

More Gibbet Than Platform

In commenting on the 1960 Democratic platform—consisting of a rocky, forbidding Civil Rights island surrounded by platitudes in a sea of pork gravy—Admiral Ben Moreell, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Americans for Constitutional Action, has given his fellow Americans a wise and timely analysis:

"If the unlimited promises of more for all from the Federal Treasury at no cost or sacrifice to anyone, contained in the platform adopted by the majority of the delegates attending the Democratic Convention, become law, then, indeed, we will be in the final stages of a Collective State here in America. Approval of this platform suggests the shocking fact that the delegates have been deceived into believing that big, centralized, paternalistic, unlimited government can dispense prosperity, health, happiness, security and even moral strength to all by some miracle of political magic.

"Such a program, if enacted," declared the Admiral, "would be the most costly in American history. . . . But most importantly, it would rob Americans of the rights of man endowed by God, from which flows all human freedom.

Admiral Moreell sees a "glimmer of hope," however, in the fact that "this sellout has been discovered, though late, within the party itself," and quotes from the Minority Report:

"The big evil of our confused day, not only here in the US but in countries the world over, is unlimited government. For nobody is qualified to wield fairly unlimited power." The report goes on to excoriate "the liberals and salvationists in our party" who seek "ever-enlarging big-government control, which always corrupts and always dehumanizes."

The success of these "liberals and salvationists" to date, says Admiral Moreell, should have taught us some lessons:

First, that "freedom is indivisible." The South, he points out, having accepted federal subsidy and control in some areas "now finds itself all but helpless to assert freedom for the individual, property rights and States' sovereignty" in the area of the "so-called" civil rights.

Second, that gradualism, as practiced by the Socialist League for Industrial Democracy and the ADA, can overthrow a free society by legal means.

Third, that "the existing parties can be the best instruments" for such overthrow—"as predicted by the Socialists themselves."

Fourth, that a zealous few with a plan can dominate and control "millions of Americans who innocently believe it can't happen here."

"Whether the Republican Party (similarly infiltrated) will present a clear choice between materialistic Socialistic principles and those of God-given freedom and progress," says Admiral Moreell, "remains to be seen."

We concur in his conclusion that: "The need for effective political action to preserve our liberty is great—and the hour is late."

Pro Bonum Publico

The Democratic and Republican parties have been drawing up campaign platforms every four years for a hundred years or better. Every one of those platforms has been "in the best interest of the people"—but just what that phrase means has changed a good deal over the years.

When many of today's political thinkers refer to "the people," what they have in mind is the whole of society. They think of people as a group—a concept indistinguishable from the Marxist idea of "the masses."

In contrast, the American political tradition has always conceived of "the people" as individuals, each endowed with supreme and equal worth by God. This revolutionary idea that each person has certain rights derived from an Authority higher than any government was proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence and written into the Constitution. On it Americans founded a nation in which government was to be the servant of the people rather than their master.

A close look at the platforms coming from the political conventions this month will show how the party leaders interpret the word "people." If they make large promises of more federal duties, powers and programs, watch out. Collectivization of power in a big central government is in the Marxist manner. Political leaders who want to protect the American heritage of personal rights and freedoms will advocate keeping as much government as possible at the local levels where each individual can keep an eye on it and make his voice heard.

Babson Discusses Competition

Babson Park, Mass., July 21—I am not now forecasting World War III, but neither the United States nor Russia can continue to spend such vast amounts of money on missiles, rockets, submarines, etc. Either there must be a reduction in armaments (Kruschev is as anxious for this as we are), or World War III is inevitable. However, my message this week is on the subject of COMPETITION, which will be the "ammunition" Russia will probably use to fight the cold war.

FOREIGN COMPETITION

During my last trip to Germany, I was astounded at the competition which is developing there. Not only are wages very low, but the efficiency of the workers is very high. German industrialists are continuing to make new machines which can even replace their own workers. This applies to plastics, textiles, and many other products. It seems as though this competition from Europe will cause unemployment in our country sooner or later.

Added to the competition from Europe, we also have much from Japan. I could give illustrations which would seem to you unbelievable. These involve a great variety of articles ranging from table doilies, which sell for 2c apiece, to radios, cameras, and even television sets. It all seems fantastic, and detrimental to manufacturers and wage-workers. The only concerns which can possibly profit from it are big concerns such as Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, and the chain stores which can buy and sell in tremendous quantities.

COMPETITION WITH OURSELVES

Before World War II, the leading manufacturers were content to make their own products; but they have now added products of others which, in many cases, have no relation to their basic products. This not only causes over-production, but it reduces profits. I fear that the average United States businessman may be caught in a squeeze, with increased costs but with declining prices for his products.

Let me give a few illustrations of this domestic internal competition. General Tire now manufactures missiles! General Mills has wandered away from its basic food products to make precision instruments! Textron, basically a textile manufacturer, is buying into various new businesses with which it has had no experience.

EXPANSION VERSUS DIVERSIFICATION

While there is no legitimate reason for much of the above diversification, there is justification for companies to expand in their own lines. (Pittsburgh) Consolidation Coal is becoming increasingly active in the field of organic chemicals; this is wise. American Viscose, a major producer of rayon and nylon yarns and cellophane paper, has now legitimately gone all-out into the plastic-chemical field.

It is wise for a company to seek new markets for its available raw materials. American Viscose has joined with Sun Oil Company to produce polypropylene, thus competing in the petrochemical field with Dow, Monsanto, and Union Carbide. These companies which are expanding within their own fields should be safer investments; but some of those which have neglected their own business to go into missiles and rockets may suffer large losses.

