

Who's Boss?

The public debate now raging between General MacArthur and the State Department is no reason for national despair. We should have learned long ago that we had no detailed policy worked out for reconversion in Japan. And despite a certain uncomfortable feeling at the public airing of this conflict between diplomats and military men, there are advantages in the squabble. We will learn more in the passing of big-league reparation of the future of Japan.

And the public to be sure, has a great stake in this affair. Having furnished the men, the materiel and the weapons to defeat Japan, it cannot suddenly drop the whole business and leave tomorrow to be battled out between its servants. The State Department's responsibility to set our policy in Japan, of course, is beyond debate. It may stumble into error as in the past, but the government of Japan and our relations in the Pacific are definitely within its province.

But in the matter of the size of occupation troops in Japan, General MacArthur is the proper and final authority. And when he surmises that he can control Japan with a minimum number of men, say 200,000, he is rightfully exercising his authority. If the State Department takes the line that since Japan must be held down, and follows with the assumption that we must hold her down with a half million or more troops, then it is departing its own field.

General MacArthur and his headquarters have delivered some remarkable statements in recent weeks. The offhand guess that a year's occupation would finish off Japan, for example, invaded the State Department's function of policy-making. The task in Japan, as we said, is to govern, not to conquer. It is strictly as necessary to guarantee that they do not recover sufficient power to menace future peace. And we can see no reason why half a million troops, idling away their time in foreign countries, can accomplish this aim more quickly and successfully than a minimum number, directed by a tough-minded and enlightened commander.

Beyond Party

Henry Lewis Stimson isn't going to be remembered as a Republican, and in view of the record he should regard that as a satisfactory arrangement. His career in public service has been unlike in many ways, and it was never more so than in 1940, when he was called back into service as Secretary of War—in the interest of a non-partisan defense of the country. Mr. Stimson broke all kinds of records in that year. He became the only man to hold the office more than once, the oldest wartime War Secretary, and the oldest Cabinet member in terms of elapsed time. He had been in the office away back the times of antiquity under Taft. And he came back as a Republican volunteer to help Franklin Roosevelt gain national unity in preparation for war. The nation expected a Republican Party in office, not a man and a chair on his. But the Party rose only to hurl epithets and catcalls at Henry Stimson.

There was a reason. In that year Mr. Stimson was that rarest of creatures, a Republican devoid of isolationist sentiment. He had been speaking sternly to Americans, warning them that they must resist the Axis enemies as best they might; he urged the utmost aid to Britain and China. This was at a time when Republican in Congress were voting for strict neutrality toward Hitler and his enemies. They looked upon Stimson as a war-monger. And they were approving his confirmation. He was approved by 56 to 28, and discredited by the Republican high command.

Mr. Stimson, retiring now in favor of a younger man, has ably steered the War Department through a series of its greatest crises in history. He retires after serving two terms of office, those terms being separated by a stretch of 27 years. He has also served as Secretary of State under Hoover, and as Congress's personal representative in Mexico.

Statesmen At Work

(Serious, facetious and comic excerpts from the Congressional Record.) SENATOR BAILEY (R., Cal.) on the civil air program: "I have a bill, S. 3199, which covers a period from 1932 to 1944, or 12 years ago. We had before the '32-'39 only a few airports worthy of the name. Here is the record. We had in 1932 100 of the class 3 ports, and one of the class 4 ports, and none of the class 5 ports. We now have in 1944 43 of the class 3 ports, 43 of the class 4 ports, and 202 of the class 5 ports. What I am saying is that by way of reducing passenger fares and improving airport facilities we have made handsome returns to the traveling public. Through taxes on gasoline we can and will recover every dollar which we will invest in the case of developing air transportation. Mr. BREWSTER (Maine). I agree with the Senator in his observation. The practicability of future service is great. It is also true that during the first ten or fifteen years of the air highway program the Government had to contribute Federal funds before the traffic could be developed. I regret that the Senator from North Carolina has expressed doubt as to the practicability of class 5 airports. From my experience in flying, it is my conviction that such ports will serve in furnishing fast service to and from the larger centers. We have no conception of the volume of traffic which will develop at the small ports. They will serve not merely individual travelers, but a very large traveling public as well. I know that in my own State that has already shown to be true, and I am sure it will be the case in other States. There are in my State plans already being made about this line for the future. Mr. BAILEY. It may be planned for Summer weather, but no one knows whether we have one of these one-horse ports in connection with my own town, out of which I have served bus conductors since Winter on this in taking various individuals to different parts of the country for Washington. It is my hope that the Government will use one of these one-horse airports about which the Senator speaks. Mr. BAILEY. In spite of all my weaknesses I have never been caught fishing in the White House, and when I am caught doing that I hope someone will take care of me. Mr. BREWSTER. I can assure the Senator that Winter fishing is the finest sport in the world. Mr. BAILEY. And the coldest. There can be no debate on that point.

