

W. C. DOWD, JR.
J. L. BROWN, EDITOR
BURKE DAVIS, ASSOCIATE EDITOR

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FDR's Memorial?

Last week we received a short, simple but beautifully folded folder proposing a memorial to Franklin D. Roosevelt to be built by the people of the United States. We suppose that it was distributed all over the country, and that it is the beginning of an intensive campaign. It opened like this:

"Franklin Roosevelt—to millions of people everywhere—was the greatest world citizen of our times. He spoke and he acted; he took the lead in inspiring us to build a common united and successful world against an evil enemy—and, too, he gave hope for a better world.

"When he died, the statement of many minds captured him as a great leader—as a great humanitarian. It remains now for the people to pay their tribute."

"The folder proceeds to suggest that the memorial we must build to Franklin Roosevelt must be great of stature and dignity, and that it must be a living memorial, unbound by physical limitations and the passing of time."

"It is proposed that men and women of all lands come to this university to study freely the problems of world freedom and peace, that its faculty be drawn from all the world. And it is convincingly argued that this, more than any other plan, might best serve the ideals to which Franklin Roosevelt dedicated most of his life. Though the idea is admittedly in rough form and subject to refinement, it seems to us worthy of consideration by the people of this, and all other nations."

"Today we are faced with the preeminent fact that, if civilization is to survive, we must cultivate the science of human relationships—the ability of all peoples of all kinds to live together and work together in the same world as this."

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"They talk of baseball being a Yankee game, but it isn't so, of course. Old Abner Doubleday may have cooked it up, and Easterners may have babbled it along. The big leagues may be strung out through East and Midwest. But baseball is a Southern dish, too. Tom Wolfe understands the subtle, the delicate of the hard, baked clay playing field of our small towns, of the baseball talk around the fire station. All Southerners understand it."

"It is a rare season when you can't pick out 50 more big leaguers from the Carolinas—and many more from the South at large. The boys seem to grow in these parts. And that explains why this section was the natural cradle of American Legion junior baseball. There is nowhere else, we suppose, that such heat can be generated by youngsters playing ball, where thousands will flock to see the kids (most of them under 17, and not a one older) hard at the game."

"At this moment Shelby's rollicking youngsters are national champions, following in the footsteps of Gastonia and Albemarle teams of other years. It is a more or less typical team of Carolina junior players, big, fast, bold, hard-hitting, backed by first-class pitching—and coached by a formerly old baseball veteran who knows his game as well as his boys."

"The record of the team would be amazing in any kind of competition. Shelby dropped a game to Charlotte and another to Gastonia in the regular season, and another to Charlotte in the state championships. Not another have they lost. They bounced right through one tough tournament after another without a single defeat. They had the power and the talent, the light and the

savvy which can belong only to champions of the sport. These youngsters are in an old Carolina tradition set up by generations of big leaguers, and the prize they receive is as important, in its way, as if it had been the championship of the big-time itself."

Unknown Enemy

Americans never did understand the Nazis. Dachtel and Buchenwald seemed like bad dreams, and it took the most complete evidence to convince us that these two were not atrocious stories out of a horrible dream. The German entered as a low brute, a cold and ruthless murderer—but, with a scientific and thoughtful brain. He knew where he was going. Even his torture chambers were laboratories. The prisoners were emptied of their human ashes to enrich the fields; the gold fillings were turned to Germany's treasure houses. The Nazis, after all, had a plan.

But when the truth began to come out of Japan, Americans were faced with a people they could not begin to fathom. The stories of wanton torture, of the horrible, inhuman, of beating prisoners with baseball bats, of unspeakable tortures simply for the sake of torture, they were all a tribute to the animal that is the Jap.

By his very nature and training, the Jap is a criminal. The whole Japanese character, indeed, is a war criminal. It makes beasts of its subjects, and those we cannot puzzle out at all. Any American prisoner who fell into their hands, it seems, was likely to be cruelly assaulted by any Jap soldier, civilian, who happened to be at hand. When he held the whip, the Jap was not a human being engaged in a war. He was a beast who did not understand the forces which drove him and who fought against which he fought with a red fury.

We were able, after a fashion, to sort out the war criminals in Germany. We are much less likely to be able to sort them—or even find them—in Japan. For we do not know how the Japanese Americans can scarcely tell one from the other. We have never penetrated their regimented thinking, nor the fanaticism with which they fought. We do not know their systems, even to the minutest, rudimentary workings of their society. In such a confusion, we must founder for months, seeking to fix guilt upon one or that official, this or that military leader, this or that industrialist.

