## The Labor Front

# Hollywood Hit Hard by 'Job Jitters'

By Victor Riesel

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 1.

THIS movie colony had the "investigation jitters" just exactly a year ago when its producers, writers and actors were hysterical over Congressional probes of its politics. There's more hysteria today. But not over politics. This town has "job jitters" almost to the point of panic.

It's getting tougher to make hard dollars out of mushy make-believe. The brutal facts are that the people on a thousand Main Streets and Broadways just aren't flocking to see the multi-million dollar sad sack film spectacles—and, according to a survey I've just made along with leaders of the movie unions, Hollywood is at its lowest ebb in decades.

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BY ACTUAL count, almost 40 percent of those normally working on films in the studios are jobless today. Profits are so low that producers are down to arguing with the Screen Extras Guild over cuts in pay for extras in mob scenes.

My favorite movie union official and I toured the studio sound stage sector and found only three lots with any substantial movie making—Paramount, MGM and Twentieth Century-Fox.

Judging from sentiment on other lots, there isn't much hope for immediate recovery of this multi-billion-dollar amusement industry.

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OVER at the Warner Bros. vast studio, where 28 featured films were produced this past year, plans, as near as can be learned, call for only ten feature pictures. At RKO, which has done little in the past few months, they are shooting one small pix now and haven't had more than two rolling at a time since Howard Hughes took over.

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WHAT'S done all this? Here's the answer I got from one of Hollywood's top production experts.

"The principal reason is the decline of the foreign market," he said. "As you undoubtedly know, approximately 40 percent of the movie industry income normally came from the foreign market. This has been substantially curtailed, causing a sharp drop in the gross (profit) of any picture produced. This has frightened the people who have to put up to $5,000,000 into a picture.

"But there are two other important reasons. The box office here at home in the U. S. is falling on individual pictures.

"There's another factor, television. It's got the industry jittery."

## Washington Background

# Ambassador Makes Hit With Inauguration Plan

By The Inquirer Washington Bureau Staff

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.

AMBASSADOR WILHELM MUNTHE DE MORGENSTIERNE, of Norway, dean of the diplomatic corps, should have no difficulty finding a place to rest his head if he should decide sometime to make a tour of the State capitals of the United States. The Ambassador, knowing that hotel space would be at a premium during inauguration week, came up with the suggestion that each of the embassies take a Governor as a boarder during the festivities. The proposal made a hit with the inaugural committee and also with a lot of the Governors. Of course, Republican Governors are not likely to write in for accommodations, but it seems reasonable to suppose the Democratic Governors who do attend the ceremonies will reciprocate by inviting Ambassador de Morgenstierne to visit their respective executive mansions some time.

MORGENSTIERNE

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Looks as though everybody and his brother wants to see Harry S. Truman inaugurated for his first term as President in his own right. Applications for seats for the Jan 20 festivities are running 18 times ahead of those in 1940, the last peacetime inauguration. Seat sales have netted the inauguration committee $16,000 as compared with $900 collected through December, 1940. The committee expects to have 750,000 visitors during the four-day inauguration jamboree. The hotels are booked solid and the inaugural committee is begging home owners to rent rooms. Gov. Jim Folsom, of Alabama, who brought suit in an effort to swing Alabama's electoral votes from Gov. J. Strom Thurmond to President Truman, is coming to town with the 200-piece University of Alabama band and he is looking for some place to house them.

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Secretary of Commerce Charles Sawyer raises the roof in his office if letters are not answered promptly and in plain, non-bureaucratic language. For most of his mail he insists upon an answer within two days of receipt. A weekly correspondence record is maintained and last week the stenographic staff was able to show 100 percent compliance with the two-day rule.

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The dollar may not buy what it did before the war but it costs the Government more to make. And the current dollar isn't as good as it used to be. The paper companies are furnishing the Bureau of Engraving and Printing with a half linen, half cotton paper. The pre-war paper was 75 percent linen, 25 percent cotton. Oddly enough, however, the current dollar bill lasts two to four months longer, chiefly because the banks are too busy to sort out the tattered bills and send them back to the Treasury. Even so the Treasury is fussier than money issuing agencies of most countries. We recall being given in change in Rio de Janeiro a bill so worn and tattered that even the denomination was illegible. You knew it was a five cruzeiro note only by the size.

