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Time For World Government

PRESIDENT TRUMAN sharply slammed the door on talk of world government this week and set us to wondering again about our Government's peace policy.

The question came up at a White House press conference when a reporter called the President's attention to an editorial which declared that "one attempt might be to save our bid for peace if we invited the nations, including Russia, to a conference on the question of a real world government." Mr. Truman was asked if the Administration is ready for such a step and he replied bluntly that "the Administration is not." Period.

This brusque and sweeping dismissal of the whole question inevitably leaves the impression that the Administration is not interested in either the idea of world government or saving "our bid for peace". Certainly that cannot be the impression that Mr. Truman desired to create. The Administration has been careful to justify its military expansion program as a defensive preparedness operation designed to keep the peace. In his message to Congress calling for that program, Mr. Truman emphasized that the door remained opened to a settlement with Russia.

Nonetheless, the President's curt rejection of the world government hope comes as further disturbing indication that the Administration is following a purely military policy in the international sphere, or rather a peace policy which is based primarily on military strategy and directed entirely by military strategists. There is nothing wrong with sound military strategy in formulating a peace program, it may be added, unless it eliminates diplomatic negotiation and planning for peace, which appears to be a pronounced tendency in the present case.

On the basis of our military strategy, the President's rejection of the world government suggestion is entirely logical and understandable. To the militarist, a move by America for a "real" world union including Russia would be construed as a sign of nervousness at this stage of the "war of nerves". It must strike the military strategist as a confession that we do not feel secure enough in our power and we are weakening in our determination to oppose Russia by force if necessary.

There unquestionably is a danger that agitation for peace talks and steps for world government will rock the boat in the delicate power game we now are playing with Russia. However, we believe there is a greater danger that this country will seek only the military solution if we discourage discussion and planning for a new world order during this tense time.

That danger is clearly shown in a recent statement by President Truman, in which he said: "Certain things are worse than war and one of them is slavery." There is in this statement an obvious determination to oppose Communism with force and it leaves room for more than defensive military action. Every American patriot will agree that we will never submit to Communism but it must be said that the President did not state the whole issue correctly. It needs to be said that there is nothing worse than war for it is the great system of slavery to which mankind has been shackled through all time, and war itself is the chief evil that we are opposing at the same time we are resisting the Communist threat.

So long as we stand in danger of having to fight a military power that will not join us in a co-operative effort to maintain international order, let us be prepared for it. But while we are holding off Russia, let's not defer or neglect the work of discussing, hoping for, planning and building the one thing that will bring us enduring peace—world government.

America's No. 1 Racket Grows

AMERICANS HAVE developed income tax dodging into "a billion dollar a year racket," reports Undersecretary of the Treasury A. L. M. Wiggins, who testified before a Senate appropriations subcommittee this week. "It is the No. 1 racket in America," he said.

In addition to loss to the account of evasion, the Treasury reports that about $5 billion in income taxes have not been paid.

"I am utterly amazed at the tax evasion that is going on," Undersecretary Wiggins declared.

This operation in rooking the Government is a national disgrace but the extent of the cheating is not as startling as some other aspects of the business. What is more amazing is how little the Federal Government and Congress have done to discourage the growth of this racket.

One of the chief contributory factors is the Government's or the Treasury's own policy of letting a tax dodger buy his way out by paying taxes and penalties. This tends to put the whole affair on the basis of an exciting game of hide-and-seek and to make tax cheating something less than the serious crime it is. The price of such Government indulgence to the tax chiseler is not only an increase in racketeering but a general lowering of respect for law.

If the Treasury had the disposition or the fortitude to show a little moral indignation over tax frauds, which in our book rank the same as any common embezzlement, it would put the fear of God into the taxpayers, elevate the tone of Government and ease the tax burden on the citizens who now are paying the piper for the crooks who aren't caught.

