

# The Individualist

A Pint-size Periodical of Pith, Punch and Perspicacity



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## Oh, Daughter

IS IT A FACT that of all the unmitigated snobs — not to say lady jackasses — the Daughters of the American Revolution are the most unmitigated — not to say the most jackassery? We doubt it, but anyone might be justified in thinking so from the way a couple of the dames popped off to the press at the DAR conference in Washington in April.

One former president, now an "honorary president general," opined for the benefit of the reporters that tracing her ancestry back to the Revolution was merely a warming-up exercise for her. She said her line went right back to Runnymede, where England's King John signed the Magna Carta in 1215. In fact, she added, she could go further than that if she were in the mood.

Now the fact of the matter is that at the time of Runnymede some sixteen million men and women were combining to produce the present honorary general, who gives them credit without mentioning their number. You can figure it out for yourself — two parents, four grandparents, eight great-grandparents, sixteen great-great, and so on. Allowing three or four generations to the century, go back more than 700 years, and see what you come out with.

Looked at from the other end, after 700 years the strain would seem to be pretty well attenuated. And diluted by an admixture of foreign blood, since there were nowhere near 16 million people in England at the time of Runnymede. Even if half a dozen of your 16 million ancestors alive at the time were full-fledged delegates or alternates to the Runnymede constitutional assembly, it would seem less than something to write home about.

It was another honorary president general who chanted the psalm of snobbery. Said this dame, according to our newspaper, it's getting harder and harder to become a Daughter of the American Revolution. Even having an ancestor who marched with G. Washington himself is no guarantee that you will make the grade. "In the old days," the lady explained, "we used to accept evidence of ancestry we won't accept now. Now we demand proof. And it sometimes takes years to establish proof that your ancestor really fought in the war."

And that isn't all. "No one can simply join the DAR," we are informed by the hq. "She must be invited. She must not only be eligible, she must be desirable. We are getting more and more particular all the time."

G. Washington was not so particular. He took anybody and everybody he could get. The sole qualification was could you tote a musket? If so, you were tapped. You didn't have to be in the social register or have an old man with a pile of dough. The result was — it has to be admitted — G. Washington had some low-vulgar-persons-in-his-courts. Some of them didn't even dress for

dinner — on the days they were able to get dinner — and more than a few of them had a manicule less often than seldom. But then, of course, George didn't have the DAR to counsel him, poor fellow.

Ourselves, we had an ancestor, one Captain Ninian Steele, who had a leg shot out from under him in the Revolution. And, circa ditto time, another ancestor of ours was hung for stealing sheep. Neither circumstances has moved us to join anything. We just recollect that that was six or seven generations back, and six or seven generations back we had either 64 or 128 ancestors, so that one or two heroes or sheep stealers either way wouldn't make much difference.

We remember the story of a pompous American who boasted to a Jewish rabbi, "One of my ancestors signed the Declaration of Independence," and the rabbi's quiet reply, "One of my ancestors signed the ten commandments."

Without a doubt the great majority of DAR'ers are decent, intelligent American women — good housewives, good mothers, good citizens; but the pop-offers, as in the present instance, and the race bigots who pulled the Marion Anderson faux pas a few years ago — well, the other gals ought to put the muzzles on 'em before they make a laughing stock of the organization.

## Mr. Oatis Regrets

WE DON'T want to wrong the guy, but from the way this here newspaper man, Bill Oatis, has been talking since his return from a Czech jail to his native heath, the question in our mind is not why the Czechs tossed him in the can in the first place but why they ever let him out. Asked if he was guilty as charged, he says he can't answer that question until he has checked the record. If you were asked if you had ever choked a bay to death, would you have to consult the record before you could answer? We would judge not.

The young man was less reticent about his Czech jailers. Apparently they were right guys. The food wasn't bad, he wasn't man-handled, his health was built up by proper medical treatment. He may have been subjected to psychological correction, but he is not at all sure as to that. Probably needs to consult the record.