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Adm. Sir Frederick Dalrymple-Hamilton, British naval attache, attended the Army-Navy football game at Philadelphia as the guest of Adm. Louis Denfeld, Chief of Naval Operations. Before the game they both were luncheon guests of Adm. and Mrs. James L. Kauffman at their quarters at the Naval Base.

At the Kauffman home the British admiral was introduced to Kauffman's grandson.

"You're going to the game?" asked the admiral.

"Yes, sir," replied the grandson.

"Do you know what teams are playing?" asked the admiral.

"Army and Navy," the youngster replied, probably thinking, "he must think I'm pretty dumb."

"Which Army and Navy?" the admiral asked.

"The only one, of course," junior shot back.

P.S. No more questions by the admiral.

*—Edited by John C. O'Brien.*

## George Sokolsky

# China Policy Errors May Isolate U. S.

AMERICAN imperialism has been achieved as a by-product of war and without the consent of the American people. It is because the American people have neither a tradition of imperialism nor a national desire to meddle in the affairs of other countries that the policy of this country is uncertain, unfocused, experimental and at times meaningless.

For instance, no country which anticipated an expenditure of $5,000,000,000 a year for the purpose of maintaining a bloc of friendly states in Europe would have issued the Joint Chief of Staff order (JCS 1067) which paralyzed the industry of Europe and which hampers, if it does not prevent, the arming of Europe.

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IN a word, because of JCS 1067, we are forced to employ the Marshall Plan to help reconstruct what we agreed should be dismantled and we shall have to contribute an even larger sum to arm the countries which cannot arm themselves because we knocked down and permitted the Russians to dislocate the principal arsenals of Europe.

It does not seem possible that such a paradox could have been policy. In spite of the discovery of our errors, we continue to make them. For instance, our policy concerning the Ruhr should be to require both France and Western Germany to find a program for joint economic development of the Ruhr. It does not make sense for us to contribute tremendous sums to both countries if they will quarrel over an iron and steel industry which is essential to both. If they cannot agree on essentials, why should we underwrite their quarrels?

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YET, both can point to the ridiculous order JCS 1067 which directed General Eisenhower to "Take no steps (a) looking toward the economic rehabilitation of Germany, or (b) designed to maintain or strengthen the Germany economy." The cost of this order to the American taxpayer is calculable only in billions of dollars and that cost can only be lessened by restoring productive efficiency to the Ruhr.

Similarly, as regards China, the United States at Yalta recognized Soviet Russia as the successor to Japan's rights and claims in Manchuria. In 1915 when Japan issued the Twenty-One Demands, the United States was the first to reject them. Again, when the Japanese repeated them at the Paris Peace Conference, we rejected them except for the Shantung clauses.

Again when Japan occupied Manchuria on September 19, 1931, we issued the Stimson Doctrine of non-recognition and we were prepared to intervene in partnership with Great Britain—a partnership which Sir John Simon refused on behalf of his country. The Far Eastern War did not begin at Pearl Harbor but has been in the making more or less since 1911 when the Japanese took umbrage at American racial discrimination.

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YET at Yalta we agreed to give to Soviet Russia—which was then neutral so far as the Far East was concerned—the Japanese rights and claims in Manchuria. At that moment, the United States pursued a policy which sooner or later would reduce China to the position of Poland or Rumania. As long as Russia holds Manchuria, no independent government can maintain itself in China, just as when Russia holds Shanghai, the Philippines become imperiled.

Perhaps none of this means anything to a people who despise the involvements of imperialism.

