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Senatorial Race and Taft-Hartley Act

At least one important and clear-cut issue has developed in the campaign for United States senator in Texas: The repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act.

Spokesmen for the major labor organizations declared at the time this law was enacted last year they would seek the defeat of every member of Congress who had voted for it. President William Green of the American Federation of Labor, in an address before the annual convention of the Maryland Federation of Labor the other day, said bringing about repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act is now labor's first and foremost goal.

A bill for that purpose presumably will be introduced when Congress reconvenes in January. If the repealer reaches the floor, the next United States senator from Texas would face the responsibility of voting either for it or against it.

Because of this possibility and the importance of this law, the people should know where the several senatorial candidates stand on the question.

The issue of repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act was injected into the campaign when the Texas State Federation of Labor, an affiliate of AFL, endorsed the candidacy of former Governor Coke Stevenson.

The indorsement evidently was in line with organized labor's announced policy of seeking defeat of all those who voted for the Taft-Hartley Act. One of the senatorial candidates is Congressman Lyndon Johnson who, as a member of the House, voted for the bill and also voted to override President Truman's veto of the measure.

Governor Stevenson apparently was pleased with the indorsement, but the statement he issued in regard to it was vague and of no help at all to those who want to know definitely how the candidates stand on the issue of repeal of this specific law.

"During all my life," Governor Stevenson said, "I have aimed for my official acts to give the same fair and square deal to both management and labor. Naturally, I am gratified to gain the support in this Senate race of all patriotic Texans who feel that I have succeeded in realizing this aim."

It was a nicely-worded statement, but it throws absolutely no light on the main question: Is Governor Stevenson for or against the Taft-Hartley Act? If elected to the United States Senate, will he assist organized labor leaders to attain their "first and foremost" goal—repeal of the Taft-Hartley law?

In all fairness, we think Governor Stevenson should answer those questions, and the answers should be either "Yes" or "No."

The questions also should be answered in the same straightforward manner by the other major candidate in the senatorial race, George Peddy. After the state federation's indorsement of Governor Stevenson, Mr. Peddy discussed it at some length in a speech at Corpus Christi. He hinted that the indorsement was the result of a secret trade of some kind and warned the citizenship "that there is a determined, well-organized move by the bunch who represent the labor bosses to take over the office of U. S. senator in Texas."

But in all of his beating around the bush, Mr. Peddy never did say whether he is for or against the Taft-Hartley Act. No one can tell from anything he has said so far in the campaign whether he would vote to repeal the Taft-Hartley Act or not.

Of the three major candidates in the senatorial race, Lyndon Johnson is the only one whose views on this and all other labor legislation during the past 11 years are known to all. His views have been expressed in a way that really counts—his

votes in the House of Representatives. His record is one of which he may well be proud.

The Taft-Hartley Act for which he voted was not designed to take from organized labor any of its fundamental rights, and the law does not infringe these rights in any respect.

It certainly has not restricted in the least the right to strike, a fact which is shown by statistics on labor disputes and the man-days of idleness they have caused during the 11 months the law has been in effect.

It certainly has not hampered labor in its collective bargaining for higher wages.

It certainly has not operated to restrict union membership activities; unions have more members now than they had before the law was enacted.

A common complaint of union spokesmen before the act was passed was that it was a "slave labor law." The fallacy of that statement was evident at the time it was made. It certainly is apparent to all now, after the law has been in operation nearly a year, that it has not created any "slave labor."

One purpose of the law was to curb the ruthless power of the big labor bosses in key industries, and to provide means of preventing, or settling, strikes which threatened the nation's health and safety. It has served a good purpose in this regard. Despite President Truman's castigation of this section of the law in his veto message, it was the very section on which the government relied, with considerable success, in its most recent dealings with John L. Lewis.

Lyndon Johnson is not against labor, organized or unorganized. His record in Congress, which is a public record and available for inspection by all who are interested, has been one of consistent support of measures calculated to improve conditions of the working man. He voted for reasonable hours for labor, for example, and for minimum pay bills. He was one of the leaders in the fight for improvements to the Railway Retirement Act.

Lyndon Johnson has said he voted for the Taft-Hartley Act because he believes John L. Lewis is the most dangerous man in America today.

"When John L. Lewis or James Petrillo or any other man thinks he is bigger than all the people," he says, "it's high time for the long arm of the government to reach out after that man."

That is a thoroughly sound and sensible view, and one which evidently reflects the thinking of a majority of the people of Texas and of the entire country. Congress would not have passed the Taft-Hartley bill by the overwhelming majorities it did, and over-riden the president's veto of it, unless there had been a widespread public demand for such a law.

