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Teacher Pay: A Realistic Compromise

GOV. Hodges has come to a sound and defensible position on teacher pay increases. He staked out his new stand yesterday with nimble timing and with appropriate sensitivity to both public sentiment and the condition of the state treasury.

Although his new recommendation of a 15 per cent salary hike still falls short of what teachers and the State Board of Education regard as an adequate increase, it is a fair and realistic adjustment of his earlier call for a 9.1 per cent increase.

The governor is attempting to shore up teacher morale without placing state finances in a dangerous position. Even so, the assignment of \$34 1/2 million in surplus, non-recurring revenue to operating expenses in the form of salary raises for teachers and other state employees involves some risk-taking.

But amid the lamentation, there is room for some measure of optimism. Public sentiment, the necessary basis for

any consistent program of enrichment of education, obviously has been aroused in support of a better break for teachers. Vigorous and imaginative leadership can and should capitalize on that interest in developing a long-range program for betterment of the schools generally.

The governor returned to that subject yesterday with considerably more clarity than has graced his previous appeals for increased local support of schools. He proposes a thorough study of each county's ability to support properly its schools. Study data would be used in development of a state school aid program designed to stimulate local support as well as to provide an improved minimum program.

The total costs of buildings, operating expenses and teacher salaries," the governor explained, "could be allocated between the state and the 100 counties based on each county's ability. The state would pick up so many millions of dollars which would be given to counties by a formula prescribed by law."

A basic exploration of this type is needed. All North Carolina children must be provided with the educational essentials of good teachers and an adequate curricula. The governor's proposal of an immediate raise for teachers and studied redesigning of state school aid is a good way to go about achieving the goal. The Hodges' school program as amended deserves the sympathy and support of the General Assembly.

'I'm Afraid That's About The Size Of It'



A Giant In Distress Trouble Brews In Russia

By MARQUIS CHILDS

WASHINGTON

THE experts here who have been poring over every word of Nikita Khrushchev's voluminous plan for reshaping the system of Soviet industry believe it has been forced by the severest internal crisis the Soviet Union has undergone since the land collectivization program of the early '30s.



The Khrushchev proposal to decentralize control over industry comes out of the painful discovery that a system KHRUSHCHEV which embraces 230,000 to 300,000 enterprises cannot be run through the orders of government commissars in Moscow.

Once production began to shift from heavy industry to consumer goods, even gradually and in a limited degree, the Soviet system of iron authority over every phase of life began to crack and groan.

In the view of economic specialists, so long as the Soviet system was geared to the production of iron and steel and heavy machinery it worked after a fashion. But once the relaxation began by the household-

able or only in such scarce supply to be negligible, the trouble began.

While the little group of men in the Kremlin would naturally never admit it, what is missing is the mechanism of the market economy—the function of price as it governs supply and demand in the market place. Whether anything approaching a consumers' economy—Russia is a long way from such an economy—can operate through this mechanism is the question believed to be plaguing the Soviet masters.

The substitute would be a vast army of bureaucrats fixing prices through a system of government cost-accounting constantly threatening to break down of its own weight and by reason of its essential unreality. The peril of this unreality is believed to have been impressed upon Khrushchev and others in relation to the artificial rate of the Russian ruble as compared to other currencies of the world.

RUBLES AT A PREMIUM

One of the most startling changes announced at the same time that Khrushchev's plan filled two-thirds of all leading newspapers was that rubles would be sold for foreign currencies at a premium. In 1950 the value of the ruble was artificially fixed at four to the dol-

lar. At the new premium rate, an American will be able to buy 10 rubles for a dollar. Similar bonuses for other principal world currencies were announced.

In this way the Soviet bosses apparently hope to get a more realistic idea of the cost of the machinery and the commodities they import. Under the artificial rate for the ruble, they have been operating in the dark.

Those studying Khrushchev's proposed shift believe that the more relaxation occurs, the more trouble will accumulate for the little group undertaking to run a dictatorship without a dictator.

