

Probable Khrushchev Visit

The prospect that Premier Khrushchev will attend the United Nations session in New York next month and visit with President Kennedy does not change the Berlin problem.

It is well to remember that the meeting of the two leaders, if it comes about, will be incidental to Mr. Khrushchev's visit to the U. N.

President Kennedy will also doubtless welcome another meeting with his opposite number in the U. S. S. R. because it will afford him an opportunity to re-emphasize the determination of the Western powers to stay in Berlin and to maintain free access to it.

It cannot be said that Wladyslaw Gomulka, the Polish Communist leader, has contributed anything to the discussion of Berlin by talking about a great-power guarantee of access to West Berlin for everyone.

30 Years of Legal Aid

As the Legal Aid Society observed its thirtieth anniversary this week, the people of Washington are entitled to congratulations on what has been done to bring "equal protection of the laws" within reach of people unable to pay legal fees.

The need for legal services to many persons who are unable to pay for it will not be questioned by anyone acquainted with what the Legal Aid Society does.

In this complex age legal aid is no less essential to the well-being of people in distress than medical aid or economic aid.

Running Against Castro

Like an apple of discord, Cuba has been thrown into the congressional campaign. Republican leaders say that Cuba is the "dominant issue" of the congressional election.

In making this choice of issues the Republicans may be underestimating the native intelligence of the American voter.

One signer of the statement is Sen. Barry Goldwater, who favors an invasion. The Arizona Republican, however, had the misfortune to remark in an interview the other day, "If you left it up to the American people tonight, we'd be in Cuba tomorrow."

The Gallup findings are confirmed by an independent, and extensive, survey conducted by Newsweek. In 2000 interviews covering 50 states, the magazine's correspondents found nine of 10 Americans rejecting the invasion solution.

Mr. Goldwater should give the American voter more credit for common sense. The man in the street is not taken in by the beguiling clang of sabers.

would ignite a larger conflict. In a follow-up poll, Mr. Gallup found that 51 per cent of those responding feared that an all-out war could result from an armed attack on Cuba.

Since the Democrats in the past have cynically scratched at the same scab, they are not in a position to be piously outraged by the current Republican efforts to make political capital out of Cuba.

Home on the Range

Few women can have contributed more to the joy of life—more accurately, perhaps, to the joy of living—than Irma S. Rombauer, who died on Tuesday at the age of 86 at her home in St. Louis.

When she became a bride herself in 1899, Mrs. Rombauer was quite incapable of telling a spatula from a savory. By her own account, she placed "many a burnt offering on the altar of matrimony."

Comradely Capitalism?

The current debate among economists in Moscow over introducing profitability as the criterion of industrial efficiency raises some intriguing questions.

In an enterprise economy consumer needs and production are coordinated through the impersonal mechanism of the price system. Decisions to produce goods and services are made in thousands of independent organizations or business firms which are motivated by the prospect of earning profits.

These difficulties have been compounded by the blind adherence to ideological dogma which precludes the adoption of rational techniques for planning and coordination.

The controversy of the moment centers about a revolutionary plan proposed by Prof. E. Liberman of Kharkov. It would substitute profitability for arbitrarily established production quotas as the principal criterion for plant efficiency and permit managers wide latitude in purchasing raw materials, hiring labor and introducing new technology.

If these hotly-debated proposals are ever put into use, they may touch off a series of far-reaching political changes. The existence of a cadre of independent industrial decision-makers engaged in the fierce but comradely pursuit of profits would hardly be compatible with the oppressive political system which now exists in the U. S. S. R.

What Congress Conserved

The record of the 87th Congress on conservation issues was so good that it is a pity that over-all accomplishment fell short of being truly outstanding.

Nevertheless, Congress did add three new national seashores—Cape Cod, Padre Island in Texas and Point Reyes in California—the first major additions to the National Park System in the continental United States in 16 years.

No less important though indirectly related to conservation, Congress finally gave its permission for the construction of what will be the world's largest nuclear power plant in Hanford, Wash.