The law has been in effect less than a year. Experience may show the need of some clarifying or perfecting amendments, but we do not believe the people are in favor of its outright repeal.

B&PW Convention

The attendance of several thousand delegates at the biennial convention of the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, opening today in Fort Worth, defines the meeting as a major convention. The presence of 4,000 or 5,000 visitors from every state in the Union, Hawaii, Alaska, Britain, Italy and other European nations also symbolizes the rise of women in the economic order during the last 30 years.

The delegates are representatives of 140,000 members of B&PW clubs throughout the United States. That large group includes college presidents, railway and bank officials, doctors, lawyers, educators and members of other professions. Women today are members of Congress and state legislatures, and fill capably other public positions. The women employed today in America total about 17,000,000, a drop of two million since the war peak.

Business and professional women clubs today deal with community and national problems, and their organization creditably has sponsored internationalism. Their influence is large, and they personify well the enlightened, responsible citizenship which is prerequisite to sound democracy. They serve the public interest in peace as in war—as only woman can do.

Fort Worth is honored at being chosen as the convention city of the national federation of business and professional women, and extends the visitors a cordial welcome to the Southwest.

LESSON FOR KREMLIN

by Wallace R. Duell

WASHINGTON, July 3 (CDN). The Soviets are learning some of the basic facts of life—the hard way—in their new empire in Eastern Europe, it appeared here today.

The first fact is that even the most ardent Communist can sometimes be a patriotic citizen of his own country first and a Communist after that.

The second fact of life which the fight in the Balkans illustrates is that even the most faithful Marxist wants as much as anybody else does to be as well fed as possible, and as well clothed, housed and cared for when he is sick.

The Kremlin has tried to apply the same cast-iron discipline to satellite countries that it enforces on its own people at home.

The Russians have employed these harsh methods themselves, and they have also used Communist leaders of one satellite country to boss around the leaders of others.

Moreover, Moscow has tried to use this ruthless discipline to make the satellite countries do things that the satellites think are in Russia's interests but not their own.

Most particularly, the Kremlin is trying to cut off the satellites from trade with the western world which would be profitable to both sides—but would help the European Recovery Program succeed, and thereby strengthen Western Europe, which Russia is determined to prevent.

These are the fundamental elements in the row in the Balkans, as seasoned and presumably sage students of such bizarre phenomena see it.

No responsible official could be found here today who was too sure exactly what is going on in the Balkans or what is going to happen next. However, the consensus was that basically what is taking place is a revolt against the Kremlin's ruthless use of Communists of other countries as tools of Russian policies and interests.

Yugoslavia wanted to take part in the European Recovery Program at the outset, but Moscow ordered it to boycott the program instead.

This was hard enough for patriotic—and hungry—Yugoslavs to take, but worse was yet to come.

The Yugoslavs hoped that they would at least be able to profit indirectly from ERP by getting a share of the increased trade between Eastern and Western Europe which is expected to result from the program—but the Kremlin is trying to prevent this, too.

Moreover, the Soviets have added insult to injury by trying to curry favor with the Yugoslavs' worst enemies, the Italians.

The Kremlin has been making desperate efforts to build up the Italian Communist Party, and has made sweeping promises to Italy as part of this attempt.

These tactics have infuriated the Yugoslavs. The straw that broke the back of Yugoslav patience seems to have been dictatorial interference by other satellite Communists in what Belgrade considers solely its own business—internal "reform" in the Communist manner, and, apparently, most particularly land "reform" and the "liquidation of the Kulaks."

Tito's government hasn't been nearly as zealous in this as other satellite Communist leaders thought it ought to be, and they have given the Yugoslavs a good many of what they describe as "brotherly suggestions." This was too much. Belgrade has now told the comrades what they can do with their suggestions, and this is the immediate cause of the excitement.

Officials here are keeping their fingers crossed and are hoping for the best—meaning, a good, rousing quarrel among the satellites and with Moscow.

The present controversy is not exactly strengthening Russia's bargaining—or threatening—position in world affairs. If the fight spreads, it can become a serious embarrassment to the Soviets.

Officials here, meanwhile, took great satisfaction in announcing that the United States and Tito's government have reached an agreement by which Washington will free approximately \$50,000,000 worth of Yugoslav gold and, in return, obtain satisfaction on outstanding American claims against Belgrade.