Already, after three long years, our anger seems to be cooling, after the traditional American fashion. Most of us seem to crave revenge no longer, and there is the grave danger that we will insist upon nothing more than peaceful occupation of Japan. The war against the Jap was unpeppably difficult for the men who fought it; it was surely one of the most cruel ever fought. In the years of battle to the death, with few prisoners asked or taken, with no one as great an enemy as the Jap, our forces suffered terribly.

But at the end, you see, it was too easy. We saved men, thousands of men. But we may pay a heavy price for their lives, with the lives of others to come. We may, from the start, pay the price by our unwillingness to keep large forces of occupation in the Pacific for years to come. We may pay the price by allowing war criminals to escape, by releasing, at least, the bulk of our policies among the defeated Jap people. We may later simply because we cannot bring the war criminals to light, and deal with them.

Simply because Japan is what she is, a medieval aggression nation ruled by medieval devices, we may fail to come to real peace with her regardless of our policy, and thus leave the foundation for future war that of sheer helplessness to deal with the enemy who have brought to us. And if that comes to pass, we may one day rue our decision to accept a quick surrender, regret that we did not stop the home islands with atomic bombs, and push the conflict to its bloody end.

Statesmen At Work

(Several lectured and comic excerpts from the Congressional Record.)
THE HOUSE was busy with the conference.
Mr. RIZLEY (Ohio). Mr. Chairman will the gentleman yield?
Mr. DINGELL (Mich.). Not just now.
Mr. RIZLEY. Mr. Chairman I make the point of order a quorum is not present.
Mr. DINGELL. Then I will make a point of order and get a roll call.
THE CHAIRMAN. The Chair will call.
Mr. RIZLEY. Mr. Chairman, I tried to get a roll call.
Mr. DINGELL. I was going to yield to the gentleman, but I shall not give. We will have a roll call. I will not to the gentleman.
Mr. RIZLEY. Mr. Chairman, I withdraw the point of order.
Mr. DOUGHTON (N. C.). Mr. Chairman, I yield the gentleman five minutes in addition to the time he has already used.
Mr. DINGLE (Ohio). Mr. Chairman, I am taking as an illustration I did not go far enough because in the procedure, the subcontractors involved in the production of a tank are far less than those involved in the production of a destroyer. These experts told us that at atomic as the illustration might be a destroyer. We should use a destroyer. He said, "I do not use a destroyer where we have hundreds of subcontractors who really cost savings and pass them on to the price consumer." He said, "We learned in our instance after comparing two destroyers that we had to reduce the balance of the order

The Merry-Go-Round

By Rep. Clare Hoffman

(Note—Before leaving on his vacation, Drew Pearson wrote to several Congressmen he had criticized, and offered them the courtesy of using his column to set up the record. He is to be congratulated for saying anything that pleased about him or on any other subject, provided it was about 1,000 words in length. Congressman Charles McNary, of Michigan, accepting this invitation, has contributed the following guest column.)

AN editorial in the Saturday Evening Post of Aug. 11, last, justly complains of the "reckless irresponsibility" of certain radio commentators; then refers to one it charges with having made a statement with reference to the

Hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of patriotic Americans, who have no knowledge of the merits of the Post's controversy with the named radio commentator, who in the opinion of many of us, expresses sound American views and is usually accurate in his news broadcasts, agree that radio commentators and columnists have exercised an influence (which they are rapidly losing) out of all proportion to the degree of authority they possess, the responsibility they should assume.

A few columnists, several broadcasters who also write columns—and Mr. Pearson happens to be one of them—deceive the people, not only by pretending to give us advance, exclusive information news which has already appeared, or shortly will appear, in dispatches of the AP, UP, INS or some local publication, but by editorially or ignorantly mistaking the facts and are at times downright vicious in their unfair comment on the actions of public officials.

Depraved Columnists

Some people realize that this conduct may on occasion be due to personal animosity, a depraved nature, but more often the result of an overpowering greed; an unscrupulous desire and search for the almighty dollar, as well as for the publicity which may be turned into money.

Although assuming it, neither columnists nor news commentators have any authority from the people to speak as their representatives. Yet some, without any expertise or background justifying their conduct, with an air of "I'm telling you," from day to day lay down a course of conduct for the people's chosen representatives, or ignorantly mistaking the facts and are at times downright vicious in their unfair comment on the actions of public officials.

