from the army.

Measles are prevalent among the children of the community. Some of them have been quite ill with them.

Miss Lila Gerhard visited her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schwegman, the first of this week.

Mrs. Carrie Trimble and her sister, Mrs. Lydia Buge, of Compton, Calif., left Wednesday of this week for Osceola where

they will visit another sister, Mrs. Charles Warrick, and family.

Mrs. W. B. Ruliffson, who has been receiving treatment at Bryan Memorial hospital in Lincoln, is much better and hopes to be able to return home the latter part of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. George Winkler, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Fleischman and Duane, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Gerhard and Shirley all of Eagle, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Crandell of Palmyra and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Krecklow and son, Keith of Mauley enjoyed dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Fleischman last Sunday.

Cpl. Harmon Ruliffson, who has been stationed at Oak Ridge, Tenn., stopped for a short visit with his parents the first of this week. He was enroute to California and expects to be sent from there to the south Pacific in the near future.

At the Movies

One of the most talked-about books, Charles Jackson's "The Lost Weekend," will probably be one of the most talked-about motion pictures, if advance notices are any indication. For those who have seen Paramount's picture of the best-seller, co-starring Ray Milland and Jane Wyman, and due Sunday at the Cass Theater, declare it to be one of the most unusual and daring films ever made.

The story concerns the shocking experiences of a sensitive, intelligent man during his five days' abandon to an insatiable hunger for liquor. The devotion of his sweetheart, the patient understanding of his brother, cannot keep him from going off the deep end into an abyss never yet interpreted on the screen. It is not until he sinks to the depths of degradation that he finds himself. By then, according to reports you will have lived through a picture so exciting, you will never forget it.

Ray Milland plays Don Birnam, the story's bedevilled hero, and Jane Wyman is seen as Helen, his sweetheart. For both Milland and Miss Wyman their roles in "The Lost Weekend" represent a debut into the dramatic field of acting, as each has heretofore specialized in romantic comedy and other light mediums.

Others in the Charles Brackett-Billy Wilder film are Phillip Terry, Howard da Silva, Doris Dowling, Frank Faylen.

Support Urged for 'Little Researchers'

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (U.P.)—Increased recognition of the contributions of small college scientists is being urged by Prof. Carl G. Hartman, University of Illinois zoologist.

Hartman urged that one per cent of federal funds appropriated under the proposed National Research foundation be given to small college science departments.

"Just as the 'little business man' is a powerful factor in our

EDSON'S WASHINGTON COLUMN

BY PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NEA)—One of the neatest little shake-downs on record was recently put over by United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation director Fiorello LaGuardia. His victims were the distillers. What he got was the promise of a million bushels of grain, free. Only the distillers like to refer to it as 50 million pounds, because they keep their records in pounds and the bigger number sounds like a lot more.

The whole idea was set in motion a couple of weeks ago when Dr. Armand Hammer, president of the United Distillers of Baltimore, made a gift of a million pounds of wheat flour to President Truman for relief. Dr. Hammer, as a young physician just out of Columbia after the last war, had been a relief worker in Russia in 1921, so he knew famine conditions first hand.

This million pounds of wheat flour he donated to world relief had been allocated to his firm by the Department of Agriculture, he said, for conversion into what he called "sugar syrup." But, since he thought bread for Europe and Asia was more important than soothing sugar syrup, he donated the big flour gift to the Little Flower for relief. Incidentally, of course, there was a government order on the books forbidding the use of wheat or wheat flour in the making of distilled spirits.

WHEN LaGuardia heard about Dr. Hammer's great syrupy contribution to alleviate human suffering, the UNRRA director wondered if there wasn't more of the same where this came from. No sooner thought of than done. Calling a meeting of the distillers in Washington, he got 25 of them together in a hotel room at 2 o'clock one afternoon, bore down hard, told them he wanted a gift of a million bushels of grain.

Now it happens that the distilled spirits industry has been over one of its own barrels ever since the grain shortage developed, but hard. Up in Congress, Jerry Voorhis of California and others have been calling for an end to all distilling until the food crisis is over. In spite of the fact that the government has cut the distillers down to three days' operations a month, people still have the idea that the distillers are using up a lot of grain. Actually, the distillers can use no wheat at all and only low-grade soft corn and other grains.

BUT at the time there were charges floating around that the distillers had six million bushels of grain in storage and would use another eight million bushels in the next two months. The distillers were on the spot. Here was this guy LaGuardia demanding grain. They met him with a proposition that they give him the dollars with which to buy grain. LaGuardia made faces. He had all the dollars he needed. What he wanted was grain.

The distillers finally had to meet his terms. They agreed to donate the 50 million pounds.

So the whole thing ends up as just a great big beautiful gift from the distilled spirits institute to show what nice people they are.

the moisture in the soil in the fall had more to do with next year's grass crop than rainfall during the growing season.

In 1940, he said, soil moisture was low in the fall followed by a scanty spring rainfall. The result was a serious lack of forage during the grazing season.

During 1942-43, however, the November soil moisture was high. Despite below-average rains during the growing season, he said, forage during the grazing season ran about 759 pounds to the acre—far above average.

In 1945, rainfall during the growing season was far above average yet the grass crop dipped to a below-average 471 pounds to an acre. Barnes said the answer was that soil moisture in November, 1944, was below average.

USC Receives 220 Primitive Native Musical Instruments

ONTARIO, Calif. (U.P.)—Forty years of searching for primitive native musical instruments and of research into American Indian tribal music lay behind the recent gift of 220 quaint instruments to the University of Southern California.

Albert Gale, a retired Ontario musician, traveled the entire continent to make transcriptions of Indian music and to collect the instruments used by the first Americans. Included in the unique collection were ivory, shell and seed specimens from Java, India, Africa and the remote islands of the south Pacific.

Gale, formerly director of music at Washington university, found a new and unusual friend through his studies of African tribal

chants. In downtown Philadelphia one day, he was startled to hear the beat of African drums coming from a very American building.

Investigation showed the drummers to be Chief Tevi, a Dohomian native, and his family. The two musicians exchanged notes on their profession and parted firmly convinced the fantastic coincidence would never be repeated.

But the chief appeared again, this time beating the drums of a circus parade in Jackson, Mich., some six years later. Gale and his wife happened to be spectators. Outside the chief's dressing room, Gale hummed the first few bars of the chant he had first heard in Philadelphia.

Chief Tevi promptly bounced from the room wearing a broad smile or recognition for his old friend.

BARBS

BY HAL COCHRAN

WHEN your feet are kept on the ground your nose isn't likely to be in the air.

A style expert says a man takes a drink when depressed and a woman buys a hat. Then the man takes another drink!

The California man who robbed a delicatessen but took nothing but cheese raises the old question—is he man or mouse?

All that some people realize on some investments is what fools they've been.



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