Congress has shown much less than a proper amount of concern over this racket. As Mr. Wiggins points out, the Bureau of Internal Revenue now has an insufficient number of investigators to deal with the tax dodgers. Congressional indifference to the problem is glaringly illustrated by a recent cut in appropriations for the Bureau. Curiously, that reduction was made in the name of economy. Since it is known that a properly trained Bureau agent will earn for the Treasury many times his annual pay, there has been no saving here. There has been a loss to the Nation's No. 1 racket.

Mature Women In Style Revolt

TOO many of the 12,000,000 American women between 45 and 65 stay provoked at clothing and pattern manufacturers because they have a hard time finding clothes that fit, according to Mrs. Margaret Harris Blair, associate professor and clothing and textiles at the University of Georgia, an "older woman" and no beanpole herself.

So, she said, too many have become resigned to "old and out of shape" drabness or have resolved from frustration by decorating themselves like Christmas trees.

She is gathering statistics from women to be submitted to clothing and pattern manufacturers as to what changes should be made. Any older woman who feels strongly enough about the problem may write to her for a questionnaire.

Thus far, 80 per cent of replies say ready-made clothes require extensive alterations and 56 per cent indicate difficulty in finding suitable styles. The unfortunate problems, Mrs. Blair said, include overweight, rounded shoulders and humps which can be fitted by increasing darting at the back of the neck and lengthening the back armholes, unattractive arms which need longer sleeves, and shrinkage in height, which makes most waistlines too long in front and requires lines flattering to a shortening neck.

The wear and tear of time being what it is for the older women, most of whom can ill afford physical culture salons or diets that impair vitality necessary to do their work, we think Mrs. Blair deserves high credit for her mission and hope for it every success.

Where lives the American male who has not shuddered at the emaciated dummies in the store windows and the impossible figures in the fashion ads? Passing women's-wear store fronts, we see the frocks gathered about slatlike waists and hips nowhere to be found in female physiology. If these window dresses later are really worn by women without expensive alterations, the dummies certainly must have a lot of fabric gathered behind them.

Any doctor in his right mind, coming upon a live woman with such a form, would pack her off to a hospital as a desperate case needing hurried injections of glucose. Presumably the persistence of the stylists in imagining that such creatures exist is responsible for the dilemma in which mature women find themselves. At any rate, it is clear the girls who are fat and fittyish haven't been getting a fair break in the fashion parade.

Henry A. Wallace, Esq., declares with emphasis that he is not a Communist and we guess that to the best of his information and belief he is telling the truth. — *Charleston News & Courier.*

Since Glen Taylor, Henry Wallace's worser half, made that crack about welcoming the support of Communists or anybody who would help him get elected, he has been very silent. Maybe Henry said to Glen, "Taylor, old man, maybe you better let me do all the talking." — *Kingsport (Tenn.) Times.*

If a guy could only have a Spring vacation at the moment Spring fever strikes.—*Greenville Piedmont.*

The average man buys only three shirts a year, a manufacturer says, and to judge from the crowd one of them is sweat and another sports.—*Louisville Times.*

A sign that intrigues me hangs on the wall right in front of my typewriter to say this: "If You're So Dammed Smart, Why Ain't You Rich?" — *Shelby Daily Star.*

'Hev Mac—Which Way To Nebraska?'

Stewart & Joseph Alsop

Harold Stassen--I

WASHINGTON

NOW that the dust is settling, the practical politicians are beginning to draw conclusions from Governor Harold Stassen's resounding victory in Wisconsin. A number of these are pretty obvious. Stassen, once an extreme long shot, has become a Presidential contender to be seriously reckoned with. General of the Army Douglas MacArthur has fallen off his white horse, and in this undignified process has badly bruised Colonel Robert R. McCormick. William Randolph Hearst and the other Republicans of their peculiar kidney. And of course, Governor Thomas E. Dewey has suffered worst of all.