There's more than one Communist suspect in jail right now who was sent there by some congressional committee which thought he wasn't coming clean. Those guys, we'd say — the Communists, not the congressmen — were models of frank communicativeness alongside this bird.

We are not implying, understand, that Congress should send our hero to jail. But it might be nice if he would just take it on himself to hurry back to Czechoslovakia and ask his former captors to throw him in the clink again. He gives the impression that he

considers himself guilty as charged and that the ten-year stretch the Czechs hung on him was only what he had coming.

If he would just do that, then American newspapers could let up on that courageous young American newspaper correspondent, who languished in a foreign dungeon as the result of a vile frame-up whereas he was only doing his duty as a reporter. When the guy himself says he has to consult the record before he can say whether he was merely doing his duty as a reporter — well, that's where we cease lying awake nights worrying about him.

With his departure, American newspapers — the 90 per cent of them that are collectivist-minded — could give more attention to telling their readers what a bum Senator Joe McCarthy is for being so rude to their pink friends.

## Gabfesting

ON THE DAY it was announced there would be a Churchill-Mayer-Eisenhower meeting, the French Government fell. Premier Rene, therefore, will not be among those present at the Bermuda gathering. France will be represented by his successor — if the successor is able to hang onto his job that long.

Small difference it will make who's there. The conference will accomplish nothing. The United Nations have been conferring for years. What's it got 'em, save hundreds of millions of expense — paid largely by the U.S.?

In Korea the two sides harangued each other for eight months and failed to get to first base. They laid off for a spell, and now they are back at it again in Panmunjom, hammer and tongs, and getting nowhere fast.

The immediate point of dispute in Korea is the disposition of POW's. But if that were settled the Communists would find something else to object to. Those Chinese and North Korean leaders are not dumb. They see the U.S., their pet hate, supplying 90 per cent of the money, men, munitions and blood. They have our own government's assurance that we will not carry the fighting beyond the Yalu, that we will not bomb supply lines, that we won't let Chiang Kai-shek's troops land a helping hand, and that, while we'd rather not lose, we have no real desire to win the war.

Since our soldiers' hands are tied, since it costs a hundred times as much or more for us to keep a man in Korea as it costs them, and since they have four or five times the manpower, they'd be prime chumps to quit while they've got it so good and we are strapping ourselves at home. True, they are losing far more men than we are, but that means nothing to the Commissars running the show. They can count on their herds reproducing themselves faster than we can kill 'em off.

The POW question could be settled in fif-

teen minutes. Just release all prisoners who don't want to be repatriated. Turn them loose on their own, that's all. Then they won't have to go home to be shot, nor will they be back shooting at us. It would be a sensible solution — that's why it won't be adopted.

The reason these conferences never get anywhere is that the participants are trying to settle disputes which never would have arisen had not their governments — collectivist all, in varying degrees, including our own — been doing things which governments have no business doing. And they are trying to reach agreements by the same short-sighted self-defeating methods that got 'em into a jam in the first place.

If mankind had the sense to live in accordance with natural law there would be no more wars. Natural law decrees that what a man makes belongs to him, all of it, to do with as he pleases. Tariffs and all restrictions to trade would be out. Currencies of all nations would be allowed to find their own level in the world market. Since the chief function of government is to protect the individual in his right of ownership, to keep men from injuring each other, there would be need for very little government, and very little money to keep it going. Government would be lodged in the smallest practicable units, and those local communities would hold the final power and the purse strings.

Government costs would be met by the public appropriation of ground rent. Ground rent is what land is worth for use. It represents the advantages accruing to the holder of land by reason of government services and the increased facility given to the production and exchange of wealth through population growth. No one member of the community is any more responsible for those advantages than is any other member. To say, then, that ground rent belongs of a right to some members of the community rather than to all is to speak nonsense. It belongs of a right to all and it should be used to defray the common expenses of all, government costs.