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SO FAR as the United States is concerned, this lack of a yardstick of policy, this opportunism, this hit-or-miss diplomacy, this failure to measure American policy by American interests may finally isolate us more than anything any American Firster proposed. We can find ourselves an island surrounded by states in the Soviet federation with whom we shall have no contact, no trade, no interchange of any kind. We may be separated not by an Iron Curtain but enclosed in an iron box.

The crux of this is the China problem. As we handle that, so will our future be.

# -: Gossip of the Nation :-

## Walter Winchell

NEW YORK, Dec. 1.

*PARTING*

*I don't think I'll be seeing you again,*
*It's been so nice, but now I realize*
*The dreams deep in my heart can never match*
*Those dazzling dreams that lie within your eyes.*
*I cannot hope to bridge the years that lie*
*Between us, stretching out like shoreless seas,*
*You're living in the present, as you should,*
*While I am stumbling over memories.*

*Tonight, for instance, in that dingy den,*
*You thought those cornographic songs so gay,*
*But then, you never heard "Chic" Endor sing—*
*The Yacht Club Boys were long before your day.*

*Small things, you scoff, and yet, my wise old heart*
*Says these small things prove we are worlds apart—*
*JEFFO*

• • •

NIFTY wordage from Dolph Traymon: "She proclaims her beauty from the hose tops."

Item. "Scientists discover footprints believed three million years older than dinosaurs, each of which has three toes."

Duzn't evvabody?

Some psychologists at Duke Univ. are wrestling with a gimmick that'll let you get rid of flies and muskeetas, etc., just by "wishing" them away.

Oh, let's give it some class: Let 'em know they're socially unacceptable.

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FRED KEATING and Taluiu Bankhead were at the Columbus Circle Childs with her "talking" bird.

"I don't know why it won't talk just when I want to show it off!" the Great Gabbo intoned.

"It might," said Fred, "if you'd give it half a chance!"

"That's the height of frustration," added Fred. "A parrot living with Tallu. It must feel like a kleptomaniac in a piano store!"

Republican Joseph W. Martin (Mass.) criticized the "spending tendency of the Administration."

Joe means he doesn't like them spending another four years in Washington.

Headline: "Committee Finds Germans Resist Democracy."

Gwan! Ten million GI's found that out long ago.

PORTRAIT OF AN AMERICAN: He is more mature in '48 than he appeared in '41. He looks as though he had been through a hard fight and hopes he'll never have to go through one again.

There are more lines in his face. Some are of sorrow—like a man who has lost some sons in battle. His lips are a little tighter—as though he had been badly disappointed—but was still determined.

His eyes are brighter and quicker, but far less smiling. Like a fellow who just doesn't believe everything he's told anymore. He's a little grayer, too. And a lot less guady. Like a man who smiles at the loud shirts he used to wear because he can't forget the battle-jacket he wore only three years ago.

He seems to ruefully understand that it is expensive to be an American, but he'd sooner dig deeper into his pockets than have his boy digging another foxhole. His face has more character than in '41 and his spirit seems stronger.

Because deep in his eyes you can see his hope for his children, his faith in his country, and a man's deep love and respect for Mrs. America.

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*This Christmas spirit*
*Some wise men feel—*
*So they buy themselves*
*More Bethlehem Steel.*
*—H. V. MARTIN*

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WHY ACTORS GRAY YOUNG: Claudia Cassidy, a Chicago drama reviewer, raved about "Brigadoon" when she saw it in New York. She said it could stay on B'way "at least three years."

When the same hit (with virtually the same cast) opened in Chicago she rapped it.

Headline: "Publisher Charges Truman Won By Fraud."

To which Dixie Green retorts: "He was elected as a result of the largest fraud in history—the 80th Republican Congress."

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A GERMAN was looking at the sea from the docks of the Rostock harbor. The Russian harbor commandant asked what he was doing.

"I am waiting for the Russian ships which are supposed to bring us grain from the Soviet Union."

"Ah," was the reply (as he put a friendly arm about the man), "you not look here. You look in the newspaper!"

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Why all the fuss about polisters and wronguessers? The Weather Man's been getting away with it for years!

## Ed Sullivan

MIAMI BEACH, Fla., Dec. 1.

