

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON
WITH enlisted men trying to get aboard planes to enjoy brief furloughs at home, the Navy is permitting pilots to use planes for all sorts of pleasure purposes.

Most interesting recent joy-ride, however, occurred because it carried a public opinion column quoting men and reserve officers as to why they did not want to start the war. The pilots who fly in Slattery's more careful about his joy-rides, more men would follow his lead to remain in the Navy.

Last month, Captain Slattery issued an order against flying pleasure flights. Men who fly, he decreed, will leave the base on flights, must return to the base that same day. This, however, did not apply to Slattery.

For on Sept. 25, Rear Adm. Ralph Davidson, top commander in the Florida area, flew from Jacksonville to Banana River, where he and Captain Slattery, plus Lt. Comdr. George Wasey, former executive officer at Banana River, piled into a Navy PBM and flew to Cat Cay.

Cat Cay is a British island, featuring a tiny Winter colony of Americans, largely built up by Commander Wasey's father. The plane, BuNo 01670, carried two pilots, Lt. Robert G. Courter and Lt. Clark Stales, plus a crew of six. It required 3 1/2 hours of flight time, burned 375 gallons of high-octane and carried in addition to the three brass-hat passengers, fishing tackle, and seven quarts of whiskey. Pilots previously had been warned against carrying liquor in planes.

Admiral's Clam Bake

While the plane was in the air, Captain Slattery hit the ceiling because Lieutenant Courter didn't have any charts along and became some of the life-rafters were forty. Courter kept the island backward and forward, but the Captain demanded that he fly back to Banana River, returning alive with charts, new life-rafts, plus a non-flying commissioned officer navigator.

On Sept. 26, Lt. H. K. Sewles, personal aide to Captain Slattery, took off in a brand new plane, BuNo 5212, plus two pilots, Lt. Donald N. Armstrong and Ensign Royal E. Livingston, and a special navigator, Ensign Louis J. Hayes Jr., plus a crew of six. They burnt 500 more gallons of high-octane, kept another emergency plane warming up, and tied up several raps waiting for the junking plane to return.

But Admiral Davidson and Captain Slattery had a marvelous time.

This, however, was only the beginning. The Annapolis boys next got busy arranging for a big week-end at Cat Cay, "RONS" or "Remaining Overboard" flights were still forbidden by the Captain, but on Oct. 11 he sent Lt. William Terrell, who is in charge of the Banana River Officers' Club, on a flight to Cat Cay to prepare for a big party. Terrell flew in a special PBM, taking Lieutenant Courter as pilot.

Upon arriving at the exclusive Winter colony, he was met by Mrs. Wasey, aunt of Commander Wasey.

Mrs. Wasey, who was to be hostess for the house-party, was wringing her hands. Her cook was sick—bernia trouble—and she didn't know how to have a party.

This was a terrific blow to Captain Slattery. He was planning to entertain not only his chief, Admiral Davidson, but also the "Big Three" Chief, Charles Powell and Felix Stump. Quite a clam-bake!

When Lieutenant Terrell flew back to Banana River and checked the news to Captain Slattery, the good Captain was so heartbroken that he sent Terrell on a special flight back to the island and to the admiral. Davidson knew all about it. The report to Davidson lasted just two minutes. Why he couldn't have telephoned, only Captain Slattery could tell.

Undaunted, the Captain next day sent another special plane, along with his personal aide, Lieutenant Slattery to Cat Cay to pick up the cook, who was flown direct to the Coast Guard base at Miami, despite the fact that the base had been closed down to transmit planes. From there the cook was taken to a Miami hospital.

Wary Lieutenant Sewles then returned to Banana River. Despite these heroic efforts, however, the party had to be called off. With no cooking, the admiral missed the "clam-bake." Seaworthy minor officers and enlisted men will have trouble getting home by airplane on furlough.

Madame Chiang Denies

Newsmen in Chungking were summoned to a press conference the other day following the return home of Madame Chiang Kai-Shek. Held to deny reports that the Generalissimo had taken a sixteen-year-old as his concubine, the conference was even more strange than some of the other press operations staged in Chungking.

