

Notes On The UNO

We can't escape the feeling that the organization of the United Nations in London—plausible sound, orderly though it may be—has an unreal and as irrelevant as an echo.

The definition of UNO as "a town meeting of the world," and rules out the possibility that from the meeting there will grow in time a federation empowered to settle international differences without recourse to arms.

All the trappings of world government are coming in the name of the horsehoe for parliamentary advantage, the historic speeches weighted down with words like "destiny," "indivisible," "fraternity," and the delegates themselves are in character, discarding as to the method of preserving the peace, but deeply conscious that the hope of the world has been entrusted to their care.

The question of a powerful federal union of the American states was defined for 75 years, and finally settled by a Civil War. There were good, honest, eloquent men on both sides of the question.

Yet it is not the President's pronouncement that disturbs us and leaves us with this feeling of unreality. It is the absence of debate, the lack of passion, the artificial atmosphere of passive agreement that means only one thing—Americans regard the United Nations, not as a base upon which a real world organization can be erected, but as a complete and final entity as it now stands.

That is the atmosphere in which the entire UNO is being conducted. The United Nations Organization must finally be determined; the degree of sovereignty we abandon must be measured and shaped in a great partisan debate, a debate that leaves the issue sharp and clear before the American people.

Free Enterprise At Work

Ever since Walter Reuther, speaking on behalf of the United Auto Workers in the General Motors strike, involved that wage dispute with economic principle, there has been a growing tendency to regard all current labor troubles as a contest between giant corporations bent on destroying the system of collective bargaining and power-drunk labor unions bent on socializing industry.

Mr. Fairless, in rejecting President Truman's 10-cent compromise, perhaps showed a greater degree of stubbornness than did Philip Murray, who finally accepted it, as he pointed out in his final statement, he had reached his limit when he came up to 15 cents. And, of course, Mr. Murray could logically point out that the President has offered to raise the ceiling on steel to compensate for the wage increase.

By the time this appears in print, it is likely that a great roar will have gone up from both camps, and the charges leveled against the General Motors strike will be spilling over into the steel dispute.

And, before either party is prejudged in the light of the public's bitterness at being deprived of essential goods, it would also be well to remember that here in the United States an employer still has a right to trade rights, and an employee still has a right to refuse to work for it.

From The Louisville Courier-Journal:

The Problem In Burley

The condition and sorrows of the burley tobacco grower pose a tough problem, which is as much a human one as it is agricultural or economic. Everywhere one looks, there is the complication of human nature.

The natural answer, as the growers themselves have suggested, is to reduce acreage allotments and increase the penalty on excess tobacco. But here again we find that the economic equation is distorted by human nature. For while it is desirable to have a steady supply and demand by reducing buyers' acreage we are reminded of proposals to increase the acreage of blue-cured or bright-leaf tobacco, grown in the Carolinas and Georgia, which obviously would create a competitive disadvantage for the air-cured leaf.

This is where human nature enters the picture. When tobacco hits 60 cents a pound, a man considerably less of a man can afford to pay the present 10-cent penalty on excess production and still make his profit, and this is what is bound to happen.

It all seems to add up to a necessity of re-examining the entire situation of tobacco production in the United States, from local allotments to a fair division of the types and of a scheme of planning in which all the remedies so far suggested will be only the beginning.

Vinegar Joe Sees Chiang As Dictator

WASHINGTON (AP)—General "Vinegar" Joe Stilwell probably will not write a message which is unfortunate. But some day he may decide to go to the Army and start telling what he knows about the Chinese situation.

Before he went to China, Stilwell had insisted on being supreme military commander. Once in China, however, he found himself balked at every step by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

Stilwell could not get enthusiastic about the Communist Chinese Communists. "The GIMO has been making a few good things," he said.

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VETERANS' PROBLEMS

Li-Col. R. P. Bromson, chief of the Veterans' Administration, blinked when he was handed a copy of a letter from the other day. It read: "Assistance needed stop Brother Bromson's money. He is replying to me."



The People's Platform

The 139th Birthday Of Robert E. Lee

By MRS. J. R. CARSON. Of his marvelous military skill, great as it was, greater than that of any soldier between Napoleon and Foch, a skill which was worth 100,000 troops to the gallant Army of Northern Virginia.

BRITISH TRIBUTE

The following tribute was paid him by Lord Wolsley, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army: I have met many of the great generals of my time but Lee alone impressed me with the feeling that I was in the presence of a man who was cast in a grander mould.

"AMERICAN-TYPE SMILE"

By J. F. M. DAVIS. The American must be true and loyal to our Government and its Army and Navy and Air Force, Marines and the American public, and what it stands for is true, pure and freedom.

"TO HAVE A HOME TO COME TO"

CHARLOTTE. I wish to congratulate you on the editorial you ran in The News on the subject of the situation. I'm a veteran and was here before the war broke out and still have my own home.

Quote, Unquote

DURING the last year of the war, we actually knew more about the Japanese than we knew ourselves in such important matters as the dispositions and activities of their armed forces and shipping.



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THE present week is as crucial as any in America's history. How much turns on what happens in the days ahead is hard to gauge. But we are able to appreciate only in the perspective of history.

Even when they go to Russia, they fail to see the glaring and obvious human imperfections. To say that they wear rose-colored glasses is a child's understatement.

They would reshape America in this same pattern of imaginative perfection. They would reshape America in this same pattern of imaginative perfection.

These deluded people believe their opportunity will come in a revolutionary way. They are foredoomed, perhaps, by the stamp of Soviet arms throughout the world.

They would take the extreme Right. If the extreme Left believes in an impossible perfectibility in an unattainable future, the extreme Right believes in an equally impossible perfection which can never be attained.

One explanation may be their own insecurity, their fear of losing what they have devoted their entire lives to putting together.

There would be no unions, no challenge to their authority. All Americans would be equal. Each man would dig and delve in search of his own fortune.

But this is no guarantee that we will get reasonable compromise. The forces of destruction are too strong and determined in this fateful moment.

Waiting For The Blow-Off

SOME of the financial papers are printing a dull little story about the flour millers; flour millers being, as it is understood, a terrifically important business.

Some of the millers have been receiving a Government subsidy of 80 cents a sack to keep the price of bread down; but Congress has refused to renew subsidies, and these contracts are due to expire on June 30.

It is the millers who are going to be the price of flour is going to be four months ahead of time. It is at this point that many of the flour millers are rather in trouble.

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