Seldom, if ever, do some of these self-appointed prophets and judges have a word of approval for any public servant, except as he happens to be someone who can serve their selfish interests.

Gullible Public

A few—a very few—of Mr. Pearson's avocation, like the sellers of spurious merchandise, live upon the gullibility of those who are so easily misled or so honest that they still believe, without applying the test of

common sense and good judgment, the word "which" in their headlines and in their newspaper. Many do not distinguish between the accuracy of the reporter and the unreliability of some broadcasters and columnists.

Mr. Pearson adds others in his position have a marvelous opportunity to render to the people and the Nation a worthwhile service. Many are doing it. Others, like Mr. Pearson, have established a reputation for inaccuracy, for vilification and for sensationalism.

In my judgment, while they may succeed for a time—as do others who thrive by catering to those who have a taste for the sordid, for indecency, scandal and plain dirt—the end, the sound-thinking, patriotic citizens and sponsors will—unless Mr. Pearson and his ilk repent and their worthiness and their trend to aid in the destruction of all that believes in honesty, decency, truthfulness and patriotism hold dear.

Columnists "Sink"

Already, in some communities, in some Congressional districts, the effluvia colloquially known as "stink" which accompanies so many of Mr. Pearson's emanations renders them less harmless than in the past.

Many columnists and radio commentators have a far greater audience, a wider opportunity, than Senators or Congressmen, the people's chosen representatives. They have it within their power to mold the thought and the actions of millions of Americans.

They and their sponsors, until the public becomes fully aware of their motives and their methods, of their purpose and their program, may be able to influence legislation which will vitally affect our national life, the permanency of the Republic.

The present responsibility which rests upon them is far greater than that which rests upon either the executive or the legislative departments of our Government. As you, Mr. Pearson, have so often pointed out, it is the duty of the Congress and the individual members of both branches their duty, permit me most respectfully to suggest that you, if you have one, consult with your conscience and hereafter follow a course, adopt a policy, that will promote the best interests of our country and its people.

Note—Senator Hoffman ran a little short of the required length for Drew Pearson's column, we take the liberty of quoting from another statement the Congressman made about Pearson as printed in the Congressional Record of March 14, 1945, at which time apparently he had a different idea regarding Pearson's reporter's accuracy.

"I recall not long ago when the Republicans had a conference, much of the proceedings that took place at the conference were reported by Mr. Drew Pearson. We wondered whether it was some Republican who was at the proceedings or whether it was some House employee who was listening. We would like to know who is listening in on the conferences and sessions."

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"If your wife won't give you a coupon for a new pair of shoes, I'd rather give you one of mine than try to repair these old wrecks!"

Pearson's Record

WITH the end of the Japanese war, and with Congressman Clare Hoffman's attack on Drew Pearson today (by invitation) it seems a good time to recount a few of Pearson's news beats. We suppose Pearson is the most widely read of our "foreign" columnists, and we realize his predictions don't always come true. But an amazing number of them do. Some of them are listed here (Editors: The News):

For several months, Pearson had reported—despite pessimistic headlines—how the Army and Navy would be making the war with Japan. He was almost alone in making this forecast. As late as Aug. 8, just a few days before the armistice, Pearson reported "We chiefs in Washington aren't saving anything about it, but privately they expect an end of the Japanese war by Fall."

On July 21, Pearson also reported "It's being kept very hush, but something important is brewing behind the scenes regarding peace with Japan. Highest official would say a word about it, not even to some of their Cabinet colleagues." Pearson then went on to state that Undersecretary Greer with Army-Navy approval had prepared a directive outlining the minimum terms which would accept from the Japs, and that "The Greer peace plan would permit the Japs to retain the Emperor Hirohito." This remarkable forecast of what later became the Potsdam pronouncement had since been confirmed in every detail.

On Aug. 10, Pearson reported for the first time some of the secret details of the Potsdam Conference. He told how when Marshal Stalin brought up the question of the Emperor, President Truman pulled a letter from his pocket from a member of the Bulgarian cabinet and confronting Stalin with it, charged that no free elections could be held in Bulgaria under the present situation.

As early as July 20, Drew Pearson had reported that Joseph C. Greer before Joseph C. Greer was confirmed as Undersecretary of State, Pearson devoted a column to his previous work in the State Canal, and the vocabulary followed in addition to which, nothing at all in our circles, and in all our institutions and in all our construction and building from dawn of civilization to the present day would have been possible.