DECEMBER IN MIAMI—This column tipped you off on the last mystery song that hit the "Stop the Music" jackpot. I think the current platter is a number recorded years back by Britisher, Cyril Smith, singing comic of the old Rudy Vallee program.

FRANCES LANGFORD

The chorus went like this: "She walked the midnight towers, with her head tucked under her arm," and was the rage in England and Australia about 11 years ago. Any record shop will sell it to you.

Miamians are burning at the selection of Texas to face Georgia in the local bowl contest. Texas lost three, was tied once . . . Anxiously looked for Murray Weinger's ballyhooed Copa City, upon arrival. The "city," one building, is costing him and his bankrollers about $600,000. It's too much dough to spend on a nightclub. Milton Berle opens it Dec. 23, opposed to Martin and Lewis, and Frances Langford at rival Ned Schuyler's Beachcomber, same night.

Embarrassing moments: I went to La Guardia Airport to catch the Eastern Silverliner for Miami. "Sorry," said the polite clerk. "The plane leaves from Newark." Call me Schmoe Sullivan from now on . . . I finally connected with the 60-seat Constellation at Washington and the trip was out of this world. Eastern Airlines is celebrating its 20th year of Miami service. On hand for the ceremonies are Capt. F. A. Stone, Eastern Airline pilot who, 20 years ago, flew the first sack of mail from Florida to the North.

Also J. S. Charles, who piloted the last open-cockpit mail plane from Miami . . . Rex Weber and his missus are here. He introduced "Brother Can You Spare a Dime" after the 1929 depression . . . The Monroe (Sam Goldwyn) Greenthals expect Sir Stork . . . Milton Kafka, husband of Gracie Barie, and Joe Cohen open Ciro's on the 17th . . . "Mother" Kelley's tees off with Julie Oshins on the 16th. Follow up with Frank Parker on the 30th.

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"CHRISTMAS for the Wounded" checks are piling in. First for $100, was from the son and daughter-in-law of the late Gen. John J. Pershing, the Warren Pershings. More on the check response when I get back to N. Y. . . . One new hotel, not yet completed will charge $55-per-day for a single room, fronting the ocean. Say, how expensive can an ocean get?

Union attempts to organize Miami Beach hotels and restaurants may climax with a demonstration of mass picketing at such a prominent target as the Roney-Plaza . . . Hyde Park Hotel, managed by Jack Parker, is familiarly known as the "Hyder Parker." This is the old Lord Tarleton, rendezvous of Al Jolson, Danny Kaye, Ritz brothers, Berle, etc.

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WHILE Miami Beach police are busy invading private homes and arresting card-players, on charges of gambling, Miami Beach bookmakers operate freely. Understand a new hotel will be paid $100,000 for two years, $50,000-per, for the "bookie" concession, and other hotels will be paid, proportionately.

All bookies must pay the local "syndicate" 50 percent of the profits, plus extras. F'instance, the bookmaker who signed the deal for $100,000 probably will be told by the "syndicate" that he should have paid only $20,000. The other $80,000 comes out of the bookie's pocket, and on top of that, he must kick in with half of his profits on the season. Penalty for disobedience: "syndicate" tips off controlled officials who raid the offender out of business.

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FLORIDA chortling at discomfiture of California, since it was revealed that Joan Abbott, in Miami Beach, was supplying all of Alice Faye's wardrobe. Joan and Alice worked in George White's 'Scandals" in 1932. The show produced the Lew Brown-Henderson smash hit, "Life Is Just a Bowl of Cherries."

Of that 1932 cast, Miss Abbott runs Florida's top dress shop; Alice is Mrs. Phil Harris; Ethel Merman still is a star on Broadway; Ross McLean co-authored "Beer Barrel Polkas"; Willie K. Howard is still a headliner . . . In England, Barbara (Snoony) Blair is married to a wealthy Londoner and her picture hits front pages in London newspapers during society affairs. Only George White has fared poorly in the flight of years.