That, of course, would mean the end of taxes. It would also mean that land would be available for use on the mere payment of ground rent, since the selling price of land would have disappeared with the public appropriation of the rent of land. That, in turn, would mean the end of unemployment, since every worker would always have a good job and a dozen others up his sleeve, including the opportunity to work for himself if he chose. He could thumb his nose at the labor unions that now can tell him whether or not he may have a job and force him to pay tribute if they let him have one.

The time for arguing about ground rent has passed. The public appropriation of the annual site value of land is already an accepted fact. It is being taken for the public need, in varying degree, all over the United States. It remains only for the present rates — some 33-1/3 per cent in New York City — to be increased to approximately 100 per cent — and the job will have been done. But while ground rent would have equalled government outlays around the turn of the century and before, the 10 or 15 billion a year that could now be expected from such a source would be small potatoes against the 70 or 80 billion

being spent by top government alone. That, of course, does not prove the inadequacy of ground rent for legitimate government needs; it proves only the insanity of present government spending. Under natural law, government would be cut down to size.

Government in business of any kind would be a thing of the past, along with government controls and government handouts. Pressure groups would get the axe, since no local community would vote another billion for aged hair dressers because they voted for the right candidate, and no larger community would have the authority or the money to do so. Farmers would get what they earn, and have to earn what they get. The gravy train would be junked. We'd have free enterprise, with its equality of opportunity for all.

Government receipts would not allow billions for war — but there would be no occasion for war. That's the kind of civilization men can bring about the world over if they want it. If men everywhere have faith — faith in God, faith in themselves, faith in their fellowmen, faith in freedom. Let each nation set about putting its own house in order, then let nature take its course. The rest will take care of itself.

But they'll never get anywhere conferring — not until they have mended their own ways. And when they have done that, they won't need to confer.

## The World Is Too Much With Us

An AP dispatch from Baltimore says that Governor McKeldin was "distressed and shocked" at learning that Maryland's official Red-hunters had checked on a rally sponsored by the United World Federalists.

Ourselves, we are not in the least distressed and shocked. We are just sorry for the poor State snoopers who had to sit through the ordeal. They must have been bored stiff. It's funny, with so many Americans yelling at our own big government and demanding that its wings be clipped, another large group of Americans are plugging for this one-world set-up. And a lot of them in each group are also members of the other group.

Being to a certain extent an old-fashioned Jeffersonian Democrat, we are pretty much agin any government. We agree with Jefferson that the best government is the government that governs least — though Old Tom didn't put it in just those words.

And Herbert Spencer had the right idea when in 1850 he put it in this fashion: "Be it or be it not true that Man is shapen in iniquity and conceived in sin, it is unquestionably true that Government is begotten of aggression and by aggression."

We will string along, too, with Jose' Ortega y Gasset, who wrote in 1922: "This is the gravest danger that today threatens civilization: State intervention, the absorption of all spontaneous social effort by the State; that is to say, of spontaneous historical action, which in the long run sustains, nourishes and impels human destinies."

And we'll go 100 per cent for Henry L. Mencken's summing up of the matter in 1926: "It (-the State-) has taken on a vast mass of new duties and responsibilities; it has spread

out its power until they penetrate to every act of the citizen, however secret; it has begun to throw around its operations the high dignity and impeccability of a State religion; its agents become a separate and superior caste, with authority to bind and loose, and their thumbs in every pot. But it still remains, as it was in the beginning, the common enemy of all well-disposed, industrious and decent men."

And that, mind you, was in 1926. Henry hadn't seen nothin'!

While we are not going to break out in three hearty cheers for government, we'll concede that government is necessary. As long as we have motor cars, we'll need traffic cops. Traffic cops are government. But we want just as little of it as possible, that's all, just as little as possible. It should be noted, however, that there is a vast difference between government and the State. As Tom Paine put it, "The design and end of government is freedom and security," which is Okay. Government "derives its just powers from the consent of the governed."

