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ESTABLISHED 1881

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Long-Range Price Control?

Certain CIO executives seem to have appointed themselves guardians of the public welfare. As soon as price controls were lifted they sprung into action, on the apparent assumption that nobody would ever think of refusing to buy steak and butter at 95 cents a pound without work stoppages, mass meetings, parades and picket lines.

Since they have assumed this paternal responsibility, and since they exert a considerable influence in Washington, it might be interesting to have these executives' explanation of the CIO's ultimate hopes and aims regarding price control. As of now, their stand is a little confusing.

Last week, Philip Murray, CIO president, outlined to a congressional committee some proposals for a "progressive labor policy for the future." Among them he mentioned passage of adequate price control legislation, adoption of the minimum wage bill, and expanded social security legislation.

The confusing thing about that statement is the inclusion of price control in a "future" policy along with two bills which deal with permanent and continuing matters. It has been generally assumed that price controls were a temporary measure, and that they would be lifted when production and supply were at a safe level of abundance.

Perhaps the Senate acted too swiftly in lifting controls. But thus far events since July 1 have not warranted all the panicky laments and predictions of doom that greeted them. Nor have they warranted Mr. Murray's charge that the Senate's action was a "scandalous exhibition of log-rolling unequalled in its depth of betrayal of public interest." Wasn't there maybe a little Presidential log-rolling in the lifting of rationing and pay restrictions?

If Mr. Murray did not intend the inference that he favors permanent or long-range price control, he would do the public a service by saying so. If he did intend the inference, it might be well to find out if it is price control or profit control which he seeks.

The need of price control is temporary. But profit control can be permanent. We had some samples of profit control under OPA, and they contributed heavily to needless scarcities and black markets. Permanent price-and-profit fixing by government would be revolutionary and dangerous.

All this may seem like looking under the bed. But Mr. Truman is considerably beholden to Mr. Murray and the CIO for his present office, and the CIO commands a lot of votes.

When Mr. Murray asks for something he is listened to. And it might be well to find out now exactly what he wants.

Q—How many pigs and how many goats on the Bikini fleet were killed when the atom bomb air test was conducted?

A—About 10 of each. There were 150 pigs and 150 goats on the ships, and survivors were found on every ship afloat but the carrier Independence, which lay nearly under the blast.

Q—Are ocean levels rising or falling?

A—The Atlantic is rising at a rate of 1 1/2 feet a century. It started rising in 1920.

The WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

By BRAD PEARSON

WASHINGTON—The Mead committee, which has done such an excellent job of probing Congressman May and war profiteering might do a little further digging into phony E-awards and possible connections with the Kentucky who still chairmans the House military affairs committee.

Specifically, they might examine an E-award given to General Tire and Rubber company, the very same company which got May's nephew out of the army after he had been in only nine days, and is still paying his a juicy salary.

If the Mead committee should probe deeply enough they would unearth the following amazing facts: General Tire and Rubber had a contract with the army to make pneumatic floats for the army engineers. These were big rubber bags which were inflated with air and used to hold up pontoon bridges. The famous crossing of the Rapido river in Italy and almost every military crossing of water was done by pontoon bridges supported by rubber floats. These floats, of course, had to be absolutely airtight.

Fraud on Army

However, when General Tire floats were tested by the army engineers—in advance of acceptance—it was discovered that General Tire employees would deliberately pump up the floats during the night, thus deceiving army inspectors.

The floats were required to maintain a certain pressure for 24 hours, and when the pressure would go down, General Tire people would pump them up while army inspectors weren't around.

This fraud finally was discovered, and a report very critical of General Tire was filed by army engineers. The army also secured confessions from about 20 General Tire employees.

Despite this discovery of deliberate fraud, General Tire later was awarded the much coveted E, supposed to go only to companies performing the highest war service.

Furthermore, not only was the fraud hushed up, but afterward, General Tire and Kueber company was given a lush contract at Huntington, W. Va., where Congressman May's nephew, William H. May, occupied a mysterious but very profitable role, working for General Tire. How much, if anything, the chairman of the military affairs committee had to do with this is not known. However, the whole thing would bear investigation. In another case, it is known that May pulled wires to get an E for his friends, the Erie Basin company, overriding the recommendation of army officers who opposed the E.