But the curious thing is, the professionals generally agree that Stassen is going to have to work very hard, from now on out, to capitalize his Wisconsin victory. Stassen and his supporters recognize this themselves. They went into Wisconsin in a mood to be glad of a Vice-Presidential nomination on a ticket with Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg. They bet the bottom dollar of their considerable campaign funds, actually outspending the lavishly well-heeled MacArthur forces. They were themselves astonished by the outcome.

STRATEGY LAID OUT

The primary ballots were not completely counted, however, before Stassen was laying out the next phases of his strategy at a meeting with his lieutenants at his house in St. Paul. As these words are written, Stassen men are passing in (at (with gratifying response) in the East where the big money is. What is now planned is a sort of series of simple line-backs—first, an attempt to come out top man in Nebraska, which the Stassen camp claim they may achieve; second, a grand effort to cut the gizzard out of Senator Robert A. Taft in Ohio, where the Stassenites hope for ten delegates; and finally, another victory in Oregon. If all this can be accomplished, they hope that Stassen will come into the convention as front runner.

The professionals agree that if Stassen thus adds three more victories to his success in Wisconsin, he will indeed have the Republican Presidential nomination conceivably within his grasp. But they add the qualification that if Stassen should now experience a defeat, his Wisconsin success will prove more beneficial to others than to him.

The loudest claimers of incidental benefits are the adherents of Senator Taft. Stassen, they say, has dealt a body blow to Taft's most dangerous rival, Governor Dewey. And Stassen, they add under their breaths, has also disposed of a grim threat to Taft by MacArthur. It is hard to know which pleases them most.

Certainly to the Taftites, pleasure over MacArthur's defeat has a certain irony: MacArthur was first put into the Wisconsin primary by Taft's people, in the hope of hurting Dewey, and in the knowledge that Senator Taft himself could hardly win a Wisconsin primary for county clerk. Then, for various local reasons, a large part of the local organization climbed on the MacArthur bandwagon! And after that McCormick, Hearst and a gaggle of others like them joined the parade, and the money began to pour in. The Illinois delegates are Taft's dearest treasure. The redoubtable Colonel McCormick's loud proclamations that Taft was a very nice man but MacArthur was very much nicer sent cold chills down every Taftite's spine.

In short, until MacArthur tumbled, the Taft people feared they had created a sort of Frankenstein monster, who would compete with them for the ultra-conservative Republican support.

DON'T COUNT DEWEY OUT

The professionals agree broadly with this analysis, but add two provisos. First, it is far too early to count out Governor Dewey. He can still recoup in Nebraska, where the situation seems to baffle the experts even more than that in Wisconsin.

Second, the defeat of MacArthur was a resounding rejection of the extreme conservative - isolationist brand of Republican in the same state which once dramatically rejected progressive Republicanism in the person of Wendell L. Willkie.

Taft belongs to precisely the conservative-isolationist wing of the Republican Party, and had indeed planned to use MacArthur as a stalking horse. The professionals therefore ask how the obvious harm done Dewey can counterbalance the less visible, more psychological damage to Taft. They still predict Taft cannot gain enough for a majority at Philadelphia.

People's Platform

The Issue At Chapel Hill

CHAPEL HILL

Editors, THE NEWS:

SINCE it has been my pleasure to boast of your fine newspaper on numerous occasions to my friends over the country I feel that I have the privilege and obligation to write you frankly about a recent statement on your editorial page which I think is both ill-timed and, what is perhaps worse, inaccurate. I refer to the editorial in the April 7th issue, "Race Issue At Chapel Hill."

First, your title is wrong, in my opinion. This may, or may not be a "Race Issue." If by some outside chance, this might be a sincere effort on the part of sincere students to avail themselves of the best education in order to serve their people to the best of their abilities, then your title has done them a grave injustice. The intellectual and educational equipment of a doctor who holds life in his hands is not a race issue. The different mortality-at-birth rates of white and Negro is not a race issue.

Second, In your first paragraph you have dared to go further than even the University Administration in passing final judgment on the case. The decision has been placed in proper hands and any pre-judgment of the issue is not in the interests of fairness to all concerned. Of course you are entitled to an opinion, but if the faculty and administration who had all the facts, including the applications, were not ready to pass on the case, I do not know that you were just in saying, "Only one determination is possible and that is rejection of the applications."