The State, on the other hand, practices the economic exploitation of one class by another. It lives on what it can grab in power and in money. There are but two methods by which men satisfy their desires for material things. One is by the production and exchange of wealth. That is the *economic means*. The other is the uncompensated appropriation of wealth produced by others. That is the *political means*. The State is the organization of the *political means*. Albert Jay Neck writes:

"The nature and intention of government . . . are social. Based on the idea of natural rights, government secures these rights to the individual by strictly negative intervention, making justice costless and easy of access; and beyond that it does not go. The State, on the other hand, both in its genesis and by its primary intention, is purely anti-social. It is not based on the idea of natural rights, but on the idea that the individual has no rights except those that the State may provisionally grant him. It . . . has invariably held itself above justice and common morality whenever it could advantage itself by so doing . . . the State has never shown any disposition to suppress crime but only to safeguard its own monopoly of crime."

As if the institution of the State in a single country were not bad enough, the United World Federalists want to impose it on the whole world. It is absurd to suppose that any man or any body of men can arbitrarily exercise their wisdom, interest and sentiment over a state-wide or nation-wide area with any degree of success. But the United World Federalists blind themselves to that unalterable truth.

There can be honesty and efficiency in government only when responsibility is lodged in the smallest possible unit. Top-level government should do nothing the states can do. States should do nothing the counties can do. Counties should do nothing that cities, towns and smaller units can do. Public activities should be carried on directly under the eyes of the people affected by those activities. Leave nothing around loose for 'em to steal and the crooks will get out of politics.

If the World Federalists ever get their way,

it won't be long until you will have no more to say about your own personal affairs than has Gregor Gregorovich in the happy land of the Soviets. That is what Governor McKelvin should be worrying about — not about his Red-hunters. By and large the World Federalists aren't Reds, but they are just as threatening to the American concept of freedom.

## Twerpsichore

REP. McCONNELL (R-Pa.) investment banker and son of a Methodist preacher, wants cut-rates for clergymen on airlines, as now apply on railroads and buses. He told the House Commerce Committee: "I have always put members of the clergy on a pedestal. Their remuneration is such that they are entitled to special consideration by the airlines just as they are by other carriers."

Putting the clergy on a pedestal is one thing. Putting them on airlines at other people's expense — that's another. The gentleman from Pa. can furnish his own pedestal. It's the traveling public that has to make up the deficit if some people ride for less than others.

Nobody, regardless of race, color, creed or previous state of servitude, is entitled to special passenger rates. Old John D. Rockefeller used to wangle a rebate not only on his own shipments but on what other oil producers shipped. That way he was able to put his competitors out of business. But that sort of thing was outlawed long ago. And it has no more place in passenger traffic than in freight.

The writer of this piece is the son of a Methodist minister. He knows about their remuneration — plenty. But if remuneration is the determining factor — "from each according to his means," as the Marxists put it — then how about a lot of non-clergy who are poor as churchmouses — publishers of pint-size magazines, for instance, and associate editors of weekly newspapers?

If it isn't, after all, a matter of remuneration but merely a matter of clergy, then how about Bishop Oxnham and his fellow travelers, who would substitute socialism for our American way of life? Do they qualify — either for a place on the pedestal or a seat at half-fare?

The average of really "good" men is probably as high in the clergy as in any other profession. But to put them all on a pedestal merely because they are clergymen — that's silly. What about the considerable number of ministers — mostly in the South — who have at one time or another admitted membership in that organization of sadistic morons known as the Ku Klux Klan? Do they deserve a place on the pedestal, and half-fare rates? Only a few weeks ago, as this is written, a Florida preacher was arrested for being a member of a professional gambling clique. He entered a plea of guilty, and he is now trying to save his own skin by helping the state convict his fellow gangsters. Also, right now, he is conducting a series of revival services in Alabama. Does he qualify for the pedestal — and for half-fare?