In the case of General Tire, several army engineers who knew the real truth about the rubber pontoon floats, were vigorously opposed to the E award. But their recommendation also was overridden.

Truman's Support Backfires

Old-line democrats back in Jackson county, Mo., are dead certain that President Truman's public endorsement of Enos Axtell coupled with IO-PAC support has virtually assured Kansas City's Roger C. Slaughter in the Missouri primary Aug. 6. They are equally certain that a republican will defeat Slaughter in the final elections.

Albert L. Reeves, Jr., republican son of a Harding-appointed federal district judge in Kansas City is the man expected to win out next November.

Truman's old friends back home are really sore. They say he injected the nation's highest office into the dirtiest political fight Missouri has had in 20 years, at a time when democratic leaders were attempting to promote harmony among the various factions.

For years FDR tried to purge his home congressman, GC? Ham Fish, and finally accomplished it with republican Tom Dewey support. Truman, therefore, felt he had a right to intervene in Kansas City home politics.

Here's how the whole thing happened: Shortly after Jerome Walsh, former OPA attorney, announced he would oppose Slaughter, CIO-PAC of Kansas City and other local labor unions indicated they would support Walsh's campaign. No public endorsement was made, however.

Truman, apparently figuring PAC support would do more harm than good, sent word back home to dig up another candidate. It was his brother, J. Vivian Truman—who has a habit of balling things up—who selected Axtell, virtually an unknown in county politics. Axtell is from rural Jackson county and once served as assistant county prosecutor. Truman pressured James Pendergast and the powerful democratic machine in Kansas City endorsed Axtell's candidacy.

This turn of events and the ditching of the PAC pleased the president—that is, until PAC voted 15 to 6 to drop Walsh and hop on the Axtell bandwagon. Which it did.

Note—Support for Rep. Slaughter is terrific among women's organizations. Mrs. Nell Donnelly Reed, wife of the late Senator Jim Reed, a bitter Roosevelt-hater, is leading the "Keep Slaughter in Congress" movement.

Capital Chaff

Senatorial colleagues of Montana's Burt Wheeler refused to believe up to the very end that Wheeler stood in real danger of defeat. Final tipoff that he was in trouble was Wheeler's statement, in reply to an attack by Jimmy Roosevelt, that FDR had asked Wheeler to be his vice-presidential running mate in 1940. Typical reaction to this was majority leader Alben Barkley's comment: "That's one lie nobody in the entire country will believe." Sponsors of effective atomic-energy control are suspicious of the timing of developments far from Capitol Hill. The Canadian spy story broke just at the height of the struggle within the Senate committee over civilian or military control, the Canadian report on spy operations was released while the House military affairs committee was butchering the bill, and the announcement that the army was firing workers at Edgewood arsenal, Md., came just as the bill was heading into a stormy trip through the House. The last was particularly suspicious because it was timed so perfectly to influence House votes.

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Clothed With Lit the Authority



Alvo Mrs. Verna Heier

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Heier were Lincoln shoppers Tuesday. Mrs. Ellis Mickle and Mrs. Martin Zoz were also shoppers the same day.

Dinners were the main theme at the Earl Bennett home a week ago as several of their relatives were here from distant points. Thursday Mrs. Earl Bennett's sister, Mrs. Essie LaMay, and her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Fleming, Jerry and Sharon of Washington, D. C., were guests. Mrs. Eva McKim and son, Dickie, and Mrs. Usher of Newton, Kans., were dinner guests Friday. Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Bennett and Mr. and Mrs. O'Rourke of California were dinner and supper guests. Monday the Bennetts and O'Rourkes bid Alvo a farewell as they left for their homes in California.

Roger Dee Bennett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dee Bennett of Lincoln, has been spending the past week at the home of his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Bennett.