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JUST emerged from the ocean, a few hours ago, when two big fellows accosted me.

"We are New York detectives," said one, and I thought the jig was up, for sure.

It developed, however, that they were down from N. Y. to pick up James M. Thompson, who allegedly issued forged checks on Saks 5th ave., Essex House, Savoy Plaza, Waldorf-Astoria, Pierre Hotel and The Plaza in New York. If the charges are true, Thompson certainly clipped some of the top Manhattan spots.

Detectives Herbert Mosher and John Loffler were sent here by one of Commissioner Wallander's ace forgery investigators, Sgt. Patrick King.

## Louella Parsons

# Ingrid May Still Do That Film in Italy

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 1.

A LADY can change her mind, can't she? Italy's most famous director, Rossellini, arrives here in a month to talk Ingrid Bergman into making that picture with him in Italy after all.

INGRID BERGMAN

The time Miss Bergman learned that Rossellini considered a letter she wrote him a contrast, she was in a flurry. Then he went to London just to see her, turned on the charm so that she agreed to make a picture for him if he could find a story that would be satisfactory.

Now I am told that Rossellini is bringing with him a story he considers to read and since she has definite in Hollywood, she will be every reason to believe she will accept his offer. Well, he is Italy's best.

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Howard Duff gets a little peeved being referred to as "Ava Gardner's boy friend" everytime his name comes up. So naturally, I shall not mention Ava in telling you that Howard has just been signed to tri-star with Yvonne de Carlo and Stephen McNally in "The Western Story" at U-I.

This is the outdoor opus in Technicolor that Deanna Durbin was supposed to do before she signed for an Italian picture. It starts in mid-January with Fred de Cordova directing.

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I am very unhappy that I wasn't able to give "When My Baby Smiles At Me" a citation. Technicolor held it up, so that it had to be released to the public almost the day it was finished, which made it too late.

But what Technicolor does for Betty Grable's beauty is worth a story in itself—she is so beautiful. She is not only breathtaking, but she turns in a performance that matches her face.

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Chatter in Hollywood:

Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., inherits his father's love of travel—and it's a good thing with the schedule he has coming up.

After three and a half months in Europe, Doug is in New York waiting for Mary Lee (Mrs. Fairbanks) who was held up by the strike. They will remain in the East until the 14th, then back to Hollywood for Christmas with the children, then off to England again to start the first of three movies he will make for J. Arthur Rank.

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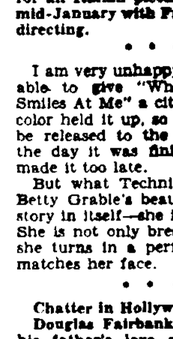
The most fabulous offer ever made to an entertainer has come to Bing Crosby from Tim Donnell in London.



BING CROSBY

If Bing accepts, he will get $60,000 a week for a two week appearance in an open air stadium in London about the size of one of our football ovals. That's the only way any promoter could come up with such a salary.

Myrna Loy was voted the best dressed woman at the command performance in London.

A new combination is Marta Toren, comely Swedish actress, and George Mann, the actor.

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Bette Davis will reside permanently in California. This week three freight carloads of her belongings arrived from her New Hampshire farm, which she is selling. In the cars were two Oscars which will now occupy the mantel at her Laguna Beach home.

Sid Grauman, Hollywood's most famous showman, at the Kings with a party of friends. I am so happy to say he's completely recovered his health.

Mrs. Vincent Sherman and her two small children are on their way to London to join Vince for the holidays. He will be there directing "The Hasty Heart" for Warners.

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Looks like Nelson Eddy isn't going to get out of doing a spring concert tour. His present tour, which he just wound up in Pasadena, broke all his previous records. Well, with a popularity such as Nelson enjoys, people will come back to hear him as long as he sings.

Fay Bainter and her husband, Cmdr. Reginald Venable, must be together again. They have just started a housing development at Palm Springs.

Danny Kaye says when he was in Rome his picture, "The Kid From Brooklyn," was playing, but the title had been changed to "I Prefer a Cow."