The Generalissimo himself opened the conference by flatly denying the concubine rumor. Then he called upon his wife.

"I can say that if the Generalissimo had done such a thing," announced Madame Chiang Kai-Shek. "I would call him a dirty dog."

Bomb Secret Burns

Soviet newsmen Boris N. Krylov sat in the hearing-room of the Kilgore-Magnuson Senate Committee. He was scribbling furiously.

"The atom bomb," Dr. J. R. Oppenheimer, Los Alamos scientist, was talking, "is the \$2,000,000,000 straw that may break the camel's back. It comes to a world already at the breaking point to far as weapons are concerned. The atom bomb actually weakens our position, because we are particularly vulnerable to this type of attack."

Soviet newsmen Krylov scribbled on. Scientist Oppenheimer continued talking.

"Secrets is not possible," continued Oppenheimer. "The nature of this is not secret. You cannot keep the atom secret."

"If there was a Russian scientist and had this pulled me," continued Oppenheimer. "If you boys let me go, I think they will."

Soviet newsmen Krylov scribbled and listened. At this point he did not utter a single word in his own language.

"I think," concluded Senator William Fulbright of Arkansas, "that a people only understood the significance of the atomic bomb would finally get world friendship."



"Now that the war's over, Snodgrass, do you think it unseemly to ask for a ride on a battleship?"

The People's Initiative

By Samuel Grafton

A FRIEND suggests that American public opinion is in a rather poor state due to relative inactivity during the war, and maybe the motto has merit. We did, through the war, tend to lose the direct feeling that each of us is a maker of policy, instead of telling a Government we learned to listen.

Perhaps, we have not been so interested, perhaps we are still listening.

Mr. Roosevelt threaded his way through enormous complexities with general success, and most liberal political action took the form of support of Mr. Roosevelt. Again, the Big Three would meet from time to time and come to an agreement on some disputed point.

It was usually felt that any policy acceptable to the three major powers could safely be supported in toto and in blank. We had sources of political authority, therefore, from which many a citizen's thinking could, and did, derive. And it was felt in some sense, usually it added up.

Complicated Peace

The last day of the war was democracy's new commencement exercises; and peace is complicated; and some of the doom to be felt by citizens in the next few years is intelligence and spirit after these days is perhaps traceable to their own inactivity during the war.

It is no longer a simple matter to face the fact that they must look inside themselves for answers. It is no longer a simple matter to face the fact that they must look inside themselves for answers. It is no longer a simple matter to face the fact that they must look inside themselves for answers.

EARNED AND SINCERE

Mr. Truman is earnest and sincere, but he would do well to bear in mind that he had a plan for the future of the world on his pocket. He obviously has none, and

People's Platform He Speaks For The Lost

By REV. C. H. MILLER

Morgan State Hospital Permit me to comment on your touching appeal to the people of North Carolina on behalf of the forgotten old people who are suffering and the others who ought to be in the new hospital at Camp Summit. I am a writer, a mobile writer, he informs the man, peruses the list, and moves the papers. I would that every newspaper in the State would read his article and then cut it out and send it to the State.

I want also to commend your editorial based on his report of the moving of the first 25 patients to their new home. "The Lost Old Ladies." It was well-written, carried conviction, and every honest reader it will pay in rich reward in money to provide for the aged. The Master's reward on the last day. "Inasmuch as we have done unto the least of these, ye have done it unto me."

Our hospitals now are not working. They are simply concentrating camps, mainly because of the lack of means to provide proper care. For medical treatment, at various times past, we might plead ignorance as our excuse, but now we are a Democracy. We are actually being "God" if we persist in withholding the needed care from the aged. We are actually being "God" if we persist in withholding the needed care from the aged. We are actually being "God" if we persist in withholding the needed care from the aged.

Teachers Believe The Pen Is Mightier

By MORELLA POLK

The Charlotte Classroom Teachers' Association heartily approves of your publishing the facts concerning the proposed new chartering of the pen is mightier than the sword. We feel that you have done much to inform the general public that teachers are underpaid. Your article has brought about much discussion on the subject. Many people do not realize anything about the existing financial situation of our teachers. As classroom teachers, we are not paid as well as we should be. We need the sponsoring of leadership in our Government for some such program.