A family reunion was held Tuesday evening at the Esther Clark home. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Verle Rosenow and son, V. E., and Miss Billie Kesterson of Huntington Beach, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Karl Rosenow, Charley Rosenow, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Rosenow and Rae Jean, Mr. and Mrs. John Rooney of Lincoln, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Adams and children of Eagle and Mr. and Mrs. John Rockenback, also of Eagle.

Friday morning Mr. and Mrs. Verle Rosenow and son and Miss Billie Kesterson left for Miniatire, where they will spend a few days visiting, from there they will travel through Yellowstone park on their way to Portland, Ore., where they expect to spend some time salmon fishing before returning to their home in Huntington Beach.

Surprises were in store for John E. Turner Friday afternoon as his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Bothwell, and their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. James Ruelofsz, arrived in Alvo from Seattle. James Ruelofsz is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charley Ruelofsz.

George Foreman went to Omaha Sunday morning to spend the day visiting his daughter, Mrs. Schadel, who recently returned home from the hospital. Mr. and Mrs. Schadel and Mr. and Mrs. Warren brought Foreman home.

Mrs. Art Skinner, Mrs. Clyde Jipp and Stevie and Bonnie Marcoe spent Wednesday in Springfield visiting Mr. and Mrs. Orval Marcoe and Gary Lee. They returned home in the late afternoon, bringing Gary Lee with them to spend a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Jipp and Stevie. Gary Lee returned home Sunday on the train with Bonnie Marcoe.

Donna Lee Heier is spending a week as a house guest of Gertrude Slabash. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Siefert and daughters and Danna Lee spent Wednesday evening at Capitol beach in Lincoln. Mr. and Mrs. Harold French were Friday evening callers at the Ervin Heier home.

Divorce Seen As Threat to Family Life

CINCINNATI, O. (UP)—The divorce decree is the death certificate of American family life, some jurists believe.

One judge termed divorce the "greatest threat to our democracy in the history of our country." He listed the reasons:

- 1. Divorces top last year's all-time high in number.
2. Children of broken homes crowd reformatories, correction homes and other institutions.
3. The majority of adults in prison today as children became "orphans of living parents" when they were children.
4. Today there is one divorce for every five marriages in the United States.

During the last 70 years, figures show, the population of the United States has doubled, marriages have tripled—and divorce has increased 2,000 per cent.

One Out of Two Fail

Wayne county, Mich., reached a ratio of one divorce for every two marriages. In California, it was one divorce for every 1.65 marriages. In St. Louis over a four-month period there were 201 divorces, only 298 marriages.

The bright spot seems to be Cincinnati, where fewer divorce suits were filed last year than in any of the eight surrounding counties, all of which have much less population.

It shows up in other statistics. While other cities were swept with juvenile delinquency, Cincinnati had an ever-decreasing rate every year from 1941 to 1945. One judge has been responsible for much of Cincinnati's favorable accomplishment. He is Judge Charles W. Hoffman of Cincinnati's family court—the first such court in the nation, over which he has presided for 32 years. In that time more than 50,000 couples have brought their troubles to him.

6-Week Waiting Period

The court has three divisions: family division, delinquent boys, and delinquent girls. It shifts from one to another as fast as Judge Hoffman can tell his secretary, "Okay, we're juvenile court now." Judge Hoffman's methods are based on the six-week waiting period demanded by Ohio law in divorce cases. During that time he checks with all social service agencies. He compiles data on the family, history of parents and grandparents, the children's schoolwork and psychiatrists.

When the case comes to court, he knows whom he's talking about. "A child must have security, love and affection," the judge says, "but how are we going to

EDSON'S WASHINGTON COLUMN

BY PETER EDSON NEA Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NEA)—The old Billy Mitchell argument that rocked Washington for two decades is about to begin all over again, though with new emphasis. Twenty-five years ago it was over the question, "Can an airplane sink a battleship?" Today the subject is, "Can an atom bomb sink a fleet?"



