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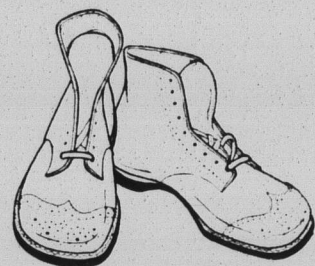
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THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

By Ralph E. Church, Representative, Tenth
Congressional (North Shore) District

BACK WITH THE PEOPLE

Evanston, Illinois, Sept. 4—Back with the people he represents and away from the scene of Washington activities, one becomes conscious of a larger perspective. He begins to look at the whole of things rather than at the individual parts. While only two weeks have elapsed since adjournment, each member of Congress is no doubt well aware of the large element of truth in President Roosevelt's statement to the effect that he likes to get away from Washington as it gives him a new perspective.

One can easily become so lost in a maze of details that one loses sight of the issues. It is one thing to have the facts, all the facts; but it is quite another to understand them and to view them at arm's length to fit each properly in the whole pattern.

Get View at Distance

One can be so close to events, so much a part of them, that one is unable to view them in their proper perspective. As President Roosevelt is fond of saying, "you cannot see the forest for the trees." At close range one tree is oak and another pine. The emphasis is on the nature and quality of the wood. But at a distance one is able to see all the trees as a forest. The emphasis is on the scenic pattern.

Viewed at a distance, without regard to the particular merits of any one of the Administration's measures, one sees in broad outline a proposed system of "planned economy" under the control of a bureaucratic central government. One step and then another is taken in that direction. And that which must be made clear is that the ultimate result must inevitably be the regimentation of a free people, making them servants of the state. It simply is not possible to have a "planned economy" with government control over production in a country of plenty and have the people remain free.

Economy of Abundance

Ours is an economy of abundance where the people have the liberty to choose between the multiple products which our extensive natural resources and industrial genius enables us to produce. Goods are not rationed out to the people. They make the choice. It is far easier to plan an increase in production in an economy of scarcity, such as exists in Russia, than it is to plan a limitation in an economy of abundance.

That which we must recognize is that an attempt at government control of production of one product almost inevitably leads to government control of another, then another and so on until all of production comes under the control of the state. Perhaps we can illustrate the process.

Cites an Example

If, for example, we limit the supply of wheat and raise the price, the people turn to rye or corn. Because of the increased consumer demand thus created for rye and corn, more land is put in production of those two products. Then it becomes necessary for the government to take over the control of them. This same principle would apply in connection with silk, where the people might turn to rayon, cotton or wool.

We witnessed exactly that development under the AAA. It was originally contemplated that there would be controlled production of only four crops. It was on the statute books only about a year when the Secretary of Agriculture found it necessary to take steps to reduce the acreage of peanuts which the cotton farmers planted on their idle lands. Then

when the production of cotton and peanuts was reduced, they began to plant potatoes. There then resulted the famous potato control act. Suffice it to say that when the Supreme Court declared the AAA unconstitutional the national government was controlling, in one way or another, the production of 17 different crops.

Seek Permanent Solution

Insofar as the objective of that program was to raise the farm income, it certainly was desirable. For a number of years the farmers have been laboring under the burden of a disparity between the prices of things he had to sell and the prices of things he must buy. A permanent solution to that problem has not yet been found.

In a free country in an economy of abundance the solution should not be sought in government control of production, thereby regimenting a free people into a system of "planned economy." Such has been the legislative tendency in all phases of our life under the policy of the present administration. We must recognize where it leads. For it should be substituted the policy of developing the demand market, at home and abroad, enabling the people to enjoy our great resources with freedom.

We cannot follow a laissez-faire policy. Nor should we follow a policy of planned economy. The solution in a democracy lies somewhere between the two.

Academy of Fine Arts to Reopen Next Monday

Art classes at the Evanston Academy of Fine Arts on the eighth and ninth floors of the Carlson building on Church street will start Monday, September 13.

The Saturday morning classes for grade and high school young people begin September 18. The indications thus far are for a good enrollment.

There has been a much wider interest in the Evanston art school this year, which is beginning its eleventh season, and is under the direction of Carl Scheffler assisted by a staff of established artists whose purpose is to give "a distinctive, practical preparation for any branch of art work." There have been applications in numbers from the far west as well as from Mexico, Canada, and even England.

Mr. Scheffler will return in time for the opening of the academy classes from vacationing with his family in northern Minnesota where he has gone to paint and fish.

Demonstration School Facilities Enlarged

Children returning to schoolrooms at the Demonstration school of the National College of Education in Evanston Wednesday, September 15, will find a larger and more completely equipped playground for their use both during and after school hours.

While they were enjoying summer vacations, the college has added a small football field and a baseball diamond to the athletic field section of the grounds. It is thought that these two additions will be as popular as the outdoor fireplace which was built last year and has been the scene of many picnics and "wiener" roasts.

Several new pieces of equipment have also been added to the playground apparatus.