Change Of Tune

The Hon. E. H. Moore, Republican Senator from Oklahoma, is bombarding the country with copies of his speech "not printed at Government expense" entitled: "The OPA Is Wrong in Principle, Contrary to Our Constitution, and Repugnant to Americanism." And his charge, which is wild and woolly throughout, is that the continuation of OPA invites the same fires that consumed Germany and Italy the despot. He is, in short, he repeats every OPA attempt to regulate prices for the general good as a flagrant invasion of the rights of citizens. It is refreshing to hear Senator Moore concerning himself with civil rights, and to hear him in a position which tends to guard us from the fate which befell the Axis peoples. He has not always been so forthright in his opposition to the OPA as he is now. He is refreshing to hear Senator Moore concerning himself with civil rights, and to hear him in a position which tends to guard us from the fate which befell the Axis peoples. He has not always been so forthright in his opposition to the OPA as he is now.

Among the items he has been against are: The Atlantic Charter in the Connally-Reid vote; the Reciprocal Trade Agreements, United Nations Relief & Rehabilitation, Induction of fathers by age groups, induction of pre- Pearl Harbor fathers.

And so, if you're willing to assume that the history of record would be had here carried out in the same vein through issues like Neutrality, Selective Axis Ships, Selective Service, Extension of Selective Service, Lend-Lease, you can see that Senator Moore's enmity for OPA is not based upon mere prejudice, but on a deep conviction that we will suffer the Axis fate. He's simply again the wartime program of enforcing equitable prices for the benefit of all citizens.

Rebuttal

Labor is making itself few friends with the wave of present strikes, even though the urgency of war production. The conflict with labor some of the unauthorized wildcat strikes in certain automobile plants alienate public opinion. But there is some evidence, at least, that veterans returning from the wars are not going to be led here by the conflict with labor some of labor's more irresponsible enemies have been predictive. There is the fighting man who has pointed out that the Navy, Marines and Coast Guard have lost more men during the war by strikes during the war, of course, strikes cost us far too much time and money—and very likely cost us lives on the battle front. But the conflict with labor some of labor's more irresponsible enemies have been predictive.

His figures: The Navy estimates 1.1 per cent of its personnel were AWOL or over leave at all times; the Marines 1.4 per cent; the Coast Guard 1.4 per cent. Strikes and lockouts, on the other hand, cost us 1 per cent—or a total of eight and a half million man days of work in 1944. The Navy's figures in this war is so magnificent," Phelps adds, "that no one is inclined to criticize the service because a small percentage of its men go over the hill. But labor has done its war job well, and should not be pilloried because a few workers have failed to keep the no-strike pledge."

Thus far, no directive of our high command has been obeyed exactly by the defeated Jap. Maybe failure has gone to his head. The presidential allusion to the \$2-000,000,000 atomic bomb as a gamble fits in neatly with the classic counsel, "Bet big and go home early."

The Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The topic of conversation at the recent closed-door caucus of House Republicans was President Harry Truman. It had been there, he would have judged some of the references to him, but he would have felt pleased to note how many of them the Republicans think he is.