Edson

No Army officer is yet ready to let out a blast at the antiquated thinking of naval officers, nor to risk a court-martial by charging that the whole Navy is obsolete. But there are stirrings and murmurings of these sentiments, brought on by what Army brass considers naval-braided-embroidered reports from the first atomic bomb test at Bikini. Nearly all of these reports are inclined to belittle the power of the atomic bomb.

It didn't do as much damage as some of the experts thought it would. But in spite of this, backers of the bomb in Washington claim results of the first test show clearly that the strategy of naval and amphibious warfare will have to be changed. To the defense that only five ships were sunk of the 73 ships in the unnatural fleet concentration in Bikini lagoon, atom bombers make this reply: The ships at Bikini were spread over a five-mile radius, covering 75 square miles. The bomb knocked out everything in a one-mile radius, covering three square miles. Only 25 bombs would have knocked out the fleet completely.

Furthermore, say the bombers, the Bikini test has shown that it will not be safe for ships to be anchored or to maneuver within two miles of each other, if an enemy air force has atom bombs. Another point made by the bombers is that amphibious landing operations will have to be planned and executed on entirely new concepts if they are to be made proof against atomic-bomb offense. One well-placed atomic bomb could disrupt an amphibious landing. Half a dozen would stop it cold.

THE Navy boys come back with this argument: The bomb exploded in the air did not damage the hulls of our ships. Aside from the five ships sunk, only nine were seriously damaged, and they all stayed afloat. They could have steamed back to base and been repaired.

To which the bombers reply: Oh, is that so? You are overlooking the fact that the damaged ships were set on fire and were otherwise made so radioactively "hot" that it would have been unsafe for crews to remain aboard, even if the crews were not decimated by radiation.

Making the hulls safe for personnel—insulating battle-stations against radioactivity—would require a protection of about two feet of steel or eight feet of concrete. Ships just can't be built with that much armor and still operate efficiently. The argument goes on and on from here, just as the Billy Mitchell argument went on between World Wars I and II.

Cop Says Gals Charm Way Out of Tickets

AKRON, O. (UP)—Akron women have a smaller record of traffic violations than men, but at least one Akron policeman isn't sure it's due to better driving. Of about 30 persons fined daily for vehicular misbehavior, only three or four are on the distaff team. Some days, the records show, no woman at all face the traffic court.

But men don't necessarily have to stop complaining about "these women drivers!" according to one member of the police force who diplomatically chooses not to be identified. He says the girls don't appear on the record because "it's difficult to give them a ticket."

"In the first place a woman usually acts like she's scared to death," he explains. "If you stop her, she does one of two things—she either cries and acts confused—that's the usual reaction—or if she is pretty, charms her way out of it. What can you do?"

Hikers and mountain climbers in New York State may enjoy their hobby to the fullest this year. The state conservation department has built more than 675 miles of trails in the Adirondacks, Catskills, at Bear Mountain and in 77 state-owned parks.

Frederick H. Still to Harold Stoll, S. 120 feet, block 1, Nena-waka.

Max Straub, Jr. to Margaret E. Perkins, SE 1/4 28-10-12 and undivided half-interest NW 1/4 26-10-12.

Vernon T. Arn and Mildred to August W. Clout, lot 8, block 37, Plattsmouth.

Forrest C. Wood and others to C. R. Todd and Winnie, S 1/2 NW 1/4 and lot 1, NE 1/4 SW 1/4, 10-12-13.

Alvin O. Nierste and Helen to Clark Scarborough, undivided half-interest, lot 5, block 33, Plattsmouth.

Read Journal Want Ads

ABOUT PRICES

As stated in our ad of July 1st—No article in our store on that date will be raised despite the fact replacements must be higher.

There Are Five Items In Our Line

which must inevitably rise if and when we can get them—namely—

Dress Shirts - Pajamas - Underwear - Denim Overalls and Leather Jackets

The intense pressure of demand over supply causes this. When production and competition become normal these prices will level off, but until then be prepared to pay increases.

MEANWHILE—and we say it advisedly—if you can get along without these—do so, that's the best way to bring the price down.

This advice perhaps is not in our interest—but we offer it candidly.

C. E. WESCOTT'S SONS

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