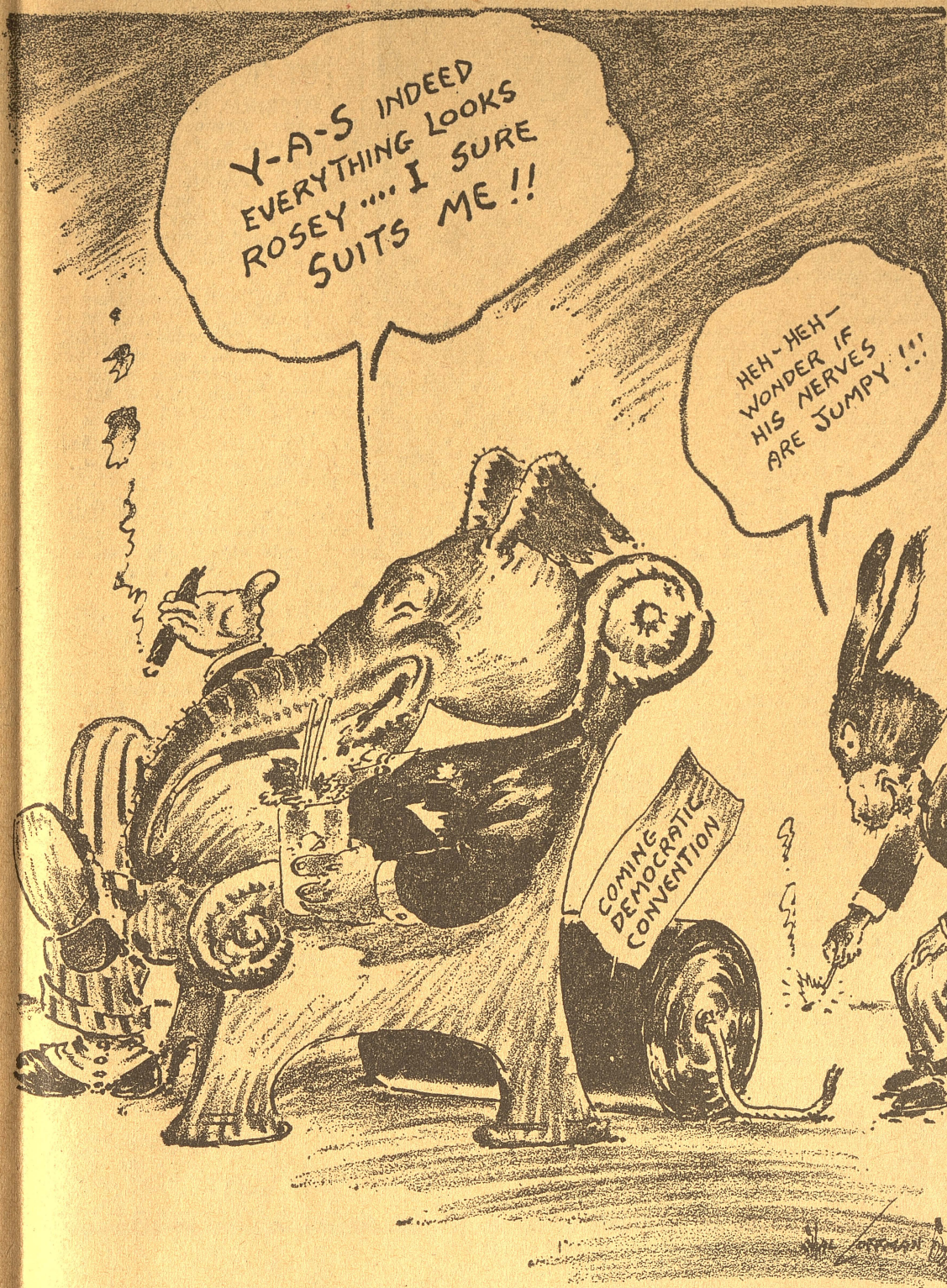
The agreement was reached before the present controversy broke out in the Balkans, but its announcement now may possibly add bitterness to the difficulties by making Tito look too friendly toward the United States. This would break not a single official American heart in the entire District of Columbia.

The State Department's foreign information service is including full coverage of the controversy in its broadcasts and other material for foreign countries.

For a picture of the deepest melancholy, we suggest a Southern Bourbon brooding over his civil wrongs.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

A LOUD BANG OR A DUD?

by Hal Coffman



—Hal Coffman's Cartoons Appear Exclusively in the Star-Telegram.

THIRD PARTY DEFECTION

by Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON.—At the same time that Marshal Tito in distant Yugoslavia is feeling the crack-down of the Kremlin, the Communist line in the United States is being drastically tightened. Evidence is mounting that the uneasy zealots who guide the party's destiny in this country are about to launch a new crusade for a "mass base" for their strange organization.