For a dozen years, Republican sentiment has been directed against the late President Roosevelt. For a time after Truman went to the White House, little was heard about him in the secret discussions. But now the Republicans have decided that they have just as dangerous a enemy in the White House as when FDR was there. Representative Charles Halleck of Rochester, Ind., summed it up in this way near the close of the session: "We've got to quit electing Truman. The way we're operating here, the only thing Truman will have in 1948 will be within his own party—the fight between the Democrats and the Communists."

Plenty of criticism has come from Truman from all sides. "He's just as determined to give America away to England and the others in Europe as Roosevelt was," shouted reactionary Howard Buffett of Omaha, Neb., referred to Truman as "Harry Truman Pendergast."

"We're in a situation now where it's practically a suicide to stand up and make a speech for American freedom," said a Republican from the White House. "I don't know," said Nebraska's Buffett, "but he has learned to appear modest and homey."

Among other critics the GOP holds against Truman is the fact that he is not a college man—all his simplicity and his lack of polish merely mask a smart political mind which, by its way, is just as dangerous to the GOP as was Roosevelt—if not more so.

Congress Loves Battle

"What Truman is going to do in the Midwest Republican caucus is to let this Congress have its way. Deputation was that this would be tough on GOP Congressmen. They thrive on political battles with the White House."

The Republicans were told, for instance, that they will not get a chance to vote on abolishing the draft because the House leadership will keep the issue from a vote until the pressure gets heavier. Then at the right psychological moment, it is predicted, the White House will shove the draft by Executive order, thereby bogging the credit.

Otherwise there was little done in the caucus. It was supposed to work upon a legislative program, but little of constructive nature was said. Brass-hinged John T. Aldrich, N. Y., ranking Republican on the House Appropriations committee, made his usual speech railing for economy in Government. As usual, he was seconded by Harold E. Wilson of Manhattan Beach, Minn., ranking Republican on the Ways & Means Committee.

At this point Clarence Brown of Manchester, Ohio, walked out. "What's the use of staying," he remarked, "when I can read it all in Drew Pearson's column?"

Optimistic Sort Of A Guy Isn't He?



The Go-Between Man

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON (UPI)—FOREIGN Economic Administrator Lew Crowley has letters from two prominent Republican Senators contemplating him on the grounds in which he brought lend-lease to an end with the close of hostilities. "We know you do business with the devil," one of the Senators wrote. Crowley is one of the most courteous and able men in the Federal Administration. He has assumed the role of broker between the New Deal and Congress. It is a role in which Roosevelt found him very useful, and Truman apparently intends to continue him in the same capacity. The FEA Administrator has informed the President that he will stay on in his present job through the transition period. During this time, he will help to liquidate FEA by transferring to the State Department those of its functions that State may want.

One of the Republican Senators who wrote Crowley suggested that his own bill, which would pay for loans in progress and in transit until a some term arrangement was worked out. As Crowley sees it, this suggests the logic of his action in lend-lease. If the Administration had done this, then Congress would have been turned against the lend-lease program, which must be recalled. Suspicion would have been aroused. Crowley's role of mediator would have been jeopardized. He would have been treated as any other man. Then the petitioner asking for funds for all nations that had been receiving lend-lease. If any country had been provided funds, then all the other nations would have set up an inadequate claim.

Only once did the Republicans hear anything which made them wince a bit. This came from Progressive Charles La Follette of Evansville, Ind., who spoke on the need for legislation to create a fair employment practices committee. Because it was apparent that the Republicans are not bestirring themselves to put through this legislation, he reminded them that their 1944 platform definitely calls for support for FEPC. La Follette scolded them for failing to support their own platform. He said that he would not name any names, a number of fellow Congressmen who last year told campaign audiences that Governor Dewey was advocating progressive measures as a way of getting re-elected. "It's about time we stopped criticizing our own candidates," said Indiana's La Follette. "If we are to be honest, we should say that we don't see how we can elect someone in Congress whose vote has never deviated from the Republican policy. Let's put up such a man and let him run with this simple platform: I stand on the record of the Republican Party in Congress."