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Some idea Rene Hubert has for himself—a plan to design a line of evening gowns modeled on those worn by our stars in pictures. He has been guaranteed $20,000 a year to carry out this idea.

Word from Chicago is that Skitch Henderson is a sensation at the College Inn there. Ernie Byfield has just signed him on a five-month contract.

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At last, along comes a gent who is happy and flattered by the way he has been portrayed in a movie. Eleanor Harris, who wrote the original story, "Every Girl Should Be Married," got the plot idea when she went to rent the apartment of William Wright Crandall, a prominent decorator.

When Miss Harris took Crandall to a preview to see "himself" as Cary Grant portrays him, he was delighted.

No, the authoress says she is not the Betsy Drake character—that's pure fiction.

## Chance and the Presidency

# Socialism Marks Decline of Free Government

*125th of a Series*

By George W. Maxey

*Chief Justice*
*Pennsylvania Supreme Court*

AN OBSERVER at first hand of the fall of the German Republic, Dorothy Thompson, wrote: "Not a single democracy has fallen because it failed to attempt to meet human needs. But many have failed because they guaranteed to meet human needs and found these human needs and human demands continually increased, finding expression in powerful pressure groups controlling vast numbers of votes.

"And these groups always pressed forward, never willing to retreat or retrench and the democratic system had no checks which could halt them, until the demand on the state became out of all proportion to its resources and bankruptcy threatened. . . . The people had come to look upon the state "as the source of all their welfare . . . and they could do everything except replenish its coffers . . .

"The lesson is that if the state aggrandizes the economic power, if it takes upon itself to guarantee wage levels, fix prices, adjust the economic system at nearly every point, and socializes losses, then it is driven toward dictatorship by the sheer necessity of fulfilling what always must be its two prime functions: maintaining order and avoiding bankruptcy."

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THE wise observation has been made that "revolutions are less often won by revolutionists than lost by their opponents." That is what those early statesmen had in mind when they warned us that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

No constitutional republic will long survive unless it has determined defenders. No system of free government will preserve itself; it must be preserved. It has no automatic safeguards which spring into action as soon as danger threatens. Whatever people are indifferent to they lose.

They can lose a good government as well as other good things of life, by their indifference. It has been well said that "for the good things in life we pay in advance; for the evil things we pay afterwards." All socialistic and communistic schemes for sharing wealth have ended in a sharing of penury. Instead of common wealth, there is common poverty.

Socialism marks a decadent stage of any free government and is the forerunner of a dictatorship. Both Communists and Socialists wish to wallow in the wealth they do not have the ability to create or the character to conserve. Both the Communists and Socialists would deprive ambition of its incentive, industry of its earnings, excellence of its just dues, and thrift of its reward.

• • •

WHENEVER the right of private property is no longer secure the right of personal liberty also perishes. It is a great mistake to believe that there is any conflict between individuals rights and the rights of property. The two rights stand or fall together.

After Russia destroyed the rights of private ownership it soon destroyed all personal rights. The same is true of Germany. It is an anomaly that the advocates of planned economy depend upon the profits produced by private enterprise to furnish the revenues to run the "planned economy," an "economy" which plans something for everybody and produces nothing for anybody. The idea of collecting huge government revenues by "soaking the rich" ends by their being no rich to soak.

The enactment of the 16th Amendment to the Federal Constitution giving the Government unlimited power to tax income made paternalism possible in this country, as some sound oberver at that time predicted it would. When the Government wa given this right it was collecting less than three-quarters of a billion dollars each year. In fact, not until 1917 did it collect more than one billion dollars anually.

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LATER the so-called New Dealers and the Federal bureaucrats, realizing what a rich source of revenue was opened to the Federal Government by the 16th Amendment, used their new taxing power to raise each year scores of billions of dollars. Many of these billions have been used for subsidies and grants to thoe political group which wield the greatest pressure and which can produce the most votes. Many Socialists and Communists believe that the paternalism made possible by thee huge revenues will project our country into Communism or Socialism.