The repercussions of this new drive are being felt particularly within Henry Wallace's third party. The determination of the Communists to take over lock, stock and barrel has produced a series of shocks that may split the loose confederation so violently that Wallace would be compelled to withdraw.

The contest between the Communists and the sincere non-Communist liberals who have followed Wallace is coming to the surface in the selection of delegates for the third-party convention scheduled to open in Philadelphia on July 23. The Communist leadership is determined to control that convention as part of the plan to lasso Wallace following within the corral of the party itself.

In Colorado and Wisconsin the contest has become so bitter and the Communist tactics so arbitrary that the non-Communists are pulling out in disgust. There even may be an open break on the floor of the convention over the rights of contesting delegations.

How this growing rift may affect Wallace is a matter of wide speculation among his own followers. The party-line operators close to him have been concerned for some time over his growing restiveness. Now and then the Communist Daily Worker has gently spanked him for his insistence on being a "progressive capitalist." The Wallace heresies—called "deviationism" in the gobbledygook of the party line—have caused increasing distress among the faithful.

As for Wallace, he has succeeded until very recently in closing his eyes to the Communist influence within his own organization. In spite of earnest pleading from members of his own family, he has refused to say anything because, as he put it, he refused to participate in "Red-baiting."

This was true even when the Communist Party officially claimed credit for the third-party movement. But the other day in his New England tour Wallace spoke out. The correspondent of the Baltimore Sun reported him as follows:

"I'm never going to say anything in the nature of Red-baiting; but I must say this: If the Communists would run a ticket of their own this year we might lose 100,000 votes, but we would gain 3,000,000."

"I know if the Communists really wanted to help us, they would run their own ticket this year and let us get those extra votes." This is "deviationism" of the rankiest sort. It is a frank statement that the Communist Party is a deadly millstone for even a third-party candidate to carry. A day later Wallace issued still another official denial that he would withdraw. At Portland, Maine, he said he would stay in the race, no matter whether a Democrat or a Republican seemed about to win.

Students of Communist tactics in this country have carefully analyzed a "critical review" of the party's work in the United Auto Workers' Union, which was published in the Daily Worker. With its harsh criticism of the pro-Communist faction that at one time played a major part in the UAW, this seems to set a new and sterner line.

Specifically, the "critical review" denounces party tacticians for relying on "four temporary allies" instead of building mass strength with the rank and file of the union. It casts on the scrap heap the Leonard-Adde-Thomas faction, pointing out in the party gobbledygook that the line now is to join "new principled combinations formed on issues."

The article expresses disappointment that a "general strike" in the auto industry was averted. It denounces Walter Reuther, who ousted the Communist faction in UAW, for the contract with General Motors, which has been so widely praised for its sane approach to the whole problem of labor-management bargaining.

Apparently, the line is to be drawn far more strictly from here on out. Any "temporary allies" are likely to find themselves under attack.

Just as Tito was attacked for showing the mildest kind of independence and failing to carry out orders to the letter, so American fellow-travelers will be told off for the slightest "deviationism." In a free society this would seem to be the best possible way to alienate all but the little core of zealots.

It cost Columbus \$7,250 to discover America—about the same amount it now costs a congressional investigating committee to discover a few facts.—Cincinnati Inquirer.

Women's Rise in Business

by Sigrid Arne

WASHINGTON, July 3 (AP).—Thirty years ago the government, up to its ears in World War I, found to its combined male amazement that women made pretty good workers, even in gun factories.

So on July 8, 1918, the gentlemen asked a group of ladies to organize a "women in industry" committee to advise men on how to get women into factories.

Two years later the committee became the Women's Bureau of today—but only after Congress had wept over the fine flower of womanhood going into commerce and industry.

Woodrow Wilson signed the bill which set up the Women's Bureau in July 1920. He got the bill only in the 11th hour of the 66th Congress because die-hards were battling it out in the House appropriations committee, trying to cut off funds.

As it was, that Congress voted \$250,000 for congressmen to mail free seeds to constituents against \$75,000 for the Women's Bureau, which was supposed to better the conditions of 5,000,000 working women.

Traditionally, women have been the exploited workers of the country; getting less pay for the same work, being fired first, getting promotions last.

World War II came along. Male brass, both in and out of khaki, thanked its stars for the Women's Bureau.

American women were still underpaid, and the Women's Bureau still got pennies compared to other bureaus. But its staff jumped to the guns and issued a rain of pamphlets to show men how to employ women in factories.

By 1943 the employer who needed more help had to hire women. This "fine flower" rose to 19,000,000 workers.