The McConnell bill should be defeated. And any present legislation permitting clergymen to ride on common carriers for less than other people pay should be revoked forthwith. We believe the great majority of clergymen would

prefer it that way. We know our old Dad would, if he were still around. And he was one preacher that *did* deserve a place on the pedestal — and not in the bleachers or even in the grandstand, but a box seat!

## Tragedy Averted

IT'S ONLY A WHIM, of course, but the everloving helpmeet has a whim of iron — and she loves to paint. Not in oil or water-colors, you understand, but with a ten-cent store brush and a ten-cent store can of paint — a dollar each, these days. Once started, especially if the paint is red, she paints everything that sticks out, to say nothing of the crannies, crevices and innermost recesses. And nothing short of a shotgun, or maybe a psychiatrist, is going to make her stop before the paint runs out.

Thus it was at the Steeltrap not long ago. She had painted everything else in the room and was working right up to the piano when the editorial eye took in the situation. It was then there came to the mind of the writer that classical saying of Epictetus — or was it Groucho Marx? — "It's a long worm that has no turning" — and this here worm was approaching the turning point.

It is said that the events of a life-time flash through the mind of a drowning man. Be that as it may, as we reached for the shotgun we thought of the connubial comradeship going back through the years. The fears and hopes, the smiles and tears, the ups and downs, the petty triumphs, the friendships and pleasant associations — fond memories, and sad. And finally, at long last, over the crest of the hill and down the slope in the afternoon of life, hand in hand, into the setting sun. And now this, this tragic ending to a lovely story. We were almost overcome with emotion.

Just at that moment the paint ran out. We dried our tears and put the shotgun away.

## Leaden Thinking

Rising imports of lead and zinc are blamed by the St. Joseph Lead Co. for declines in domestic prices of metals. Clinton H. Crane, chairman, noted at the recent annual meeting of his company that the U. S. in normal times consumes about half the world's lead and zinc production. Disruption of trade between East and West in Europe, he added, has resulted in American industry being asked to take 70 to 80 per cent of that production. Mr. Crandle predicted Congress would work out "some form of higher tariff to prevent dumping of these metals on the U. S. market."

In other words, because a number of normal outlets in Europe have been closed, the amount of lead and zinc being offered on the American market is increased by some 50 per cent. Prices, naturally, are off — tough on American producers but a break for American consumers.

Mr. Crane predicts — and probably with reason, knowing his Congressman — that higher tariffs will be invoked to keep prices up. He doesn't put it quite that way; he says "to prevent dumping."

Now it should be plain, even to a near-sighted moron, that the foreigner can't

"dump" goods on us unless we ask him to. We can't be "flooded with cheap foreign goods" unless we want to be flooded. The foreigner is not going to give us his wares. He is going to sell them to us — if he can. And he can't sell us unless he makes a better price than we can get on the comparable home product.

So, with lead and zinc prices off, American consumers can buy more — more lead and zinc, or the same amount of lead and zinc and something else with the money saved because of the lower metal prices. And, of course, the foreigner is better off, too. As well as American producers in general. For the foreigner must spend the dollars which we pay him for his lead and zinc right here in America. In the final analysis, they can't be spent anywhere else. That means business for Americans.

Everybody gains except American lead and zinc producers. But you needn't lose any sleep over them. They will still be able to sell their output at a profitable price. You won't see any of them going out of business.

Free enterprise — it's wonderful. "Trade, not Aid" — that's the popular slogan of the moment. Unless, of course, some dirty foreigner offers to sell us something for less than we would have to pay at home. To heck with free enterprise and "Trade not Aid" then. That's just a lot of baloney. Ask any lead and zinc man. He'll tell you so himself.