The specialists who hold this view do not expect that in the foreseeable future the cumulative trouble will produce anything like a revolution. If they are correct in their analysis, the Kremlin gang will be more and more harassed by the need to adjust to inevitable alterations in the system in the direction of further liberalization.

They thereby will be kept busy, but they will not be so hard pressed as to seek to distract their own people with the kind of foreign adventure which could lead to war with the West.

POREMSKY'S VIEW

Admittedly, this is an optimistic view. It differs sharply from that of Soviet escapes and underground leaders such as Vladimir Poremsky, president of the National Alliance of Russian Solidarists, known by the initials NTS.

Poremsky, who claims to direct an extensive underground inside Russia, foresees a "major upheaval" that may come at any time. This could take the form of extensive rioting, with events coming to a climax in the refusal of Soviet troops to fire on the rioters. In Poremsky's view, that would signal the end of the regime.

DRAB OPPRESSION

Americans who should know the Soviet Union best at first hand see nothing like that tremendous drama in sight. There is widespread discontent and it has shown up in open protest, such as the riots in Tiflis and the student attacks on some aspects of Soviet life. But it is more a passive boredom with the tiresome, unceasing propaganda that seems increasingly false and unrelated to the drab oppression of Soviet life.

But the experts agree on one thing: that the satellite states, even in Russia itself, have the Communist indoctrination transformed into Communist robots. And that is, in itself, an enormously hopeful conclusion.

An 'Undigested Lump' Lies Heavily Upon British Spirits

By WALTER LIPPMANN

LONDON

A FEW days in London have brought home to us again what it is so easy to forget, how much foreign policy is actually the reflection of domestic and internal affairs and feelings. The fact is, no doubt, that the British nation is in the early stages of adjusting itself to the new position in the world which was dramatized as necessary by the Suez disaster. But while there appear to be few in Britain who would deny that the readjustment is necessary, there is, of course, no enthusiasm for it. The British are used to living in a large house, and the prospect of squeezing themselves into a considerably smaller one is depressing. It has to be done and it will be done, but it is not exhilarating.

The chancery is plainly under way and the effects are already visible in the budget, in military planning, and in foreign policy. But I have an impression, though of course it is only an impression, that neither of the two parties has as yet begun to talk affirmatively about the work of the future, neither has as yet passed the point of thinking about the future as a time when much that was glorious and fascinating will have been given up.

ACUTE EMOTIONS

It is evident, it seems to me, that the recent past, that story of what has happened since last summer, lies heavily and painfully, an indigestible lump, upon the spirits of the British people. They do not understand what happened. There is no accepted history of how Britain came to fall into such a disaster in the Middle East. Yet to the whole tangled history there are attached deep and acute emotions of patriotic commiseration, injured pride and frustration.

One feels that the British nation will not face the future coolly until it has come to terms with the history of the Suez affair. The thing is too big to arouse too much passion, to be passed off easily.

FORGETFULNESS

This work of clarification and understanding is not being helped much today by the political parties. The Macmillan government stands by the Suez policy while protesting not to explain it, and hoping that the whole affair will be treated as something which is best to forget. The Labour Party is not of one mind about the Suez



MACMILLAN Forgetfulness

affair, and it does not speak clearly about its causes, with consequences, or the remedies.

It may be expecting too much that the whole truth could be told about the Suez affair, and that by public debate the emotion tension attached to it could be relieved. The alternative is to let time work the cure, and to let the new problems that arise override the old preoccupations.

PROCESS BEGINS

There is already some evidence that this process has been begun. This is agreed among those I have talked with that, provided the United States protects the flow of oil from the Middle East, there will be little popular regret about the change in the political position of Britain in the Middle East.

It may also be significant that Lord Salisbury's resignation does not seem to have divided the Conservative Party or to have shaken the government.

Inasmuch as Lord Salisbury is the great representative of the old British position in the world, the way his resignation has been received would seem to prove that the country has just about accepted the change in Britain's position.

Happy Anniversary To The Colossus

IT all began as a buzz in a basement. The call letters were 4XD and it resembled a radio transmitter only vaguely and in retrospect. In size and complexity, it had more in common with the cockpit of one of those early biplanes that used to unnerve the multitudes at county fairs about the same time.