In a book, "The Reconciliation of Government With Liberty," published in 1915, Professor John W. Burgess, in discussing the Income Tax Amendment to the Federal Constitution, said: "This amendment has made over to the Government the whole power of the sovereign . . . to take from one individual and not from another, as it will, and to take in different proportion from different individuals, as it will. This is not a power of constitutional taxation. It is the power of confiscation."

• • •

AN ENGLISH Socialist named Brailsford, commenting on the New Deal in the United States, said: "In America the average man has not yet the faintest idea of what Socialism means. It is, therefore, conceivable that the logic of facts may drive him into it before he can shrink back in terror. He has begun to experiment, and when once Americans start moving as a mass, they are apt to go at a hot and headlong pace. If ever they do it, they will stumble into Socialism unconsciously. It will be the consequence of their actions and not the conclusion of their reasoning."

In an able address Madame Chiang Kai-shek made some years ago in the United States, she used as her text an old Chinese proverb, to wit: "Watch the cart ahead." She explained that when a Chinese farmer takes a load of produce to market over his country's rough roads he always watches the cart ahead to see what pitfalls or precipices it has encountered and he then avoids those pitfalls and precipices.

She said that nations likewise should try to avoid the pitfalls and precipices and false cults which have injured or destroyed other nations. Applying this text, it will be well if Americans heed the lessons offered by Germany, France, Italy, Russia and Great Britain during recent years and then avoid the pitfalls of paternalism and internal discord and Socialism and Fascism and Communism which have so greatly injured the peoples of these countries and which, in the case of Germany, has led to the nation's destruction.

(To Be Continued)

## Samuel Grafton

# Events Show Trend Against Reactionaries

EVENTS indicate that reaction is on its way out in this world. It seems to me we ought to take at least a minute to discuss the recent Presidential election from this point of view. Did the election of Truman, for example, have anything to do with a world trend, or drift, or whatever you may want to call it?

Quite possibly it did. In a world in which the 60,000,000 untouchables of India have just been granted a constitutional guarantee of full citizenship rights, the election of even a leftover New Deal party, on a civil rights platform, make somewhat more sense than would the election of conservative Republicans.

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THE connection may be tenuous. But, after all, we have been telling each other firmly for almost a decade now that this is an interdependent world, that events in it are all tied together in a grimly unified structure. This deep, underlying unity may be showing up in more ways and in more fields than we realize.

Of course, as Americans, many of us do not like to feel that a world trend, such as the leftward movement now visible in so many parts of the planet, can reach inside our borders, and influence our thinking. We like to feel we are independent of all that, that we are shielded against these larger currents and cross-currents.

• • •

AS A matter of fact, it has been a lively occupation on the part of some conservatives, ever since election day, to try to prove that the election result had almost nothing to do with anything. Currently, a number of Republicans are muttering that their party lost, not because of a big liberal upsurge in the cities, but because Mid-Western farmers were sore at the Republican Congress for not granting them enough approved grain storage facilities, which are necessary for securing farm loans.

That may be true. But what does it prove? It proves that even well-to-do farmers no longer have much confidence in the reactionary solution for their economic problems. And that is a liberal vote, even if its base is only a negative vote of no-confidence in the conservative way. A man does not have to be a red-hot liberal, with a rounded, affirmative conception of the kind of future he seeks for the world, to vote in the liberal direction. If he merely votes his fears, that is enough.

• • •

AND that is precisely the point; there are very few places left in the world today where the reactionary solution commands much confidence. The Republicans do not make out a really first-class case for themselves when they say that they were beaten, not because the liberals rose against them, but because even prosperous farmers are today a little afraid of them.

So, on the whole, I feel I can stand back of my little remark that reaction is on its way out in this world.

• • •

I'VE just noticed, for example, that Paul G. Hoffman, Marshall Plan administrator, has said in a speech that one aim of the Plan is to increase the average per capita yearly income in Western Europe from about $320 to $500. There are those who try to argue that the Marshall Plan is a reactionary American effort to hold Europe in economic thralldom, and certainly there are some very convinced reactionaries who endorse the Plan. But all that may not be quite so important in the end, as the fact that the Plan finds it has to speak in such liberal accents as these.