It was thus one of the three monumental developments in the history of humanity.

And twenty thousand years later as came the atomic bomb, the splitting of the atom and releasing of the very energy around us. In years to come, it will not be a bomb, because probably has outlasted war forever, war as we have known it. In the past, the greatest of men, the greatest of teachers, the greatest of scientists, the greatest of philosophers, have few weeks the development of this science has bridged the difference between the primitive and wealth of resources of the world. Now a scientist working in a small state in the world may very well have the equal in war making potential which the great nations and this world will have.

Three Great Steps

By H. L. Golden

Many generations from now the first use of the atomic bomb in 1945 will be regarded as one of the three most important developments in the recorded and unrecorded history of mankind.

In this long period of progress only the progress of the last 20,000 years apart, may be compared with this new gigantic discovery and development of the energy around us.

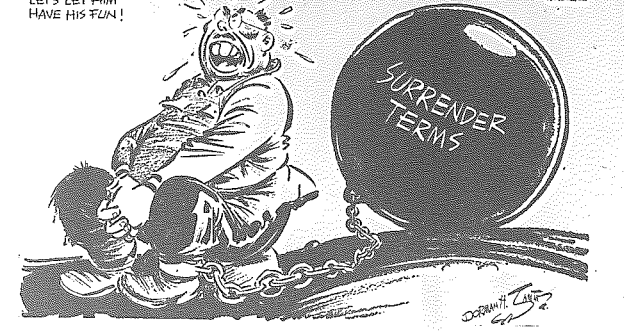
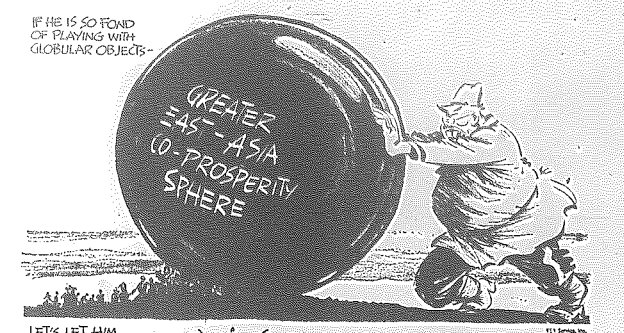
For thousands of years primitive man used fire for cooking and for warmth. He had seen it come from the clouds in the form of lightning and he had seen it shoot skyward out of the bowels of the earth through the crater of the volcano.

It is well to remember that our own great philosopher, Emerson, kept the world on the right track and intellectual and scientific progress. And in the discovery of his first of the three most important developments of humanity, there must have been "one man" who saw the sparks fly while sharpening a stone with which he was making an animal for food, and when he worked on his idea and finally demonstrated that this glowing nature fire could be harnessed at will, he had proclaimed the day on which man's history has proven to us that "there is always one man"—one man, somewhere, who manages to keep the world on the right track and intellectual and scientific progress.

And in the discovery of his second of the three most important developments of humanity, there must have been "one man" who saw the sparks fly while sharpening a stone with which he was making an animal for food, and when he worked on his idea and finally demonstrated that this glowing nature fire could be harnessed at will, he had proclaimed the day on which man's history has proven to us that "there is always one man"—one man, somewhere, who manages to keep the world on the right track and intellectual and scientific progress.

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We Aim To Please



Are We Already Forgetting

By Marquis Childs

WASHINGTON
To try to make present job-holders, be they Czechs, French, Belgians, or whatever, step out in favor of the Jews who had tried those positions is all but impossible. Even new liberal governments, with the best will in the world are coming up against that blank wall.

What about migrating out of Europe, then? Isn't that a solution for Europe's million and a half surviving Jews? Here is another blank wall.

Immigration and quota systems operate in every country in the world to keep out all but a trickle of Europe's unwanted. That was true before the war. It is even more true today. In 1938, at a refugee conference in Evian, France, representatives of the major powers met to try to find some haven for men and women persecuted for race, religious or political beliefs. In the course of that conference, the representative from Australia, a country nearly as large as the United States, with a population of 7,000,000, said this:

"Continuing, we in Australia have a racial problem, thank God, and we do not intend to have one started." That remark sums up the attitude of the Evian conference. Nothing was done. Millions marched into the death factories.

The Zionists see that the only door left open is a Jewish state in Palestine. About a half million Jews have gone there to form what is a flourishing community. They make what seems to me a very strong case, given the state of world opinion today.

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