Nazi Factories Unhurt

A significant, backstage argument is now taking place regarding the results of the U. S. Strategic Bombing Survey in Europe. Conclusive though still unofficial results of this survey show that bombing of German war plants was not as effective as the air forces claimed. On the other hand, the bombing of German railroads and transportation facilities was extremely effective. This had more to do than almost anything else with disrupting the German Army. Supplies and troops could not move with U. S. forces constantly strafing and blasting them.

Many German factories, however, were too deeply buried in the ground or different parts too widely separated to suffer much damage. The famous Schweinfurt ball-bearing plant, for instance, was not put out of commission despite the fact that 60 U. S. bombers and 600 American fighters were lost over it in one raid. Gen. "Hap" Arnold, chief of the air forces, went to great lengths to make the first Schweinfurt raid to show that this heavy loss was compensated for by damage to vital ball-bearing production. However, surveys of the factory showed that this was not the case.

Some people inside the War Department, therefore, are not too happy about proposed publication of the full survey. Others, however, are for full and complete publicity.

One man who did an A-1 job with the Strategic Bombing Survey was Henry C. Alexander, vice-president of the J. P. Morgan Banking House. Alexander pulled up his sleeves, bucked bad tape, and bravely enough incorporated 100 per cent with Dow Deal officials in Europe. In fact he proved such a refreshing influence that steps may be taken to bring him to Washington in an important Government position.

While officials admit that some business executives attached to the bombing survey took advantage of their position to carry home piles of new German patents and inventions, nevertheless they say the survey gathered some extremely important records and ferreted out certain Nazi leaders.

For instance, Nazi civilian production chief Seehofer was picked up by survey officials near Salzburg right under the nose of the American Army. He was working in a town where American officers lived until Bombing Survey officials nosed him out.



"I'm glad we've got the OPA, madam—if I set these prices myself you'd quit trading with me every other day."

MacArthur's Line

By Samuel Grafton

NEW YORK (UPI)—GENERAL MACARTHUR'S statement of Monday was the state of mind of a man who is trying to sell something. It was a persuasive job, with its pinch-line effect to the success of his policies, and because of the manner in which he has handled the occupation, his government's mental apparatus.

He is soon going to be able to send the citizen-soldiers of America home. It is accepted with gladness by the Army to do occupation duty.

And yet the very fact that our general officer in Japan has to cope in the midst of his war with a man who is trying to sell something is a sign of the success of his policies, and because of the manner in which he has handled the occupation, his government's mental apparatus.

It is a peculiar administrative situation, when Washington first has to deal with a man who is representative in Tokyo. This applies not only to foreign policy, but to a whole kind of clever policy to demobilization policy too.

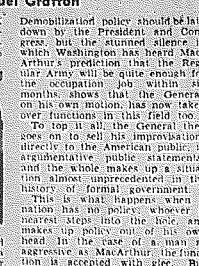
People's Platform Third War Dangers

By L. A. HOLLOWAY

MONROE, N. C. (UPI)—I have been in hopes, as some others have, that this second world war would be the last. But the prospect of a third world war is a possibility which we must not ignore. The danger of a third world war is a possibility which we must not ignore. The danger of a third world war is a possibility which we must not ignore.

Quote, Unquote

A GREAT many of the major business leaders here and abroad are quoted as saying that the war is over. They are quoted as saying that the war is over. They are quoted as saying that the war is over. They are quoted as saying that the war is over.



Demobilization policy should be laid down by the President and Congress, but the stunned silence in which Washington has received MacArthur's prediction that the Regular Army will be quite enough for the occupation job within six months, shows that the General, on his own motion, has now taken over functions in this field too. To top it all, the General then goes on to sell his impressions directly to the American public in representative public statements, and the whole makes a situation almost unprecedented in the history of formal government. It is a man who has been a nation has no policy, whoever is in power, to sell his impressions directly to the American public in representative public statements, and the whole makes a situation almost unprecedented in the history of formal government.

It is a peculiar administrative situation, when Washington first has to deal with a man who is representative in Tokyo. This applies not only to foreign policy, but to a whole kind of clever policy to demobilization policy too.

It is a peculiar administrative situation, when Washington first has to deal with a man who is representative in Tokyo. This applies not only to foreign policy, but to a whole kind of clever policy to demobilization policy too.