## Re Morse

The "all-out-of-step-but-Jim" senator, Oregon's Wayne Morse, urges the American people to "watch out for the Eisenhower administration — they are going to give away your heritage." By that he means the administration may be planning to give free enterprise a break — the first it's had in years — and to put the skids under a few power hungry bureaucrats. The very thought gives him to shudder.

What particularly peeves the Marathon senator — so called not because he kept running for 26 miles but because he kept running on in a senate speech for 26 hours, or thereabouts — is the proposal that the Idaho Power Company be allowed to develop and sell power from the Snake River instead of the job being turned over to a government-built and operated Hell's Canyon Dam project. Quoth the Senator:

"I am not going to sit in the Senate of the United States and have the people of the Northwest pay tribute to a private monopoly, owned largely by Eastern stockholders."

Stockholders, of course, are a nuisance. They demand dividends. Dividends require profits. Profits necessitate efficient and economical management. And Eastern stockholders — heavens! They're the worst of all.

It would save a lot of bother and trouble, the Senator would doubtless tell you, to let the government run the works, just as it runs TVA. Then nobody would have to worry about dividends — because there wouldn't be any dividends. Or about expenses — because there'd be no limit to expenses. Just like TVA.

But don't get the Senator wrong. He doesn't hate anything or anybody except the Republican Party, the Democratic Party — and

free enterprise. Of course, it does bother him a little when any one agrees with him — but that doesn't happen often. Even so, he'd better look out. The Daily Worker is just as strong for government ownership and operation as he is, and it hates the Republican Party, the Democratic Party and free enterprise just as much. The Senator is not going to like that — when he finds it out.

## Steal Wages

According to a report by the American Steel and Iron Institute, the steel industry's minimum wage for unskilled labor is \$2.16. Such a figure for such labor is decidedly out of line with what it should be — with what it would be in a free labor market. You have only to look around you to see any number of unskilled huskies who would be tickled pink at a chance to work for considerably less.

The Institute's report also says that the \$2.16 figure is ten times higher than the comparable figure of ten years ago. Such an increase can be justified only if output per man has increased ten times over the past decade — which we doubt very much.

The report says, too, that the steel average of \$2.16 for common labor is 43 cents an hour higher than the average for all manufacturing industry. That, too, would be an impossibility in a free labor market. With workers freed from union restrictions and at liberty to change from job to job as they could better themselves, wages for a given grade of labor would tend to be equal in all industries.

The truth is that \$2.16 an hour in the steel industry is a monopoly wage. It results from the stranglehold organized labor has been able to fasten — with the help of government — on the steel industry. Does any one in his right mind believe that a roustabout in a steel plant is worth more — twice as much in some cases — as the majority of our school teachers?

The idea is revolting.

## Delayed Adolescence

Twenty members of Congress have petitioned the Federal Reserve System to support government bonds at par. That's one of the things wrong with this country — that twenty members of its highest law-making body should do such a fool thing.

What these members are asking for is more inflation. The Federal Reserve can't support the government bond market except with what, in effect, is printing press money. That means more money in circulation without more goods in the shops. That's inflation — and higher prices. Haven't we got a bellyful of that already?

If those twenty Congressmen can't see the economic consequences of what they are asking — then they don't belong in Congress. If they do see it, and still ask — then, even more, they don't belong in Congress.

It is true, of course, that allowing government bonds to find their own market level will mean higher interest rates both for government and private borrowers. So what?

Is that any reason for not letting the price of money be determined by supply and demand?

Higher interest rates on government issues mean, too, heavier charges against taxpayers, but the remedy there is not government action to control interest rates but government action to reduce our top-heavy national debt.

There is no substitute for free enterprise — and brains.

## Not The Only One

IN THE INDIVIDUALIST for April we wrote a few words about Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam which were less than complimentary but not less than factual. It may comfort Bishop Oxnam to know he is not the only Bishop to have some scrivener take a pot shot at him. Paul of Antioch, who was a Christian bishop, got his name in the papers, too, or at least in a book. According to "Daily Life of Early Christians," by Rev. J. Gordon Davies, Paul of Antioch kept two concubines, slept on a feather bed, and wore silk robes and gold-plated sandals. Moreover, we are told, the supervision of race horses and the drinking of wine were as important to him as holding Christian services.