Veterans Want Get Out on the Farm Again

By W. G. BELL

The job our Government in all branches did in winning the war and victory was unsurpassed. We do not doubt associated the war with the name of the United States is not going to be easy.

Our Changing World

ALL THROUGH THE WAR YEARS



How To Sell TVA Down The River

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON
The bill that Senator McKellar has now before the Senate, and which several times before he has tried to get passed, would end that co-operative relationship. It would compel TVA to come back to Congress each year for a vote during the next year or so.

Obviously, such a complicated operation as TVA could not be run on that basis. Protests are coming from those in the valley who feel this would be a gross violation of a fundamental contract with the Government of the United States. That contract is written into the TVA Act.

In his speech at the dedication of the Gilbertsville Dam in Kentucky, President Truman spoke forcibly on this very point. He said: "There has been firmly established the basic principle of development of resources on an autonomous regional basis. . . . Here in this Missouri River valley, for example, differs in a two-way partnership. This was a natural result of the policy of regional decentralization. That same policy ought to be followed in the other river valleys as regional agencies are created by the Congress and set to work."

A Significant Idea

What is a significant and hopeful is the TVA idea. It is an effort to plan ahead in the region which is to be developed. The idea is to coordinate the various interests and resources of the region. It is a significant and hopeful idea.

The Basic Principle

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It Isn't Easy

A good many newspapers are expressing annoyance over President Truman's failure to produce, in a flash of blinding light a pat wage formula that would satisfy both labor and industry and also allow the country to get along with recession without promoting inflation. Since labor has asked for a 30 per cent increase, these critics usually suggest that the streamliner strike to insist on their 35 per cent.

They overlook the fact that no formula is broad enough to meet all the conditions existing within the various industries. Union demands, in addition to being a straightforward request, are more than a mere effort to determine whether labor is getting what it considers its share of industry's profits. Industry seems to be particularly sensitive to this problem, which has led Walter P. Reuther, who is running the anti-wages campaign against General Motors, to announce that he won't back down from his 30 per cent demand until GM can prove that it can't grant the increase.

Pink, Not Red

In the months following the liberation of France most of the experts who frequented the pulse of the stricken nation concluded that the Republic was done. The Communists, grown powerful and respectable during their long underground campaign against the occupation, were predicted as the inevitable product of the desperation that quickly replaced the first heyday of freedom.

Either the experts were wrong, or more likely, Frenchmen have somehow regained a faith in their future that enables them to out-bray the militant miseries of the coming Winter. Turning out in unprecedented numbers for their first free election since 1939, they indicated their desire for a change in the form of their republic, which is a far more revolutionary act in itself. But the election was not a Communist victory; the Socialists, and the other parties shading toward the right, were given a far greater aggregate vote, and, in addition, they drafted the drafting of a new constitution.

General Charles De Gaulle, who is non-political but unsympathetic to the Communists, received what amounted to a restrained vote of confidence. This reaction to De Gaulle is in itself a sign that France is regaining her balance, for he was neither castigated as a dictator, which, of necessity, he has been, nor accepted as a messiah.

Due Process

Under due process of law and after a fair and impartial trial, the Sheriff of Prince George's County, Maryland, punished Lloyd O. Busching for beating his wife. The ten-year sentence was handed back. A woody crowd of prominent citizens gathered at the county jail to watch the sheriff hand the blacksnake whip, among them ten of the jurors who found Busching guilty. The judge who passed the sentence was, unfortunately, not court at the time and couldn't set away.

The Direct Approach

Up here in the Ivory Tower everything's as free as the view, but we're not unmindful that it takes money to run the show. All the little figures in the endless processions down below—we know what they're doing. They are, for the most part, either making money or spending it.

Statesmen At Work

Mr. CANNON of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I hope to see you will welcome the bill of \$2 million on page 3064 of this morning's Record. It is a bill that will not only help our country but also help our people. It is a bill that will not only help our country but also help our people.

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