LABOR VERSUS MANAGEMENT

During the cold war, it is too bad to see the competition between labor and management which results in serious strikes. A labor strike against management is an industrial battle and may well be compared to military warfare between two nations. This especially is true now, while the cold war with Russia is in progress. Some believe that a national dictator is necessary to make labor and management cooperate; but this seems unnecessary in a nation which professes Christianity and the teachings of Jesus.

It will be difficult enough to hold our own against competition from abroad and domestic competition between corporations, without the competition created by labor unions.

THE BIG QUESTION



What Makes Prosperity Work

By THURMAN SENSING, Executive Vice-President Southern States Industrial Council

Thinking that prosperity can be created by passing a law is a long-time characteristic of the liberal left. This characteristic is evident in the current move in Congress to hike the federal minimum wage from \$1.00 to \$1.25 an hour.

Unthinking persons may say, "Surely that isn't much money, and big business can afford to foot the bill." But that kind of talk ignores the way—the only way—prosperity is created. It falsely assumes that only a handful of corporations will be called upon to raise wages.

Certainly, no one is against a wage increase when a company can afford to give one. And the overwhelming majority of private businesses in the United States make a real effort to pay their employees a good wage. To say otherwise is to swallow radical propaganda. Many of today's business leaders have risen from the shop or production line, and they want to be fair to the people who work for them.

But a wage hike decreed by Congress is another thing. In the first place, no statistics, no set of facts, exists to prove that Americans are now being underpaid. Indeed if ever there were a country in which prosperity is widespread it is the United States.

If the government orders a new and higher minimum wage, the effect will fall not on a handful of giants with almost unlimited assets but on thousands of small and medium businesses who have to manage their affairs very carefully in order to survive in this era of competition. What may seem like a minor wage hike may be just enough to upset the financial balance of many companies. The fact is that smaller companies would suffer the most from any across-the-board increase in wages. Big industries have the resources to tide them over the rough spots. It also is true that consumer resistance to a price increase, necessitated by a wage increase, can be more easily met by the big companies.

The money for a wage hike can't come out of thin air. It has to come out of company profits. And if the level of business profits is reduced, then the company won't have the funds necessary to expand and to create new employment opportunities. The liberals who are calling for an increase in the minimum wage are the same ones who are saying the rate of industrial growth in the United States isn't high enough. If the rate isn't high enough, the reason is that too much of a business' profits are being siphoned off by taxes and by fixed federal requirements such as the minimum wage. For example, the American

NOTICE OF ELECTION

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF LAURENS, CITY OF CLINTON

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to ordinance of the City of Clinton adopted and passed at the regular meeting of City Council on the 13th day of June, 1960, a general election will be held in the City of Clinton, South Carolina, on Tuesday, the 9th day of August, 1960, for the purpose of electing a Mayor and six Aldermen, one from each of the six wards in the City of Clinton, each of whom shall be elected at large by a direct vote of the qualified electors of the City of Clinton to succeed the present members of the City Council upon the expiration of their respective terms of office.

The polling places for said general election shall be as follows: at the City Hall for Clinton No. 1 Precinct; at Hampton Avenue School for Clinton No. 2 Precinct; and at Clinton Mills Community House for Clinton Mills Precinct.

The polls shall be opened at eight o'clock in the forenoon and close at six o'clock in the afternoon of the day of election.

JAMES D. WASSON, G. N. FOY, GEORGE PHINNEY, Commissioners of Election for Laurens County, S. C.

JOE P. TERRY, Mayor, City of Clinton, S. C.

W. B. OWENS, Clerk and Treasurer, City of Clinton, S. C.

against foreign manufacturers. What the liberal left would would achieve would be a reduction, not an increase in employment.

Congress could in effect increase wages for all Americans, without touching the federal minimum wage, by lowering taxes and thereby freeing capital for expansion. It could achieve the same end by ending the practices of big unionism which force industry to accept out-moded work practices. The railroads of America, for instance, are losing money every day because of union restrictions on the use of manpower. If the railroad lines had a freer hand in operating their business, if featherbedding were banned, then money would be invested in new rail facilities. That would mean more jobs with higher wage scales. But the liberals think they don't have to do any of these things, only "pass a law" and new prosperity will result. Such notions are the result of letting free enterprise economics become overruled by dealer politics.

Bonds Cross Roads

Mrs. B. W. Cooper, Mrs. Ola Wages, Mrs. E. Hall and son have returned home after visiting relatives in Georgia.

Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson and son, Jimmy, spent Sunday in Greenville with Mr. and Mrs. Mack Blake.

Mr. and Mrs. Felton-Crapps enjoyed a trip to Florida recently. They have returned home and their granddaughter, Ann Shipes, of Columbia, is spending some time with them.

Misses Glennie and Mary B. Tinsley are in Columbia visiting Mr. and Mrs. Arthur White.

The Southern District meeting of Home Demonstration Clubs will be held July 26, with the Mountville and Cross Hill clubs entertaining.

The meeting will be held at the Mountville school at 3:30 p. m. Mrs. Newman Shouse is director for the district, and Mrs. Belle Sumrell will serve as secretary. All club members are urged to attend. Each club will give a report on the year's work and an interesting program is planned.

The meeting will be followed by a picnic supper. Drinks will be furnished by the host clubs.

Shady Grove Recreation group met Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. Pug Farmer, Mrs. Earle Johnson and Ralph Edwards, assisted by teenagers. Games were enjoyed by about fifty young people. All that

had celebrated birthdays during the weeks the group had met were recognized. Cookies and drinks were furnished by interested mothers.

CHICKEN STEW AT SHADY GROVE CHURCH

Saturday night beginning at 6:30 the women of Shady Grove Church will serve supper.

Stew may be bought. Come enjoy a good stew with us. Proceeds will help furnish the new recreational building.

SUNBEAMS TO MEET

Sunbeams of Fairview Church will meet Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock at the church.

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