Well, we never charged Bishop G. Bromley with anything like that. All we said was that he was a pink gullible. And we doubt that he has as much fun as we'd guess Paul of Antioch had. Not, you understand, that concubines and wine and race horses are indispensable to fun in our reckoning, but Paul of Antioch seems more human than Bromley of New York. And we are pretty certain that Paul of Antioch made the grade through the pearly gates, at that.

## It Gets Our Vote

THE BEST piece of straight talk to come out of the McCarthy-Atlee exchange of verbal brickbats was voiced by neither of the contestants but by the independent, impartialist Daily Express. The Beaverbrook journal declared that Britain should swear off accepting dollar aid from America immediately and "stand independent and unsupported."

That statement will be hopefully applauded by millions and millions of American taxpayers, but not by the administration bureaucrats in charge of the multi-billion dollar give-away program. America must continue foreign aid, the hand-out gentry will tell you, for her own protection. Seeing that billions and billions have already been paid out for that purpose, and that the protection we have received in exchange is considerably smaller than a pimple on a goat's tail rudder, a lot of people will have other ideas.

One Herbert Hoover will be found among the dissidents. He thinks we should give over trying to save the world from Communism and pay a little more attention to saving our own hide. Let Europe and Asia settle their own troubles, he says, while we fortify the Western hemisphere in a way that will defy attack even if one were contemplated — which it isn't.

Sounds like sense to us. And wouldn't it be great to get Britain off the dole! Lookit the money we'd save on that alone!

## BREVITIES AND LEVITIES

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL says rayon for sportswear is slipping badly in competition with cotton. So-o-o, why not a little price support for the poor duPonts, makers of rayon, before they lose their shirt? The poverty-stricken farmers, like the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, for instance, which was given a couple of hundred thousand or so, shouldn't be the only ones to get a handout.

Headline: "President Attends Church service at Penn State." What said that remarkable man do next!

COLLIER'S announces that, because of television competition, it will be published every second week, beginning August 7, instead of every week. Since TV came on the scene, people are giving less time to magazines, say Collier's owners. We haven't noticed any falling off in Individualist circulation because of TV — or for any other reason. Come September, when first renewals on the revised paper will be due — well, we'll have to wait and see what happens. But if any of the customers want to send in their renewals ahead of time — starting even now — that will be all right. In fact, you'd be surprised how all right that would be!

News Item: "The U. S. gave France \$60 million to bolster its forces in Indo-China." Results thus far suggest a pillow rather than a bolster — and a doll's pillow at that.

ACCORDING to Robert J. Francis, director of the Voice of America, the U.S. lags far behind Russia and Britain in the propaganda war. The gentleman's statement itself sounds a little like propaganda. He has an axe to grind, he's a special pleader. No number-one bureaucrat of a government agency is going to ask that the operations of his bureau be curtailed, and if ever one was given as much money as he thought he should have for the job, we've never heard of it.

What would happen, we wonder, if a silencer were put on the Voice; if Americans, seeing the hundreds of millions that have been squandered on the project, should rise in their wrath and declare that they don't give a damn what European and Asiatic nations, most of whom hate us anyway, think of us.

We doubt that the end of the world would come, and the end of the war might come sooner — if those hundreds of millions were put to better use.

Headline: "New Radar Check Shows 146 Speeders." Showed 'em what?

THE AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT estimates the coming wheat crop at more than a billion bushels. Since the law requires that production controls be imposed in 1954 if this year's crop exceeds 850 million bushels, it looks as though Mother Nature is joining the Washington bureaucrats to throttle free enterprise.

## THE INDIVIDUALIST

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