Women workers have now dropped back to 17,000,000. The bureau reports that 80 per cent of them have to work. They're either supporting themselves or themselves and others.

Through the years the Women's Bureau has taken a curious course in Washington. It has refused to lobby. Instead it has printed facts—after trotting through factories and factory towns—which were then issued to organized women's groups such as trade unions, YWCA and leagues of women voters. The non-governmental groups, armed with the facts, did the lobbying.

This stand-offish program of the bureau was begun by its first and until recently, only director, Mary Anderson. She was a calm, slightly cynical, extremely wise woman who had spent 18 years in a shoe factory. She gave over her job recently to Frieda Miller, formerly New York's labor commissioner, who takes the same approach to Congress.

Over the years the reports turned out by the bureau have wrung a few reforms from the men. There are now equal pay

laws in seven states, for instance. Only 13 states now deny women jury service. Most states permit women to handle their own property. Women have the vote by federal law.

Now the bureau is concentrating on equal pay the country over. It also has branched out to take in women "trainees" from other countries. Womep from Latin

America and the Middle East and Far East have been here to study our laws in order to return home and put a cackleburr under male law-makers' saddles.

The bureau still has its own troubles, however. The House appropriations committee has just killed funds for the six field offices the bureau had through the country.

Peg-Legged Rover

by Frank Tripp

This sort of commonplace story has a corny anticlimax, but it's true. It contains complete instructions on how to acquire a wooden leg; with a testimonial from one who knows.

On the outskirts of the Village of Horseheads stood a large-boned, rugged-faced man with a shabby little satchel in his hand. He had just stopped trudging northward, the direction I was driving. He was oldish, poorly clothed and wore a peg leg, strapped to his thigh, which made his progress slow and laborious. I expected him to thumb for a ride, which he didn't. Seeing he didn't, I picked him up—a system I have with hitch-hikers.

My passenger was full of gratitude and expressed it in good taste. He was headed for Watkins Glen. He said, "I'd like to pay for my ride." I told him I was no common carrier and declined his unusual offer. "Oh, not with money," he protested. "I have no money but I sharpen lawnmowers, scissors and knives (he tapped his tiny tool kit). Perhaps you have a pocket knife or something with you."

I could think of a dull mower and a drawer full of knives that needed the services of this specialist but I hadn't them with me. It developed, in a conversation which I genuinely enjoyed, that my new acquaintance went from city to village and plied his craft on the rear steps of such householders as would give him work. Obviously he sharpened with files and whetstones, since his equipment and all his earthly belongings were tucked into the worn leather bag, no larger than many women carry—and always find inadequate.

"Having trouble getting along?" I asked; then heard: "Well, yes and no. Suppose I shouldn't complain, with all the misery and starvation there is in the world, but sometimes it's pretty tough going. Has been the last few days. You see I can't get around very handy and a grinder with a real rig had been ahead of me everywhere I went. So I decided to move on." He chuckled merrily over his plight and added, almost in pride, "with gross assets of 10 cents."

"Pardon me, my friend," I said "you speak good English, have a

sense of humor and a trait I admire above all others, gratitude. Would you mind telling me how you got that way; were you educated?"

"Oh, my no," he replied, "only in a country school, but I had a good home and a wonderful mother. She was educated in the seminary and had hoped I could go to college. She taught me to read good literature. That helped me a lot, but I ended up just a husky farm hand—till I lost my leg; then I became a wandering edger of cheap tools and, to be honest, none too good a one."

"How did you lose your leg?" was my natural query. "Like many another fool may lose his," he said. Here's where my observation about any city block comes in—also the corny anticlimax. The itinerant philosopher spoke on:

"By paring a corn with a razor, drawing just a drop of blood and not taking care of it—say mister, this is Montour Falls isn't it; believe I'll stop off, give the town an edge and go on to Watkins later. Thanks for the ride. Good bye!"

Somewhat I got a lift out of that penniless rover and thought I'd tell you about it. A drugging country mother tried hard to make a man out of him—and, by golly she did.

SIMPLE SCIENCE

BY DR. GERALD WENDT.

Why are fireworks displayed on July 4?

For nearly four centuries fireworks have marked large public celebrations all over the world. As a natural consequence they are used on July 4. Displays were originally staged by military experts. When mass production and public sale of fireworks began in the United States, the large number of injuries and fatal burns sustained by amateurs and children led to their prohibition in many states. Using various chemicals to produce a variety of colors, pyrotechnics is an art which has developed incredible effects of spectacular beauty. In the hands of qualified fireworks technicians, public displays are by no means a thing of the past.