Third: In my opinion you have assumed too much in your second paragraph. My reason for saying this is included in my second paragraph above regarding your title for the editorial. There is no such assumption being made here where the facts in the case are available.

Finally, your weakest point was the repetition of the time-worn phrase: "Admittedly there is room for improvement but this is a long-range problem and the record of progress over the last generation is proof enough that the question is being handled in an intelligent and constructive way." I have just finished reading some sermons preached from 1840 to 1850 on the slavery question, and you have laid yourself open to the charge of plagiarism.

You state in the last paragraph what seems to me to be the first argument in favor of judging these students' applications on the basis of their merits and not on some probable irrelevant considerations. "Action that would force the University to accept Negro students over the preponderant sentiment of the people would not serve to bring the Negro social equality."

What you are saying is that to grant these students, these citizens of our state, access to a law school accredited by the American Bar Association, and to a medical school, which the Negroes themselves are supporting and helping to enlarge, would not endanger the existing social relations between Negro and white. In the light of the preceding editorial, I cannot see how you can mean what you say.

You will forgive me if this letter appears to have been written with any degree of unkindness. We are trying to keep an open mind on the issues that are threatening our world today, and certainly you would agree that this is perhaps the most challenging problem that Christianity and democracy in the South has to face. More power to you in keeping these issues before our citizens.

—J. C. HERRIN.

A Veteran Puts Questions

CHARLOTTE

Editors, THE NEWS:

WOULD some one please tell me just what is this thing they call the GI Loan—was it not made to help all the boys who fought in the war? Well, if your answer is yes, then brother you are far from being right, because for some time I have had my name in for one of these homes that are now being built for veterans. Today the man called me up and told me that the houses were just about ready to move in, and he asked me to call up the bank to find out about the loan, but the man told me in nice words that I would have to be in a higher income bracket. In other words I would have to make a few more dollars a week before he would talk turkey with me.

Which we were fighting the war we were all one class. Did they ask me what income class I was in before they would let me stay on Anzio for just about four months, and altogether 410 days on the front? And I don't mean overseas that long, I mean 410 days on the front line. Yes I sure am lucky to get back alive. Now, what is being done for the boys who got married while in the service? I have not been able to get a house for my wife and two kids, only rooms. Never will I brag on this state again. While overseas I would tell my buddies from New York and Ohio and other states, what a wonderful state North Carolina was, and they would laugh at me, and now I see where their states are giving a bonus, and what is North Carolina giving to their boys? Well, you know. While overseas I received a letter telling me to vote for Cherry, a veteran himself, who would help us when we get out of the Army.

So here are two things I want to know, someone to tell me: What good is the GI Loan? And what good has Cherry done us veterans from North Carolina?—the man I voted for.

—LESLIE O. FINGER.

P.S. I never miss a day's work, and don't drink, just for those who would like to know.

The People's Platform is available to any reader who cares to mount it. Communications should be less than 300 words, typewritten if possible, and on only one side of the paper. Libel and obscenity will be deleted—otherwise anything goes. Each letter must be signed although, in exceptional cases and upon request, we will withhold the writer's name.—Editors, THE NEWS.

Marquis Childs

Harold Stassen--II

WASHINGTON

THE surprising outcome of the Wisconsin primary established at least two things beyond a reasonable doubt.

First of all, it eliminates Gen. Douglas MacArthur as a candidate for the Republican nomination. He has failed to carry the state that he claimed as home. In spite of the sentimental appeal, which had a slightly phony sound, the vote of Wisconsin Republicans against the aging General who has been out of the United States for twelve years.

In view of this, it is hard to see how he can survive even as a dark-horse candidate to whom the delegates might turn in a deadlocked convention. The truth of the matter is that he was never a serious contender.