This was 1922, a good year for barnstorming pilots and basement tinkers. The barnstormers were replaced by something called commercial aviation. The buzz in the basement grew into the 50,000-watt clear channel hum of the Colossus of the Carolinas, Radio Station WBT.

We are happy to salute WBT today on its 35th anniversary. Its birth as experimental station 4XD in Fred Laxton's basement was humble. Its signal hardly penetrated the county line in the early days. Today it booms into at least 48 counties in every state on the Atlantic Seaboard, carrying Charlotte's message to the four corners.

The history of WBT is in a real sense the history of radio in the United States. WBT received the first commercial license issued in any state on the southern seaboard, placing it in the company of KDKA, WGY, WLW and WOR as a genuine pioneer in broadcasting.

Radio's popularity was sudden and spectacular. It triggered a double revolution in U. S. life. Entertainment became a free and uninterrupted phenomenon. Its stars appeared like Aladdin's jinni when Americans rubbed their magic lamps. More than that, radio became a

necessity. Everybody listened. Everybody was affected. It became an integrated part of everybody's life.

The impact was so tremendous that listeners began to feel that whatever came out of their receivers had the quality of everyday truth. It was probably no accident that the most famous of all radio programs was a broadcast of a work of fiction which listeners took to be a report of an event.

Not long ago a popular comedian began his broadcast with this offer: "Just write in, folks, and we'll send you \$5,000 worth of secondhand sneakers, six miles of dental floss, an all-expense vacation in Youngstown, Ohio, and a screen door equipped with 200 flies."

It is hardly surprising that people wrote in quite seriously for each of the gifts.

As a commercial property, radio trembled under the shock of television. But radio has learned to live with itself and, in so doing, has actually increased its audience and bolstered its potential.

There are more radio sets in American homes today than ever before. Even in the age of television, radio remains a necessity. WBT, as both a pioneer and a leader in the field, has contributed mightily to radio's durable appeal. It has done it with excellent showmanship and a deep sense of civic responsibility. We congratulate it on its achievement and wish it well in the years ahead.

Security Served By Diplomat's Death?

CAIRO authorities called it death by suicide when Herbert Norman, Canadian ambassador to Egypt, fell from the roof of an apartment house in Ottawa, however, one member of Parliament called it "murder by slander" on the part of the U. S. Senate Internal Security Subcommittee which had revived and publicized a discredited claim that Norman had been a Communist in his past years. Canadian leaders generally held the subcommittee responsible for Ambassador Norman's suicide.

It is hard to believe otherwise. It is even more difficult to believe the subcommittee's claim that its action "may have an important bearing on our internal security." How could it? The Canadian government in 1951 had vigorously rejected the committee's hearsay evidence that Mr. Norman had been a Communist. It said the diplomat had

Ottawa's full trust, based on his work and on thorough security checks that had cleared him of all suspicion.

Despite his government's position, however, the subcommittee made another, apparently gratuitous, assault on the integrity of a foreign diplomat and, inferentially, on the integrity of the Canadian government itself.

If it had any real evidence of subversion or intent of subversion on Mr. Norman's part, why didn't the committee pass it quietly along to the Canadian government, the only agent competent to deal with Canadian employees?

The subcommittee, which has given evidence before of a fascination for internal hysteria, might give an occasional thought to the external security of the U. S. It has hardly increased the stature of the U. S. in world affairs by an exhibition of a cruel and callous disregard of the sensibilities of fair-minded men.

From The Christian Science Monitor

MAN BITES TREE

GOOD-BY, Greeley: The man who bit a dog is out of the running—as news, that is. His successor is the man who can gnaw right through a small tree. This is a more impressive type of man, not one to go about merely "tasting" a postman's revenge. He is, in fact, of the formidable species, the banker, whose jaw no Pittdown man can match when the depositors' money has to be saved.