When the next Congress meets, it will have opportunity to round out unfinished business—beginning with the wilderness bill. Surely the C. & O. Canal Park will finally receive the endorsement it deserves, and a Land Conservation Fund, passed over by the last Congress, should be approved in the next.

"This Pair Feels Pretty Good"



HERB LUBACK ©1962 THE WASHINGTON POST CO.

On the Hastings With Pat Brown

LOS ANGELES—Edmund G. (Pat) Brown, the big, genial, easy-appearing Governor of this state, is asking the voters to re-elect him to a second term.

Registered Democrats outnumber registered Republicans about 4-to-3. Whether they can be fired up by election day is a question no one in the Brown camp is prepared to answer.

What gives this a slightly ironic twist is the fact that four years ago Brown carried California by a majority of more than a million votes while in 1960 Kennedy lost California by the hair-line margin of 35,623 out of a total of 6,506,578 cast.

AS THE Governor shoulders his way into party headquarters in the town of San Fernando, an old community entirely surrounded by the urban sprawl of Los Angeles County, he smiles good-naturedly, picks up a little boy wearing a Mexican hat and a serape and poses for photographs.

Back in his plush bus loaned by a business supporter—complete with air conditioning, desks, tables, lounge chairs, said to cost \$85,000—the party makes for Mott Street. There are thousands of streets like this in Southern California, pepper trees and brightly blooming flowers in the front yards.

The major meeting of the day is in the Auditorium in the City of Commerce, both of which could happen only in California. The City of Commerce was carved out of Los Angeles County by shrewd citizens who threw the protective wall of an incorporated town around a heavy concentration of industry.

THE Auditorium is a big handsome swimming pool enclosed in a pool house with a roof electrically opened and closed. The awed visitor is told that from a glass-walled observation post set into the pool the skin-diving coach can relay his instructions to skin-diving classes.

Placements of his administration—the finest school system in the Nation, two out of every three young people given free education all the way through college, \$750 million a year spent on freeways, a balanced budget four years in a row, California 31st among all the states in tax burden.

Yet, if anyone is listening, the record in a state growing at the rate of 650,000 a year is impressive. As Brown likes to recite, California by the end of the year will be first in population, first in industrial wealth, first in farming.

No one needs to be told that this is costly. Knowledgeable camp followers estimate that each candidate will spend at least \$1 million. That is part of the price of trying to get the public to pay a little heed to what each candidate earnestly says is the public's business.

Letters to the Editor

Obscenity and Law

In his letter of Oct. 13, Congressman John Dowdy claimed to speak for "most of the people of Washington." I take exception to this claim.

Among the many assertions in this letter are two which are simply unacceptable. The first is that "reasonable men have no difficulty in knowing what is meant by obscenity, lewdness and indecency."

The second is that "sex-mad magazines are creating criminals faster than jails can be built." The fact that this latter assertion is a quotation from Mr. J. Edgar Hoover does not make it reasonable or authoritative.

In regard to the first assertion, the question of what is obscene, lewd or indecent is, and always has been, arguable. Some of the finest minds in the history of human thought have pondered this question over the centuries with uncertain results.

Washington.

The Opposition's Case

As an English reader of your paper I would like to question the enthusiasm of your correspondents writing on Britain and the Common Market.

Greenbelt.

Cultural Courtesy

As a newcomer to Washington, I must say that I was shocked and embarrassed at the lack of propriety exhibited by the audience at the recent performance of the Philadelphia Orchestra at Constitution Hall.

As an international capital as well as the Capital of the United States, and in its role as a patron of the arts, its position of dignity and pride should be upheld.

Washington.

Hotel 2400

The Adam Clayton Powell Foundation has an option to buy Hotel 2400. It is seeking a 100 per cent insured FHA loan to pay the full purchase price and all costs of conversion to housing for the elderly.

Washington.

Query on Cuba

If Cuba is in the fearful clutches of the Kremlin, and Castro is planning to overthrow the Western Hemisphere, how is it possible to square such facts with the recent official Soviet statement urging the United States to re-establish diplomatic relations with Cuba?

Washington.

Annual Battle

The annual battle of the leaves has begun. To one who has built his house in a beech wood, it seems a losing battle.

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