There is where we get our news as to what political currents are really racing around the world today; there is where we get our indications as to what ideas are going up and what are going down.

## Headline Hopping

# Press Agent to Change City Clamor to Glamor

By Ollie Crawford

PHILADELPHIA'S new $115,000,000 budget provides for a city press agent. He's probably promised to put Broad st. on Broadway. After all, what has Lamour got that Philadelphia doesn't want.

Some politicians will be glad to see their names in lights, instead of headlines. Up to now, the grand jury has been handling their publicity. They've been in the public eye, but like a cinder.

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The publicity already sounds like Sinatra. Some people screamed when they saw the budget, and they'll swoon when they get the tax bills.

The new tub thumper will handle the city as a whole, not just Mayor Samuel. It will not be Barney's Blarney. He'll begin earning his money when he tries to slide the Mayor into a bathing suit and get City Council to pose for leg art.

Maybe this is what the city needs: More peach and less impeach.

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No press agent can operate without nicknames, like "The Nose" for Durante and "The Profile" for Barrymore. City Council will now become "The Body," the Police Bureau will be renamed "The Arm" and the Fire Bureau will end up as "The Hose."

The City Treasury, of course, will be known as "The Chest."

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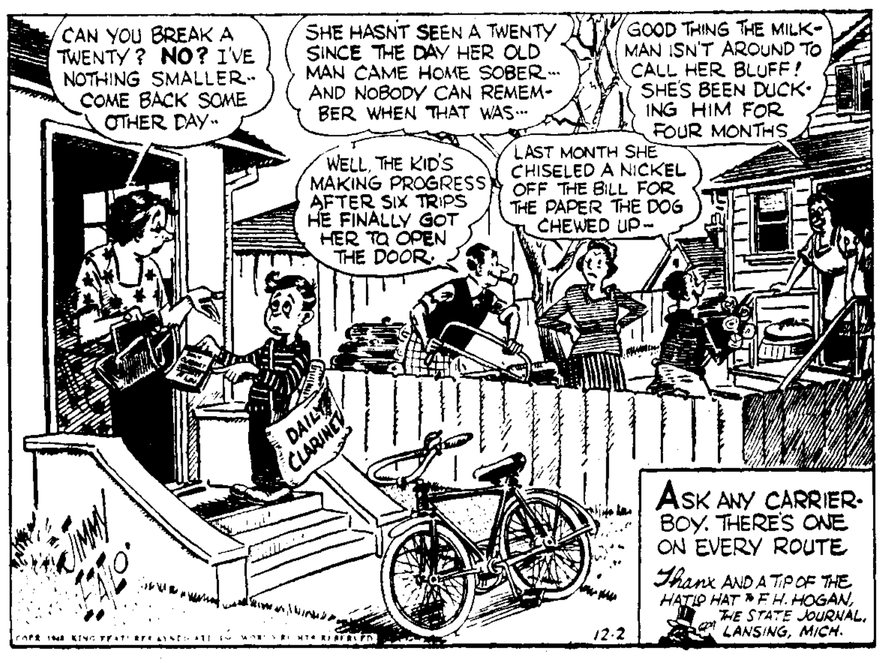
With all this glamor, the Street Department won't lay an axe to the asphalt without a grand Hollywood opening. The city will be toying with a new slogan like: "From Whistle Stop to Wolf Whistle" or "Brother! Love That City of Brotherly Love!" Instead of "Moon Over Miami," we'll all be singing "Smog Over Philadelphia."

But some of the press agent gags are out. How can a city go to the opera and shriek: "Help! I've lost my waterworks."

THEY'LL DO IT EVERY TIME — By Jimmy Hatlo




Thanx AND A TIP OF THE HAT TO F. H. HOGAN, THE STATE JOURNAL, LANSING, MICH.