In this case it had to be saved by action. Having been bundled at gunpoint into a car and driven to a remote part of town, a Staten Island bank manager found himself handcuffed to a small tree while his abductors drove away with the combination of his bank's safe deposit vault. Three hours later, but in time to foil the plotters, our bank manager had gnawed his way through the tree.

Another trouble with television is that you can't mark your place in a show and return to it later. — SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS.

on which it appeared a beaver had been practicing.

And there was another legend to add to the man's lore. Let this one be preserved like the account of the tree that grew in Brooklyn, for too often tales widely believed come to be doubted—as that of George Washington and the tree.

Someday someone may write a book to prove that a Staten Island banker did not gnaw down a tree in order to escape and save the depositors' money. He did, of course. But the moral of the tale is even more substantial than the event, and that is that he is not the only banker who would.

Another trouble with television is that you can't mark your place in a show and return to it later. — SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Editors' Note: Drew Pearson is taking a brief vacation. During his absence, his column is written by his junior partner, Jack Anderson.

THE long personal feud between the two top House Republicans, GOP Leader Joe Martin and Congressman Charlie Halloran may be headed for a showdown. Both are quietly polling their friends to see who has the most support in the Republican ranks.

Joe and Charlie haven't gotten along since they ran the House together during the 80th Congress (1946-48). This personal friction has been fanned to a white heat now by the White House which sometimes ignores Martin and works through Halloran. Joe is so sure of being bypassed that he has complained to cronies: "The way the White House is running things, I

Feud May Split GOP High Command

won't have a minority to lead after the next election."

Halleck has been whispering around the cloakrooms that Martin promises to step aside and let him have the GOP leadership last January. Charlie claims to have double-crossed while vacationing in Florida.

Ouster Plotted?

His game is to rally enough Republican congressmen behind him to control GOP policy in the House. Those sending him invitations (with few exceptions) are told to try again three weeks before they want him. This courtship is a stalling maneuver that Nixon is keeping his calendar open in case President Eisenhower's health should take a turn for the worse.

Most of the old veterans stand solidly behind Joe, though Charlie has made inroads among the younger members.

This courtship is a stalling maneuver that Nixon is keeping his calendar open in case President Eisenhower's health should take a turn for the worse.

Nixon's Calendar

Engage President Nixon is turning down invitations more than three weeks in advance. Those sending him invitations (with few exceptions) are told to try again three weeks before they want him.

Cocktail Circuit

One reason for Gen. Lyman Lemnitzer's shift from the Far East to the Pentagon is to relieve Gen. Maxwell Taylor, the

News Coverage Helps Organization To Serve

Charlotte

Editors, The News: I express sincerest thanks on behalf of the Junior League of Charlotte, Inc. for the generous news coverage you have given to our activities this year.

Our staff members have been most cooperative and perceptive in interpreting our volunteer service program to the public. It is just such gracious assistance as yours that enables us to serve in our community.

—MRS. ADDISON G. BRENNIZER JR., President Junior League.

None Can Be Free Until All Are Free

Rock Hill, S. C.

Editors, The News: I am glad to see that you are not a part of Pharaoh's tyranny and persecution are the lot of the He-

Kindness Appreciated In Time Of Sickness

Charlotte

Editors, The News: I AM back home from a few days' stay at Memorial Hospital. I was operated on April 3 and was able to come home the following Friday. As I am getting my strength back, I want to find time to tell you what a grand hospital Memorial is.

Every doctor that visited my room was so good and kind and the nurses were all sweet and kind, too. It means so much when you are lying flat on your back.

I want to say that you need not worry if you have to go to the hospital. There is no finer Memorial. You get good attention and good food.

—MRS. MAYME BARGER

Fearless In The Field

Protocol demands Taylor's presence at all functions. He is so tired of the cocktail circuit that he started looking around for someone to help out with the social chores.

Social Dud

It would be bad diplomatic manners for Taylor to send anyone less than his vice chief to represent him at Washington's present vice chief is a fearless field commander. Gen. William Palmer, who won't flinch in the face of any foe, runs like a rabbit from cocktail parties. "Willie," as he's called around the Pentagon, is considered a social dud.