HEARST HARDLY HELPED

Beating the drum for the General was a curious hodgepodge of America-firsters and bitter-end reactionaries, with a few ardent conservadevs such as former Gov. Philip F. La Follette of Wisconsin. Loudest drum beater was William Randolph Hearst, who certainly did not add to MacArthur's stature by trumpeting the enlistment under the MacArthur banner of such political giants as Shirley Temple.

On the positive side, Harold Stassen becomes a formidable contender for the nomination. Until now it has been the fashion among the professionals to dismiss him as a well-meaning fellow who liked campaigning for the Presidency. Regardless of what may happen in Nebraska's preferential primary next week, Stassen can no longer be treated in this cavalier fashion.

There will, of course, be a dispute over why the outcome in Wisconsin should have confounded the experts who predicted a sweep for MacArthur. Those who wish to discount the Stassen victory will ascribe it to the power of the state's Republican organization, which backed him. Thomas E. Coleman, until recently chairman of the party in Wisconsin, threw his weight behind Stassen; and Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy campaigned actively for the former Minnesota Governor.

STASSEN DID IT

But observers in Wisconsin believe that Stassen himself did more than anyone else to bring about the victory. He carried the issues to the voters in a gruelling, intensive campaign.

His was not a campaign of fear. He offered a positive challenge, talking to thousands of men and women in towns throughout the state about a resolute America that could overcome Communism in the world without resort to war. In my opinion this positive approach drew a response from voters who refused to be stampeded by the war scare that MacArthur's backers did their best to blow up.

Stassen's Wisconsin triumph is coupled with news from Maine and Iowa of his strength in the delegations from those states. The hard-working delegation from Minnesota will enter the Nebraska campaign with a new aura of victory. And while the outcome of the Nebraska primary will be binding on the delegates to the Republican convention, success there would give a further push to what has become a formidable candidacy.

DEWEY STILL IN RACE

Opponents of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey are saying that his stunning defeat in Wisconsin eliminates him as a candidate. While it is a serious blow, this seems to me to be premature. The candidate who holds New York's 90 delegates will continue to be a contender.

Dewey's position is seriously weakened. Apparently confident of the outcome, he paid little heed to the Wisconsin test until the eleventh hour, when it was too late. He is now making a similar last-minute appeal in Nebraska.

Stassen's victory is a minor revolution. It will be felt throughout the party right down to that day in June when the fateful convention assembles to choose a standard bearer.

Quote, Unquote

The mania for shortening long titles to their initials—a practice originating in "New Deal" days with that outfit's passion for agencies, the "Alphabet Era"—produces some dillies. For newspaper headline purposes it was a necessity. It is unfortunate that the combination of some initials gives serious projects a facetious twist. "A Help for ERP" suggests merely the homely method of holding it over one's shoulder and giving it a pat on the back.—Nashville Banner.

Drew Pearson's Merry-Go-Round

Navy Sees Defense Role For Air Force

WASHINGTON

(Ed. Note—This is the second of Drew Pearson's columns on the feud between the Navy and the Air Forces.)

LONG before the Senate Armed Services Committee this week summoned Secretary of Defense Forrestal and Secretary of Air Symington to hear their opposing views on air power, the Navy—which Forrestal favors—had secretly circulated a memo to Congressmen claiming that the Navy should be the sole deliverer of the atomic bomb against the enemy.

In other words, the Army-Navy battle supposed to have been stopped by unification is hotter than ever.

The first part of this secret memo was published in this column yesterday. It pointed out that the Navy was in danger of becoming obsolete, and that it should assume a new offensive role for itself—that of dropping the atomic bomb. The A-bomb, it was argued, should be carried on an airplane carrier close to enemy shores, then catapulted in special Navy bombers for the last-leg flight over enemy territory.

In the final installment of the Navy's secret memo, it is claimed that the Air Forces should now be relegated to the job of defending the USA. The B-29s which pounded Germany and Japan toward the end of the last war, according to the Navy, should now be virtually grounded, with offensive fighting left to the Navy.

The United States, argues the Navy, has now become like England in 1938 and must resort to a net of interceptor planes over its shores to keep off the enemy.

Concluding portions of the Navy's amazing memo used in the new Army and Navy tug-of-war are given below. The Air Forces' point of view regarding all this will follow in an early column.

Army Takes Defense

"THE following are the advantages of the carrier task force bomber for atomic attack:

"No amphibious task forces required to seize overseas bases.

"The logistic problem of supplying overseas bases is eliminated.

"Operations are conducted from a mobile base and enemy distributes his resources in trying to find it.

"1,500 mile range is built into carrier instead of into airplane.

"20 knot wind plus catapult always available for take-off.

"Submarine recoveries eliminate landing gear.

"So much for the future role of the Navy. What becomes of the Air Forces if the Navy takes over the role of strategic bombing? There is plenty left for the Air Forces to do. In view of the nature of a future war, it is possible that in a future war the mission of the Air Forces may be more important than that of the Navy.

"It has always been a military axiom that the best defense is a well-directed offense. In our national defense planning we have therefore given much higher priority to planning for the offense than to the defense. With the advent of the A-bomb, and the increased range of heavy bomber aircraft, we are forced to modify this axiom.

"In the past we have always regarded taking the offensive against the enemy, and carrying the war to his own country as the most important objective of all. This is still important, for unless we do so we cannot break his will to fight. But in the past carrying the war to the enemy was in itself the best way of insuring the security of our homeland. This is no longer true.

"With the possession of the A-bomb by an enemy, attacking his country no longer insures the security of ours. Each country now has the capability of ruining each other simultaneously. It will be impossible to bomb the enemy air force out of existence on the ground by a surprise attack, while it has the capability to do this to us.

"Since attack on the enemy is no longer our best means of defense, the importance of an effective continental warning net and interceptor fighter defense is increased. Current developments are rapidly bringing us to the position that England was in 1938. England set up a fighter command and warning net that was able to beat off the Luftwaffe and win the Battle of Britain in 1941. Setting up a similar system for the United States should now be the primary objective of our Air Forces. In the next war, preventing the devastation of our own country will be a more important job than devastating the enemy's country.

No Offensive Air Force

"SINCE this country has all it wants, our long-range strategy is essentially defensive, hanging to what we've got and defending our own. The only purpose in destroying the enemy's country is not our end. It is simply the means toward an end, which is protecting our own country. In the past taking the offensive has been the most effective means of accomplishing our end, but it is not any more.

"It appears therefore that it is entirely unsound for us to put great emphasis on a strategic air striking force at the expense of leaving ourselves open to retaliation, or to a Pearl Harbor on atomic scale. The proper function of the Air Forces has now become the defense of this United States, intercepting and knocking down an enemy attack.

"There is no use to try to stop an enemy air attack is on the ground. That way is no longer possible for any country, particularly for this country. We can't hit first, so we must have a defense that will intercept and destroy the first surprise attack. We certainly can't destroy the first attack on the ground because no one will know that the attack is underway until this attack is in the air.

"If this first attack gets through it may do so much damage that even if we win the war eventually, it will be a fruitless victory. Until we have an air-tight defense system it is possible for our cities to be knocked down to be landed almost simultaneously by both sides, so the net result of the whole war might be simply to provide more 'lebensraum' for the small countries who remain neutral.

"For the above reasons of broad strategy the major mission of the Air Force should be defense of the United States, and the intercept fighters should be manned by the Air Forces, rather than the strategic bombers. In the first part of this paper it was shown that for technical reasons carrier air task forces can deliver an atomic attack more effectively than transoceanic bombers.

"The major missions of the Navy and the Air Forces should be as follows:

"Navy: The delivery of an atomic attack on the capital and industrial centers of the enemy. Secondary mission: Control of the seas.

"Air Forces: The defense of the United States against air attack. Secondary mission: The delivery of atomic attacks from overseas bases."